

**City of Alexandria
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 7:00 PM
City Council Legislative Meeting**

Present: Mayor Justin M. Wilson, Vice Mayor Amy B. Jackson, Members of Council Canek Aguirre, Sarah R. Bagley, John Taylor Chapman, Alyia Gaskins, and R. Kirk McPike.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Parajon, City Manager; Ms. Cordell Ivery, City Attorney; Ms. Predeoux, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Castaneda, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES); Mr. Skrabak, Deputy Director, T&ES; Ms. Garvey, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Mr. Ferguson, Office of Performance Analytics (OPA); Ms. Wedeles, City Manager's Office; Ms. Pledger, Chief Information Office, Information Technology Services (ITS); Ms. Landrum, CEO/President, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP); Mr. Maines, Division Chief, T&ES; Ms. Lassiter, T&ES; Mr. Smith, ITS; Ms. Demeke, ITS; Police Sgt. Jones; and Police Lt. May.

Recorded by: Gloria Sitton, City Clerk and Clerk of Council.

I. OPENING

1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order and City Clerk called the roll. All members of City Council were present.

2. Approval of Electronic Participation Resolution (if needed).

Not needed.

3. Closed Session (if needed).

Not needed.

4. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

City Council observed a moment of silence and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

5. Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing Red Ribbon Week in the City of Alexandria.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman McPike, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council endorsed the proclamation. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

6. Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Jackson, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council endorsed the proclamation. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike, Opposed, none.

III. Oral Reports from Members of Council on Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

Council of Governments (COG) Transportation Planning Board (TPB) (Councilman Aguirre)

Councilman Aguirre reported that the Board established regional transportation resiliency transportation subcommittee, which will host a meeting in Alexandria at the APTA offices on October 31.

Councilman Aguirre reported that the Board received an update on the DMV Moves initiative, which is working on improvements to transportation in the region, including dedicated funding for WMATA.

Commission on Aging (Councilman Aguirre)

Councilman Aguirre reported that the Commission received a presentation from the Division on Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) and Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), they discussed the Aging Friendly plan, and received updates from the various subcommittees.

Library Board (Councilman Aguirre)

Councilman Aguirre reported that the Board reviewed its audit and reviewed the upcoming FY2026 budget, and discussed inviting the Department of General Services to its December meeting to discuss facility maintenance.

Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy (ACAP)(Councilmember Bagley and Councilman Aguirre)

Councilmember Bagley reported that ACAP celebrated receiving the largest grant

amount for the prep grant (\$720,000) and would be partnering with Tenants and Workers United, who will be hiring for positions as result of the grant award. Councilmember Bagley noted that the Wrap Up Alexandria program is continuing to be successful with its condom distribution. Councilmember Bagley highlighted the Alexandria Teen Text Line for information on nonurgent questions about health, relationships, pregnancy, drugs, and alcohol use.

Virginia Railway Express (VRE) (Councilmember Bagley)

Councilmember Bagley reported that the groundbreaking of the Long Bridge project took place recently, noting that this project will separate freight rail from commuter rail traffic. Councilmember Bagley reported that there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new VRE Station at Quantico on November 1.

ARHA Redevelopment Subcommittee (Mayor Wilson and Councilman Chapman)

Mayor Wilson reported that there was conversation on the update of the MOU with ARHA to look at how the City and ARHA will work together and look at potential new areas of partnership. Mayor Wilson also reported that there were updates on Ladrey, Samuel Madden and the relocation strategies for the residents. Mayor Wilson reported that there was a conversation about the future of Cameron Valley and receipt of public input from the community.

IV. Oral Report from the City Manager.

- 7. Fall 2024 City Council Priorities Initiatives Updates

City Council received updates on the five priorities.

V. ACTION DOCKET

Regular Consent Calendar (8-9)

- 8. Consideration of a Grant Application to the Supreme Court of Virginia (Specialty Dockets) on behalf of the Alexandria Recovery Court.

(A copy of the City Manager’s memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Item No. 8; 10/08/24, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

- 9. Consideration of a Grant Application to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration on behalf of the Alexandria Recovery Court.

(A copy of the City Manager’s memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Item No. 9; 10/08/24, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Jackson, seconded by Councilman Aguirre and carried unanimously, City Council approved the consent calendar. The approval was as follows:

8. City Council: (1) retroactively approved a grant application for up to \$75,000 for the Alexandria Recovery Court ("ARC"); and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required.

9. City Council: (1) approved a grant application up to \$126,225 for program supplies, client funds (transportation, medical services, housing ,etc.), and drug testing at the Alexandria Recovery Court;; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required.

The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

VI. ACTION MATTERS

10. Consideration of a Request to Approve the Phase 3 Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load Action Plan for 100% Compliance for Submittal to Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

(A copy of the City Manager’s memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Item No. 10; 10/22/24, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Jackson, seconded by Councilmember Bagley and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) approved the submission of the Phase 3 Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load 100% Action Plan; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute the necessary documents that may be required. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

VII. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

11. Consideration of a Resolution to Support a Grant Application to the Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund Program to implement the Valley Drive Storm Drain Improvements Flood Action Alexandria capital project. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

(A copy of the City Manager’s memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Item No. 11; 10/22/24, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council adopted: (1) the resolution to support a Round 5 Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) grant application; and (2) authorized the City Manager to submit this resolution and enter into any agreements that may be required to receive these funds should the requested be approved. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 3251

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to apply for an allocation of funds from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) of up to \$2,160,000 for the Round 5 Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) grant, or 60% of the estimated \$3,600,000 for the Valley Drive Storm Drain Improvements capital project; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria hereby supports this application for an allocation of \$2,160,000 through the DCR CFPF grant program.

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

1. The City Council of the City of Alexandria hereby endorses this application for an allocation up to \$2,160,000 through the Round 5 Virginia Community Preparedness Fund (CFPF) grant.
2. The City Council of the City of Alexandria hereby grants authority for the City Manager to execute project administration agreements for any approved revenue sharing projects.
3. The City Council of the City of Alexandria hereby commits to fund its local share of the development of the Flood Resilience Plan in accordance with the cost estimate.

VIII. OTHER

12. Oral Reports and Oral Presentations by Members of City Council.

1. Councilman Chapman reported that the Deputy Mayor from Caen, Frances visited Alexandria to meet with officials and attend the event honor General Lafayette's visit to City 250 years ago.

2. Councilman Aguirre reported that Trevon Jenifer, Paralympic medalist visited the Dunbar Alexandria Boys and Girls Club recently.

3. Councilman Aguirre reported that visited a kindergarten class at Jefferson-Houston Elementary School and read a book during Hispanic Heritage Month.

4. Councilman Aguirre reported that Mayor Wilson participated in a panel at George Mason University as part of initiative looking regional elected officials.

5. Councilman Aguirre reported that the attended a celebration at Patrick Henry Elementary School recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month. He also attended an event at Beatley Library honoring Hispanic Heritage Month.

6. Councilman Aguirre reported that he attended an event at the Charles Houston Recreation Center honoring Alexandria native Lucky Elliott.

7. Councilman Aguirre reported that attended book debut event featuring Supreme Court Justice Katanji Brown Jackson.

8. Councilman Aguirre reported that he attended the Annual Conference for Virginia Municipal League in Virginia Beach.

9. Councilman Aguirre reported that at the WMATA headquarters hosted the Board for MWAA at the Metro integrated command center.

10. Councilman Aguirre reported that he participated on a panel at American University discussing the upcoming election and the atmosphere around the current election.

11. Councilman Aguirre reported that he attended the Community Foundations Rise the Region Gala last week.

12. Councilman Aguirre reported that he and Vice Mayor Jackson attended the Spooky Mad Science fest at Patrick Henry Elementary School, focusing on STEM education.

13. Vice Mayor Jackson reported that MakerFaire was held on Sunday at Alexandria City High School.

14. Vice Mayor Jackson reported that the Torpedo Factory Arts Center is holding the CyberArts exhibit focusing on cyber security through arts.

15. Vice Mayor Jackson reported that she and her colleagues attended a reception honoring Lafayette and there will be a historical marker placed at 301 South St. Asaph Street.

16. Vice Mayor Jackson reported that the Carpenter's Shelter held its 20th Anniversary chili off at the Birchmere.

17. Vice Mayor Jackson reported that Paws in the Park was held at Oronoco Bay Park to raise money and awareness for the work of the Alexandria Welfare League.

18. Vice Mayor Jackson recognized those who were honored at the reception held by the Chamber of Commerce at their recent Best in Business Awards ceremony.

19. Vice Mayor Jackson also reported the Beautification Commission held their annual Beautification Awards ceremony at the Garden Alexandria.

20. Councilman Chapman reported that he attended the African Impact Awards held in New Carrollton, MD, with the 5K Run taking place in the City.

13. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Item No. 13; 10/22/24, and is incorporated as part of this record by

reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman McPike, seconded by Councilmember Bagley and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) received the updated City Council Look Ahead Schedule which includes: the Joint City Council/School Board CIP Work Session will be held Monday, November 25 at 6:00 p.m. at the ACPS headquarters, 1340 Braddock Place, School Board Room; and (2) approved the City Council Calendar from October 2024 through July 2025. The vote was as follows: Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

IX. ADJOURN.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED, upon motion by Councilmember Bagley, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council adjourned the regular meeting of October 22, 2024 at 8:26 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

APPROVED BY:

JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk

Adopted: November 12, 2024