RESOLUTION NO. 2957

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT DEADLINE FOR TAX YEAR 2020

WHEREAS, national, state and local economies have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, arising from the public health threat presented by this spreading communicable disease; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth presently remains in Phase Three of the Forward Virginia reopening blueprint; and

WHEREAS, Phase Three means the public is still "safest at home except for essential trips such as food purchases and medical care;" and

WHEREAS, the economic impact from COVID-19 is reflected in the cumulative decreases since February 1, 2020 in taxable sales (Sales Tax) of 19.%, Meals Tax 46%, and Transient Lodging Tax 72%; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's overall seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in June was 8.4%, or 5.6% higher than last year, resulting in the loss of more than 300,000 jobs (almost 116,000 being from Northern Virginia); and

WHEREAS, the employment component for Leisure and Hospitality Services in Virginia has been particularly impacted, down 28.7% compared to June 2019; and

WHEREAS, whereas the City of Alexandria has spent \$2.4 million to date from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020, along with \$195,000 in General Fund contributions, and approximately \$900,000 from Industrial Development Authority (IDA) bond fee earnings to support over 300 small business with grants through the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP); and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria has supported the community by spending \$1.4 million thus far in CARES funding via the Office of Housing to provide rent grants to 800 low-income renters, along with \$439,000 in Emergency Rent Relief using federal CDBG funds for another 324 renters; and

WHEREAS, the Personal Property Tax (Car Tax and Business Personal Property Tax) bills have been mailed, with payment due by October 5, 2020, subject to penalties and interest at 10% per annum for late payments pursuant to Title 3, Article M, Division 3, Section 3-2-230 of the Code of the City of Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, the Car Tax bill is the means by which Residential Parking Permits are disseminated to the appropriate vehicle owners pursuant to Title 5, Article F, Chapter 8 of the Code of the City of Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, Section 58.1-3916 of the Code of Virginia empowers the Alexandria City Council to grant by resolution an extension of time, not to exceed 90 days, for the payment of Personal Property Taxes;

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council desires to provide all support possible to the community at this time; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

- 1. That the due date in FY 2021 for the payment of Personal Property Taxes for tax year 2020 is hereby extended to December 15, 2020, and that payment can be made up to that time without late penalties and interest.
- 2. That the Alexandria Police Department delay enforcement of the red 2020-2021 Residential Parking Permit from November 15, 2020 through December 15, 2020; however, enforcement should continue as regularly scheduled if a vehicle is not otherwise displaying the prior year permit.

3. That staff immediately communicate the extension information to the community.

Adopted: September 8, 2020

JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC

City Clerk