

**City of Alexandria
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 26, 2016, 7:00 PM
City Council Legislative Meeting
Council Chambers**

Present: Mayor Allison Silberberg, Vice Mayor Justin M. Wilson and Members of Council Willie F. Bailey, Sr., John Taylor Chapman, Timothy B. Lovain, Redella S. Pepper and Paul C. Smedberg.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Jinks, City Manager; Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Triggs, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Anderson, Deputy City Attorney; Mr. Routt, Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB); Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES); Mr. Caton, Legislative Director, City Manager's Office; Ms. Dawson, Director, Library; Mr. Moritz, Director, Planning and Zoning (P&Z); Mr. Mallamo, Director, Office of Historic Alexandria (OHA); Mr. Farner, Deputy Director, P&Z; Mr. Bernstein, Director, Department of Project Implementation (DPI); Mr. Dambach, Division Chief, P&Z; Ms. Farmer, Principal Planner, T&ES; Mr. Kacamburas, Project Coordinator, T&ES; Mr. McPike, Director, General Services; Mr. Mason, Acting Director, Human Resources, Ms. Jenkins, Manager, Human Resources; Ms. Taylor, Director, Finance; Mr. Kerns, Division Chief, P&Z; Mr. Mackey, Director, Court Services Unit; Mr. Spengler, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA); Mr. Browand, Division Chief, RPCA; Mr. Braden, Budget Analyst, OMB; Mr. Wicks, Results Coordinator, OMB; Ms. Ha, Fiscal Officer, Fire; Ms. Alexander, Budget Analyst, OMB; Mr. Ahmed, Budget Analyst, OMB; Ms. Harris, Budget Analyst, OMB; Ms. Wright, Budget Analyst, OMB; Police Capt. Mammarella; Police Lt. Jones; Mr. Ward, Information Technology Systems; and Mr. Lloyd.

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

1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Silberberg called the meeting to order and the Deputy City Clerk called the roll prior to the Add/Delete Work Session. All members of Council were present, with Councilman Chapman and Councilman Smedberg arriving during the Add/Delete Work Session.

City Council held the Add/Delete Work Session until 8:05 p.m.

2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

The Regular Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2016.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council approved the minutes of the regular meeting of April 12, 2016. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

OTHER

4. Federal Issues for Discussion with Congressman Don Beyer.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated April 20, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 4; 04/26/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Congressman Don Beyer gave Council an update on the federal legislation he and his colleagues considered this Congressional session including trade promotion authority to enhance economic growth, work on the immigration bill for long-term impacts, improving the infrastructure at the federal level, climate change and women's economic empowerment. Congressman Beyer responded to questions from Council about the above issues as well as regional issues like funding for Metro, rehabilitating Memorial Bridge, and municipal bonds.

City Council received the report from Congressman Don Beyer.

ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

***ARHA Redevelopment Workgroup (Vice Mayor Wilson and Councilman Chapman)**

Vice Mayor Wilson gave an update on the recent Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) Redevelopment Workgroup meeting that included discussions related to the Ramsey Homes redevelopment, in particular the valuation on the asset, payment of ARHA consultants, and resolution of the timing of the rezoning for the property. Vice Mayor Wilson noted that the ARHA Redevelopment Workgroup held a charette on March 29 to discuss the potential designs and design alternatives. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the next meeting for the workgroup is scheduled for the third week in May to be followed by a community meeting prior to the summer recess.

*** Potomac Yard Metro Implementation Group (Vice Mayor Wilson and Councilman Smedberg)**

Vice Mayor Wilson and Councilman Smedberg deferred the update until the docket item is presented.

*** City Schools Subcommittee (Vice Mayor Wilson and Mayor Silberberg)**

Mayor Silberberg reported that the City Schools Subcommittee meeting was held on Monday night and she stated that the committee discussed the Patrick Henry Elementary School redevelopment and how the neighborhood expectations and concerns are not being addressed to their satisfaction, particularly with regard to access on Latham and open space availability.

Councilwoman Pepper gave an update on the discussions that the Patrick Henry Redevelopment Advisory Group was having related to access on Latham as well and how they are actively looking for ways to resolve that and other issues surrounding the project for the entire neighborhood.

Mayor Silberberg reported that there was a consensus from the committee to move forward with ideas on the schools pre-K initiatives and centers. Mayor Silberberg also reported that the committee discussed reinstating the Titan Lounge Afterschool Program and how it can be incorporated into the afterschool curriculum.

Councilman Chapman requested more information on plans and next steps for the pre-K initiatives and he suggested that the committee seeking the input of the educators and administrators as it relates to implementing a holistic afterschool program, particularly one that serves the high school population.

Vice Mayor Wilson reported that there is a continuation of the efforts to gather data for a gap analysis reviewing the spectrum of the City's afterschool programs and he stated that this information will help formulate policies moving forward as it relates to afterschool activities. Vice Mayor Wilson noted that this analysis will be part of a joint work session in June.

*** METRO (Councilman Smedberg)**

Councilman Smedberg reported that the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) Board would hold their meeting on Thursday, April 28. Councilman Smedberg also reported that the incident on Metro tracks that occurred over weekend was caused by a foreign object and not by a system malfunction.

*** Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission (Councilman Chapman and Councilman Bailey)**

Councilman Bailey reported that the discussion at the most recent Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission meeting centered on equity and affordable housing. Councilman Bailey noted that the Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) has recently hired Cheryl Robinson as the Cultural Competency Coordinator and she will be working with over 400 participants on an equity walk. Councilman Bailey stated that Ms. Robinson has also met with parents, community groups, administrators and principals for 90-minute focus groups to gain a sense of the cultural climate in the ACPS setting. Councilman Bailey also stated that Ms. Robinson will be training staff to be facilitators and students will be working on a restorative justice initiative as a result of a recently held leadership summit.

*** Library Board (Councilman Bailey)**

Councilman Bailey reported that the Library Board raised over \$4300 during the Spring 2 Action campaign, helping them exceed their \$50,000 goal for receiving matching funds from City Council to buy needed supplies for the libraries. Councilman Bailey also reported that Burke Library would be getting a new roof, with work starting this week and Beatley Central Library would be receiving new flowers and upgraded landscape in the Library's reading garden. Councilman Bailey also noted that the summer reading program for all ages would begin in June, with this year's theme, "Read for the Win."

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

Councilmember Lovain reported that the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) held a meeting of the Long Range Plan Task Force, which is developing a long range plan to identify projects that will help meet the goals of the Region Forward Plan for the Council of Governments (COG) and the Regional Priorities Transportation Plan for the TPB. Councilmember Lovain stated that the task force is focusing on development centered near activity centers and Metro stations with transportation projects serving those locations. Councilmember Lovain noted that he was the chair of the task force and they are steadily making progress and they are seeking ways to provide funding for these projects. Councilmember Lovain also reported that at the regular TPB meeting there was a discussion about incident response for the region and how it can be improved to positively affect traffic flow in the area. Councilmember Lovain noted that he would be speaking at a forum for local technology workers about incident response in the region. Councilmember Lovain also pointed out that the TPB is willing to be helpful to WMATA as they move forward in all their endeavors. Councilmember Lovain reported that TPB approved a proclamation for Bike to Work Day on May 20 and hoped for good weather for all the participants in all the planned activities. Lastly, Councilmember Lovain reported that the TPB received a briefing on transportation and travel trends in the region, noting that vehicles trips are down for the area.

*** Transportation Commission (Councilmember Lovain)**

Councilmember Lovain stated that the Transportation Commission has enthusiastically endorsed the items in the budget for Capital Improvement related to transportation.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

CONSENT CALENDAR (5)

(Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)

5. City Council Consideration of Grant Application to the 2016 Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for Funding to Renovate Ewald Park in Accordance with the Neighborhood Parks Improvement Plan.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated April 20, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 04/26/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council approved the consent calendar. The City Manager's recommendation was as follows:

5. City Council authorized the City Manager to: (1) proceed with the grant application to the 2016 Land and Water Conservation Fund for funding in the amount of \$500,000 for Ewald Park; and (2) execute all necessary documents.

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

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR DISCUSSION

6. Oral Update on Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Project Implementation.

(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. 6; 04/26/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Farner, Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning, gave a presentation of the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station project, and he, along with Mr. Bernstein, Director, Department of Project Implementation, Ms. Farmer, Principal Planner, Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES), and Mr. Kacamburas, Project Coordinator, T&ES, responded to questions from Council about landscaping and tree canopy, design and material for the station and pedestrian bridge, process for approving the proposed plan, construction impact, particularly on traffic and parking, and the update of the environmental impact study.

City Council received the update on the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Project.

7. Oral Report on Mercy Street Season 1.

(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. 7; 04/26/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Ms. Washington, CEO and President of Visit Alexandria and Mr. Fiore, Marketing and Research Manager for Visit Alexandria, gave a presentation on the marketing strategies and statistics gathered during the first season of Mercy Street on PBS. Ms. Washington, Mr. Fiore and Mr. Mallamo, Director, Office of Historic Alexandria, responded to questions from Council about the coordinated efforts promoting Alexandria and the show.

City Council received the oral report on Mercy Street Season 1.

ORAL REPORTS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

1. Mayor Silberberg reported that Virginia Dominion Power notified the City last night about an oil spill that occurred off of Seminary Road. Mayor Silberberg noted that the Fire Department and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality were notified as well. Mayor

Silberberg stated that she appreciated the quick notification about the incident and she requested that federal and state officials be notified as well. Mayor Silberberg also stated that Virginia Dominion assured the City that there were no PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyl) in the spill, they disclosed how many gallons of oil spilled and where the spill went.

City Manager Jinks reported that a transformer failed and spilled five to seven gallons of mineral oil down a drain that led to the City's sanitary sewer system and the City's Transportation and Environmental Services staff determined that no environmental damage occurred.

2. Councilman Chapman reported that the Gang Task Force and the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership will be celebrating their ten year anniversary with a Spring Mentor Recruitment Event on May 5 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Jinks gave a public briefing of the issues and decisions surrounding the infill development at 402 Princeton Blvd. Mr. Jinks stated that the decision cannot be reversed because the statute of limitations has passed and there will be a detailed review of the matter with new procedures implemented, including specific requirements for documenting decisions to create a clear and discernable paper trail, creation of a system of checks and balances for the zoning decisions, creation of a better infill application notification process that allows the neighborhood to weigh in early, and making sure that the expectations and processes of the zoning office are rigorously followed, to prevent this type of incident for occurring again in the future.

OTHER

8. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated April 20, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 04/26/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Councilmember Lovain noted that he would be late to the June public hearing meeting as he will be attending his daughter's graduation that morning.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) received the updated schedule which includes: the Living Legends Appreciation Reception on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., in the Vola Lawson Lobby and the Special Public Hearing for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station which is scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. and amending the Budget Adoption for May 5 at 6:00 p.m.; and (2) approved the City Council schedule. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

Closed Meeting

9. Consideration of a Closed Meeting for Discussion Regarding the Performance of Specific Appointees and Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Actual or Probable Litigation.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, City Council convened in closed executive session at 10:10 p.m., to discuss the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public, the financial interest of the City would be adversely affected; to discuss the performance of specific public officers; and to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice; specifically, the competition and bargaining regarding the procurement of public infrastructure; the evaluation of the performance of Council direct appointees; and the settlement of probable litigation; pursuant to Sections 2.2-3711(A)(1), (6), and (7) of the Code of Virginia. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, City Council reconvened the meeting at 11:28 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

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

The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2720

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council has this 26th day of April 2016, 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.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, the legislative

meeting of April 26, 2016 was adjourned at 11:30 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

APPROVED BY:

ALLISON SILBERBERG MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, Deputy City Clerk