

City of Alexandria
City Council Legislative Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 27, 2015
6:00 P.M.
Council Chambers

Present: Mayor William D. Euille, Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg and 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, City Manager; Mr. Banks, Deputy City Attorney; Ms. Triggs, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager; Police Captain Wemple; Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services; Mr. Caton, Legislative Director; Ms. Garvey, Director, Department of Community and Human Services; Ms. Gilbert, Community and Human Services; Mr. McPike, Director, General Services; and Mr. Lloyd.

Recorded by: Jacqueline M. Henderson, City Clerk and Clerk of Council

1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Euille called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All members of City Council were present. (Vice Mayor Silberberg and Councilmembers Lovain and Smedberg arrived during docket item #2.)

2. Closed Meeting.

6:00 P.M. Consideration of Convening a Closed Meeting for Consultation with Legal Counsel for Legal Advice on Specific Legal Issues.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council convened into closed meeting to consult with staff and legal counsel regarding threatened or pending litigation and to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters, specifically the resolution of pending real estate assessment litigation and recently filed litigation regarding a land use matter, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(7) of the *Code of Virginia*. The voting was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none. (Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilmember Lovain and Councilman Smedberg were absent for the vote but joined Council in closed meeting.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, City Council reconvened in open session. The voting 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 previously circulated to Council. The voting 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. 2693

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council has this 27th day of October 2015, recessed into executive session pursuant to a motion made and adopted in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 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.

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 October 13, 2015.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council approved the regular meeting minutes of October 13, 2015. The voting 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

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

Mayor Euille updated Council on the recent VML annual conference held in Richmond, noting that it was very well attended. Mayor Euille said it dealt with the proposed legislative program for the 2016 session of the General Assembly, and Councilman Chapman serves on the VML Legislative Committee as well. He highlighted the topics that were adopted by VML: support for additional funding for the public school system; economic development and prosperity; state assistance to local police departments; state and local government fiscal relationships; line of duty act; price floor for regional gas taxes; taxing and licensing and regulating of internet based businesses and services; fines and cost collections by treasurers/local fines and fees to remain local; synthetic plastic microbeads; and local authority

to regulate plastic bags. There was also a discussion of guns and it struck the language about assault weapons. Mayor Euille said they are hearing a lot about demographics and changes, both locally, state-wide and nationally, and they had a presentation by a demographer talking about how populations are shifting and changing and they are becoming more age population in terms of things to address the quality of life issues and housing for seniors, and the impacts that having an aging population will have on the taxbase, as well as an increase in millennials. He said he spoke with the City Manager about having a joint session with City Council, Planning, AEDP and the public to bring someone in to talk about the changes that are occurring.

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

Councilman Wilson said he and Mayor Euille serve on the City/Schools Subcommittee, along with the chair and vice chair of the School Board, the City Manager and the School Superintendent. He said at the meeting yesterday, it spoke of the enrollment numbers, noting that it has a school enrollment of 14,670, which is a 3.6 percent increase and is 500 additional kids. It is the ninth straight year of enrollment growth, accounting for a little over 4,000 students. Councilman Wilson said this is the third year in a row that the forecasting produced by the long-range educational facilities workgroup has pegged the number almost right on target. He said this year they were 99.4 percent accurate. Councilman Wilson said it had a conversation about the next phase of the long-range educational facilities planning, moving on to middle and high schools and what the right group and timetable is, and the staff's will be coming back with a recommendation for that. It had a discussion of the early childhood and after school efforts as well as the shared services efforts and the joint work on Patrick Henry.

*** Transportation Planning Board (Councilmember Lovain)**

Councilmember Lovain said that last Wednesday it had the most contentious, interesting and important TPB meeting it's had in the six years he's been on the Board. It argued about smart growth principals and the role of the TPB. The TPB has the power to stop any project that is seeking federal funding and in the past the Board has not exercised that power. Councilmember Lovain said they have a regional transportation priorities plan, COG has a region forward plan and all of them include the principal of focusing development around activity centers, especially the Metro stations and transit oriented development and why shouldn't they insist on projects that fit with these plans. Councilmember Lovain said the issue was were they going to approve the constrained long-range plan or not. All they were voting on were the additions to the CRLP and the additions were: the BRT project at the Huntington Metro south on Route 1 to Woodbridge; new bike lanes in D.C.; and converting I-66 lanes within the Beltway to HOV Hot Lanes. They discussed having a working group to come up with metrics to grade projects by how closely they confirm to the plans and that issue was deferred to next month. Councilmember Lovain said they are working toward putting a little more muscle into the idea of making the plans a reality and focus on activity centers around Metro stations and transit oriented development.

Councilmember Lovain said it had an event this morning at Market Square that TPB and COG sponsored, which was the kick-off of the annual Street Smart Campaign. The campaign is to encourage everyone – drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists to be alert and be street smart and share the streets. He said most of the pedestrian and bicycle fatalities occur in the dark. Councilmember Lovain said that every five days a driver kills a pedestrian or bicyclist in the region – there were 75 in the last year.

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

Councilman Smedberg said that he represents Council on the VRE and today the House passed the extension for the positive train control, so they had plans in place to manage the possibility that they would not be able to operate, as they lease their lines from Norfolk Southern and CSX. The extension was for three years.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

CONSENT CALENDAR (5-6)

(Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)

- 5.** Consideration of Approval to Lease City-owned Property at 211 Aspen Street.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated October 21, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 10/27/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

- 6.** Consideration of a Proposed Lease of Office Space at Tavern Square for Multiple City Agencies.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated October 21, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 10/27/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council adopted the consent calendar, with the removal of item #5, which was considered under separate motion, as follows:

6. City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into a new lease for office space at Tavern Square, 400 block of King Street, which would extend occupation of this space by City departments for a period of 10.5 years (through 2026.)

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

- 5.** Consideration of Approval to Lease City-owned Property at 211 Aspen Street.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated October 21, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 10/27/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. McPike, Director, General Services, and Ms. Garvey, Director, Community and Human Services, made a presentation of the staff report and they, along with Ms. Mitchell, Executive Director, New Hope Housing, Ms. Gilbert, Community and Human Services, and Mr. Jinks, City Manager, responded to questions of City Council.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Wilson and carried unanimously, City Council authorized the City Manager to execute a lease of City-owned property at 211 Aspen Street to New Hope Housing at a rate of \$1 per month for an initial term of three years and then two one-year renewals for rapid-rehousing of single men who are homeless with a preference given to veterans. The voting 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

7. Consideration of the Proposed City Legislative Package for the 2016 General Assembly Session.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated October 21, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 7; 10/27/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Caton, Legislative Director, made a presentation of the proposed Legislative Package and responded to questions of City Council.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Smedberg, seconded by Councilmember Lovain and carried unanimously, City Council: 1. received the proposals for the City's 2016 Legislative Package, as recommended by Council's Legislative Subcommittee and included in the attachment; 2. scheduled the Legislative Package proposals for public hearing on Saturday, November 14, 2015; and 3. scheduled adoption of the Legislative Package for Tuesday, November 24, 2015. The voting was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

8. Oral Report on Meeting Needs Today: A Needs Assessment of the Alexandria Human Services System - Volume 2.

(A copy of the report is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 10/27/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Glenn Hopkins, member of the Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations, made a presentation of the report and responded to questions of City Council.

Mayor Euille requested that the City Manager find time to schedule a work session this session to go over the report in order to have a much broader discussion on the report.

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

ORAL PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

1. Mayor Euille congratulated and thanked Deborah Johnson with Dominion Virginia

Power for her work with the City in state and local affairs. Ms. Johnson said she would be going into the customer service organization at Dominion and she introduced Travis Cutler, her replacement at Dominion.

2. Mayor Euille said the City's leaf collection program began October 26, and there are three ways to recycle: rake the leaves to the curb for vacuum collection, place them in paper leaf bags for collection or compost the leaves and yard waste at home.

3. Councilwoman Pepper reminded everyone that next Sunday, November 1 is the end of Daylight Saving Time and clocks will be turned back.

4. Councilmember Lovain said it was a pleasure to participate in the homecoming at T.C. Williams, and it is the 50th anniversary of T.C. Williams and a lot of alumni came back. ACPS took advantage of the opportunity to do the ribbon cutting for the tennis courts and it was great to see that come to fruition. He said it was a spirited pep rally and parade the next day.

5. Councilmember Lovain spoke of the Del Ray parade and said Council were judges and it was a great event.

6. Mayor Euille noted that on the high school's 50th anniversary, the homecoming weekend was the opening celebration of the 50th anniversary and other events will take place throughout the remainder of the year, culminating with the scholarship gala in April. Mayor Euille gave thanks to businessman Jack Taylor, of Alexandria Toyota, who donated \$50,000 to the scholarship fund in honor of the 50th anniversary.

Councilmember Lovain said that with the \$50,000, Mr. Taylor's donations are over \$1 million to the scholarship fund.

7. Councilman Chapman said that he and Councilman Smedberg had the opportunity to visit the last public budget community meeting, and he noted that it was good to see citizens coming out and talking about the priorities of the City. He said there are a couple more meetings left and he encouraged citizens to attend.

8. Councilman Chapman said that on November 4 he will be going to Nashville to attend the National League of Cities annual convention and said he would speak on a panel with the Mayor of Caen, France about the work they do on the Sister Cities Committees.

9. Councilman Smedberg spoke of his aide Nancy Lavalley Perkins who was in the audience and noted that she has recently relocated to Maine. Councilman Smedberg read a proclamation prepared in Nancy's honor.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Smedberg, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council endorsed the proclamation. The voting was as follows: In favor, Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

10. Mayor Euille recognized AlexRenew for their new field dedication that took place last Friday.

ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Mr. Jinks, City Manager, along with Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, spoke of the Norfolk Southern ethanol transloading facility expansion and they responded to questions of City Council.

OTHER

9. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated October 21, 2015, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 9; 10/27/15, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council: 1. received the updated Council schedule which includes dedication of the Leatrice Byrd Playground at Buchanan Park, 1501 Cameron Street, on Saturday, November 14, 2015, at 8:30 a.m.; and 2. approved the City Council schedule. The voting 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)

10 Consideration of Convening a Closed Meeting for Consultation with Legal Counsel for Legal Advice on Specific Legal Issues.

The continuation of the closed executive session was not needed.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED, upon motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, the legislative meeting of October 27, 2015, was adjourned at 8:26 p.m. The voting was as follows: In favor, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg and Councilman Wilson; Opposed, none.

APPROVED BY:

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson
City Clerk and Clerk of Council