

**City of Alexandria
Meeting Minutes
City Council Legislative Meeting
Council Chambers
Tuesday, February 25, 2015, 6:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor William D. Euille, Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg, Members of Council John Taylor Chapman, Timothy B. Lovain, Redella S. Pepper, Paul C. Smedberg and Justin M. Wilson.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Jinks, Acting City Manager; Mr. Banks, City Attorney; Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Baker, Acting Deputy City Manager; Ms. McIlvaine, Acting Director, Office of Housing; Mr. Moritz, Director, Planning and Zoning (P&Z); Mr. Spengler, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Mr. Cochran, Division Chief, Office of Housing; Mr. Lambert, Acting Director, Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES); Mr. Mann, Urban Planner, P&Z; Mr. Skrabak, Deputy Director, T&ES; Mr. Caton, Legislative Director, Office of the City Manager; Ms. Layer, Deputy Director, Department of Community and Human Services; Ms. Garvey, Director, Department of Community and Human Services; Ms. Beach, Division Chief, P&Z; Ms. Bryan, Information Technology Services; Police Captain Wemple; and Mr. Lloyd.

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

1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Euille called the meeting to order and the Deputy City Clerk called the roll. All members of Council were present, except Councilwoman Pepper, who arrived during the closed meeting.

2. Closed Meeting.

6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. - Consideration of Convening a Closed Meeting for Consultation with Legal Counsel for Legal Advice and to Discuss the Possible Acquisition of Real Property.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried 6-0, at 6:00 p.m., City Council convened in closed meeting to discuss the possible acquisition and/or disposition of real property for a public purpose, and to consult with staff and legal counsel regarding threatened or pending litigation regarding specific legal matters, specifically the possible exchange of real property interests in furtherance of the Waterfront Small Area Plan and potential litigation and/or settlement of certain environmental matters involving Federal issues pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(3) of the Code of Virginia. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Absent. None; Opposed, none.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, at 7:00 p.m., City Council reconvened the meeting. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council adopted the resolution pertaining to the executive session. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2663

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council has on the date of this resolution recessed into executive session pursuant to a motion made and adopted in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, §2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the city council that such executive session was conducted in accordance with Virginia law;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the city council does hereby certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters that were identified in the motion by which the executive session was convened, and that are lawfully exempted by the Freedom of Information Act from the Act's open meeting requirements, were heard, discussed or considered by council during the executive session.

3. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Euille acknowledged Troop 1515 from St. Stephens School who were present at the meeting.

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

4. Reading and Acting Upon the Minutes of the Following Meeting of City Council:

The Regular Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2015.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council approved the regular meeting minutes of February 10, 2015. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES.

City Council gave reports on the following boards, commission and committees:

***U.S. Conference of Mayors (Mayor Euille)**

Mayor Euille reported that he attended the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. recently. Mayor Euille noted that he has been appointed chair of the International Affairs Committee for the USCM and the committee met with White House staff to discuss Cuban relations and what types of opportunities the new policy with Cuba will create for U.S. cities. Mayor Euille also reported that the conference attendees convened at the White House for a series of speeches from the President, Vice President, and other Cabinet members to discuss topics such as workforce development, education, early childhood development, infrastructure, and transportation. Mayor Euille invited Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro to come and tour Alexandria to observe the redeveloped public housing stock in the City.

*** Virginia Municipal League (Mayor Euille)**

Mayor Euille reported that the Virginia Municipal League recently held its Annual Legislative Day in Richmond, which was attended by himself, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain and Councilman Smedberg. Mayor Euille stated that Governor McAuliffe and Secretary of Transportation Layne expressed their commitment to transportation initiatives throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and spoke highly of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority here in Northern Virginia. Mayor Euille also reported that he was invited to a reception and dinner at the Governor's Mansion with other elected officials and economic development directors from Northern Virginia to dialogue about economic development and collaboration here in Northern Virginia.

***Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Mayor Euille)**

Mayor Euille reported that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Board is working diligently on its budget for FY16 and the Board is close to making a decision. Mayor Euille noted that the Board will either decide to raise the fare, reduce services or request additional subsidies from participating jurisdictions in order to make up for the shortfall the budget is experiencing. Mayor Euille pointed out that the Board would likely request additional subsidies from the jurisdictions.

***Library Board (Vice Mayor Silberberg)**

Vice Mayor Silberberg stated that the cleanup of Beatley Library from the broken pipes was quick and efficient and thanked staff for their hard work. Vice Mayor Silberberg noted that the Beatley Library was open on time with many patrons there the next day. Vice Mayor Silberberg also noted that members of the Library Board spoke at the public hearing on Saturday and reported that the Library Foundation would be willing to raise \$50,000 if the City matches the funds. Vice Mayor Silberberg reported that the next meeting of the Library Board would be Thursday, February 26.

***City/Schools Subcommittee (Councilman Wilson and Mayor Euille)**

Councilman Wilson reported that he and Mayor Euille attended the City/Schools subcommittee meeting on Monday. Councilman Wilson stated that the Communications Directors from the City and Schools were present to update the committee on shared services and how there could be more efficient use of resources between the entities.

Councilman Wilson noted that there was a discussion of the revised long-range educational facilities plan and a draft plan from the work group should be coming forth in April. Councilman Wilson reported that a work session is planned with the School Board to discuss aspects of the plan, public outreach will be occurring in May, with adoption before Council and the School Board recess for the summer.

Councilman Wilson requested that a joint work session between the School Board and City Council to be scheduled sometime in June, in particular to discuss afterschool/out of school activities.

Councilman Wilson stated that he would like to begin the dialogue about the type of budget guidance that should be given to the School Board for the FY17 budget deliberations and he requested that Council give him any suggestions for the subcommittee to review and discuss.

**Transportation Planning Board (Councilmember Lovain)*

Councilmember Lovain reported that the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) met February 18 to discuss the approval of projects for Constrained Long-Range (Transportation) Plan (CLRP). Councilmember Lovain stated that the TPB voted to advance some of the projects into the air quality approval process, including the spot improvements along I-66 (inside and outside of the Beltway). Councilmember Lovain stated that there was concerns raised by other jurisdictions about the proposed project, including the widening of I-66, the replacement of bridges over I-66 and the inclusion of other transit options instead of highway expansion. Councilmember Lovain noted that this discussion could lead to the TPB focusing on the development of other transit and transportation options around activity centers in the region.

Councilmember Lovain reported that he briefed the TPB on the effects of the I-66 project on the disadvantaged population and the District of Columbia's plan to eliminate lanes for bike lanes and how that would affect current bus service in the area.

**Alexandria Transportation Commission (Councilmember Lovain)*

Councilmember Lovain stated that the Transportation Commission reviewed projects from the Capital Improvement Projects list and discussed which projects could be deferred, if necessary. Councilmember Lovain noted that the conclusions from the Transportation Commission were sent in a letter from Nate Macek, the chair of the Commission, to the members of Council.

**Council of Governments Human Services and Public Safety Committee (Councilman Chapman)*

Councilman Chapman reported the Human Services and Public Safety Committee

discussed the work program for the next year focusing on housing, public safety, workforce development and health/mental health and will be discussing each topic at their bi-monthly meetings. Councilman Chapman noted that the topic of social impact bonds (private investors paying upfront for interventional service typically provided by governmental agencies) and their use in local government was part of the discussion and would be part of the ongoing discussion with Human Services and Public Safety Committee to see if this mechanism works for addressing regional social service issues.

***Eisenhower Partnership (Councilman Chapman)**

Councilman Chapman stated that at the Eisenhower Partnership meeting, the members received an update from Acting Director of Transportation and Environmental Services Lambert on the widening of Eisenhower Avenue, the traffic circle, and an update was presented on the activity with Cameron Run. Councilman Chapman reported that the Eisenhower Partnership would be holding a networking event on February 25 at Artfully Chocolate at 5:30 p.m.

***Virginia Railway Express (Councilman Smedberg)**

Councilman Smedberg reported that the plans are moving forward to build a Virginia Railway Express (VRE) station along the Gainesville/Haymarket I-66 corridor. Councilman Smedberg noted that Council of Governments (COG) is looking at expanding I-66 to a general purpose lane if warranted by the traffic in the area.

*** Northern Virginia Transportation Authority PCAC (Councilman Smedberg)**

Councilman Smedberg reported that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC) discussed the current model being used to evaluate transportation projects, addressing the concern that there was a bias toward road related projects and there will be a public hearing to allow comments on the process and the list of projects. Councilman Smedberg noted that the committee was concerned how the information about the projects and the funding for the projects is being communicated to the public and local jurisdictions.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

CONSENT CALENDAR (5-7)

(Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)

5. Consideration of a Grant to the Arlington and Alexandria Offices of the Virginia Cooperative Extension to Support the Expansion of the Energy Masters Program to Alexandria.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 18, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 02/24/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

6. Consideration of a Fiscal Year 2016 Grant Application to the Virginia Commission for

the Arts for a Local Government Challenge Grant for the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 18, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 02/24/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

7. Consideration of a Funding Application by the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) to the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) for Telepsychiatry Equipment and Service Fees to Improve Access to Psychiatry Services.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 18, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 7; 02/24/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council approved the consent calendar. The City Manager's recommendations were as follows:

5. City Council approved the allocation of \$20,000 from the Office of Housing's Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) earned deliverable fees to the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) to support the organization's expansion of the Energy Masters Program into the City of Alexandria.

6. City Council authorized the City Manager to: (1) submit a grant application, in the amount of \$5,000 to the Virginia Commission of the Arts' Local Government Challenge Grant Program; and (2) execute all the necessary documents that may be required.

7. City Council: (1) authorized the submission of an application to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) for \$21,240 in FY15 and \$13,440 in FY16 for the purchase of telepsychiatry equipment and for annual service fees in order to implement telepsychiatry services and thereby improve timely access to psychiatry services and maximize efficient use of existing Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) psychiatric resources; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required.

The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR DISCUSSION

8. Update on the 2015 General Assembly Session.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 23, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 02/24/15, and

is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Legislative Director Caton gave an update on the activity occurring in the General Assembly in Richmond and responded to questions from Council about legislation under consideration. Mr. Caton noted that the General Assembly should have all legislation consideration completed by the weekend.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Smedberg, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council received the updated report on the 2015 General Assembly Session. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

9. Oral Report: Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority Update Regarding Redevelopment Initiatives.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 9; 02/24/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Priest, Executive Chief Officer, Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) gave an update on the redevelopment initiatives that ARHA is undertaking and responded to questions from Council about the redevelopment projects, tenant communication about the initiatives, voucher usage and relocation, and property management.

10. Consideration of the Draft FY 2016 Interdepartmental Long Range Planning Work Program.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 18, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 10; 02/24/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Moritz, Director, Planning and Zoning, gave an overview of the Draft FY2016 Interdepartmental Long Range Planning Work Program and responded to questions from Council about next steps for the program.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilmember Lovain and carried unanimously, City Council received and provided comments on the revised draft planning priorities for FY2016. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

11. Oral Report: A Brief Look at Diversity: Alexandria's Racial and Ethnic Groups and Foreign-Born Population.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 11; 02/24/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Mann, Urban Planner, Planning and Zoning, gave an oral report on racial and ethnic groups in Alexandria and responded to questions from Council about the statistics and demographics presented about the City's population.

ORAL REPORTS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

(a) Councilman Chapman reported that the Sister Cities Committee would be hosting its Annual Whiskey Tasting fundraiser on March 6, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., at the Lloyd House. Councilman Chapman also noted that the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee would be hosting a wine tasting fundraiser in March as well.

(b) Councilman Chapman reported that he went on a ride along on a snow plow with the employees of the Transportation and Environmental Services department during the recent snowstorm. Councilman Chapman noted that he wanted to witness the operations to highlight how resilient the City of Alexandria is during these types of events and how that can be a benefit for economic development. Councilman Chapman asked Acting Director of Transportation and Environmental Services Lambert to respond to questions about scheduling of plowing and communication with residents.

In response to Councilman Chapman, Acting Director Lambert explained the snow removal process and how the City responds to weather events.

ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

None.

OTHER

12. Consideration of the City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 18, 2015 and is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 12; 02/24/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) received the revised Council Calendar which includes: the City Council budget work sessions from March 2015 to May 2015 and the Alexandria Police Fallen Officers Memorial Dedication, which is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at 3600 Wheeler Avenue; and approved the calendar. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

Closed Meeting Continued (If Needed)

13. Consideration of Convening a Closed Meeting for Consultation with Legal Counsel for Legal Advice and to Discuss the Possible Acquisition of Real Property.

The closed session was not needed.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO CONSIDER, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, the legislative meeting of February 24, 2015, was adjourned at 9:23 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

APPROVED BY:

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria Sitton, CMC Deputy City Clerk