

**City of Alexandria
City Council Special Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 3, 2022 6:00 PM
Virtual 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. Jinks, City Manager; Ms. Anderson, City Attorney; Mr. Parks, Clerk of Circuit Court.

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

I. Oath of Office for Mayor Justin M. Wilson to be given by the Clerk of the Circuit Court Greg Parks.

Mr. Parks, Clerk of the Circuit Court, administered the Oath of Office to Justin M. Wilson for Mayor for the City of Alexandria.

II. Oath of Office Given Individually to Members of City Council: Canek Aguirre, Sarah Bagley, John Taylor Chapman, Alyia Gaskins, Amy B. Jackson, and R. Kirk McPike to be given by Clerk of the Circuit Court Greg Parks.

Mr. Parks, Clerk to the Circuit Court, administered the oaths of office to the following members of City Council: Amy Jackson, Canek Aguirre, Sarah Bagley, John Taylor Chapman, Alyia Gaskins, and R. Kirk McPike.

III. Call to Order of the Meeting of by the City Clerk and Clerk of Council.

The City Clerk called the installation meeting to order. All members of City Council were present via Zoom webinar.

Consideration of Resolution Finding the Need to Conduct City Council Meetings Electronically. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Chapman, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council adopted a resolution finding the need to conduct the City Council meeting electronically. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, Councilwoman Jackson and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 3044

Resolution Finding Need to Conduct City Council Meeting Electronically

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19 and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, effective at 5:00 p.m. and extending through June 10, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., or as may be amended by the City Council, the City Manager, in his capacity as Director of Emergency Management, issued a Declaration of Local Emergency applicable throughout the entire City of Alexandria, Virginia, pursuant to authority granted pursuant to City Code Section 4-3-5, Virginia Code Sections 44-146.21 and 15.2-1413, which City Declaration was unanimously consented to by the City Council on March 14, 2020, pursuant to City Resolution No. 2928, as required by applicable law; such emergency declaration has been extended several times with a current expiration date of January 31, 2022 with an extension of the expiration until June 30, 2022 scheduled to be considered by the City Council on January 11, 2022 (the "City Declaration"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that COVID-19 constitutes a real and substantial threat to public health and safety and constitutes a "disaster" as defined by Virginia Code § 44-146.16 being a "communicable disease of public health threat;" and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) expressly authorize the City Council to "meet by electronic communication means without a quorum of the public body physically assembled at one location when... the locality has declared a state of emergency, provided that (i) the catastrophic nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location and (ii) the purpose of the meeting is to provide for the continuity of operations of the public body or the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities."; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, hereby finds that the nature of the declared emergency makes it both impracticable and unsafe for the Council to assemble in a single location for its meeting on this date to discuss and transact the business of the City listed on the docket; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby finds that the items on the docket for this date are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

IV. City Council Processional with Pre-Recorded Music from the Alexandria Pipes and Drums.

A pre-recorded processional from the Alexandria Pipes and Drums was played to start the meeting.

V. Introduction of City Council by the Town Crier.

Dr. Fiore-Walker, Town Crier announced the new Alexandria City Council.

VI. Presentation of the Colors by the Combined Alexandria Police, Fire and Sheriff Joint Honor Guard. (prerecorded performance)

VII. Star Spangled Banner solo by Jacqueline Hinmon (prerecorded performance).

There was a prerecorded presentation of the Colors by the Combined Alexandria Police, Fire and Sheriff Joint Honor Guard accompanied by singing of the Star Spangled Banner performed by City Employee, Jackie Hinmon.

VIII. Invocation by Rev. Dr. Taft Quincey Heatley, Lead Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church.

Invocation for the evening was given by Rev. Dr. Taft Quincey Heatley, Lead Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church of Alexandria.

IX. Reading of the Statement of Results of the November 2, 2021 Election by the Secretary of the Electoral Board Jack Powers.

Jack Powers, Secretary of the Electoral Board read the Statement of Results of the November 2, 2021 Election for the Mayor and Alexandria City Council and noted that they would receive their Certificates of Election at the January 11, 2022 Legislative Meeting.

X. Ethics Pledge to be Taken by the Mayor and Members of City Council.

Mr. Parks, Clerk of the Circuit Court, administered the Ethics Pledge to the members of City Council.

XI. Consideration of the Election of the Vice Mayor.

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

XII. Remarks by Outgoing Members of City Council.

Remarks were offered by outgoing Council members Mohamed Seifeldein, Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, and Redella Pepper.

XIII. Remarks by Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Members of Council.

Inaugural remarks were given by Mayor Justin Wilson, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson and incoming members of Council Canek Aguirre, Sarah Bagley, John Taylor Chapman, Alyia Gaskins and Kirk McPike.

XIV. Appointments of Members of City Council to City and Regional Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council approved the appointments of member of City Council to City and Regional Boards, Commissions, and Committees. The approvals were as follows: City Council Subcommittees: (a) Ad Hoc For Ward Management Plan Implementation Advisory Group, Councilman John Taylor Chapman; (b) Alexandria Workforce Development Center, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson and Councilman Kirk McPike; (c) ARHA Redevelopment Work Group, Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilman John Taylor Chapman; (d) Audit and Finance Committee, Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (e) City Council/School Board Subcommittee, Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilman John Taylor Chapman, Alternate Vice Mayor Amy Jackson; (f) City Naming Committee, Councilmember Sarah Bagley, Councilman John Taylor Chapman, and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (g) City Council/Alexandria Renew Subcommittee, Mayor Justin Wilson and Vice Mayor Amy Jackson; (h) Douglas MacArthur Elementary School Advisory Committee, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson; (i) Eco-City Alexandria Environmental Action Plan Steering Committee, Councilmember Sarah Bagley and Councilman Kirk McPike; (j) Gang Prevention Community Task Force, Councilman Canek Aguirre and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (k) Health and Safety Coordinating Committee, Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (l) High School Project Advisory Committee, Councilman Kirk McPike; (m) INOVA Alexandria Hospital Task Force, Councilman Canek Aguirre and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (n) Landmark Community Development Authority Board of Directors, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson, Councilman Canek Aguirre, Councilman John Taylor Chapman, and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (o) Legislative Subcommittee, Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilman Kirk McPike; and (p) Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Advisory Group, Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilman Canek Aguirre; City Boards and Commissions: (a) Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy, Councilman Canek Aguirre and Councilmember Sarah Bagley; (b) Alexandria Economic Development Opportunities Commission, Councilman Canek Aguirre, Councilman John Taylor Chapman, (c) Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins, and Councilman Kirk McPike; (d) Alexandria Transportation Commission, Councilman John Taylor Chapman and Councilman Kirk McPike; (e) Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission, Councilmember Sarah Bagley and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (f) Citizen Corps Council, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson and Councilman Kirk McPike; (g) Commission on Aging, Councilman Canek Aguirre; (h) Commission on Information Technology, Mayor Justin Wilson and Vice Mayor Amy Jackson; (k) Eisenhower East Design Review Board, Councilman Kirk McPike; (l) Local Emergency Planning Committee, Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins and Councilman Kirk McPike; (m) Sister Cities Committee, Councilman John Taylor Chapman; and (n) Waterfront Commission, Councilwoman Sarah Bagley; City Affiliated Organizations: (a) Alexandria Economic Development Partnership Board of Directors, Councilman John Taylor Chapman; (b) Eisenhower Partnership Board of Directors, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson and Councilman Kirk McPike; (c) Library Board, Councilman Canek Aguirre; and Visit Alexandria Board of Governors, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson; and Regional Appointments: (a) Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors, Mayor Justin Wilson and alternate Councilman Kirk McPike; (b) COG-Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson and William Skrabak, alternate; (c) COG-Climate, Energy and Environmental Policy Committee, Councilmember Sarah Bagley and Councilman Kirk McPike, alternate; (d) COG- Food and Agricultural Regional Member, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson; (e) COG- Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, Councilman Kirk McPike and Councilmember Sarah Bagley, alternate;

(f) COG - Public Safety and Human Service Committee, Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (g) COG Region Forward Coalition, Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (h) COG, Regional Transportation Planning Board, Councilman Canek Aguirre and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins, alternate; (i) Northern Virginia Regional Commission, Councilman John Taylor Chapman and Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins; (j) Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, Councilman Canek Aguirre and Councilwoman Sarah Bagley, Councilman Kirk McPike, alternate; (k) Northern Virginia Transportation Authority-Governing Body, Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilmember Sarah Bagley, alternate; (l) Northern Virginia Transportation Authority-Planning Coordinators Advisory Committee, Councilmember Sarah Bagley; (m) Potomac Watershed Roundtable, Vice Mayor Amy Jackson; and (n) VRE Board of Directors, Councilmember Sarah Bagley and Councilman Aguirre, alternate.

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.

XV. Benediction by Rabbi Emeritus Jack Moline, Agudas Achim.

Benediction was offered by Rabbi Emeritus Jack Moline of Agudas Achim Congregation.

XVI. Adjourn.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Vice Mayor Jackson and carried unanimously, City Council adjourned the Special Meeting of January 3, 2022 at 7:50 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