

**City of Alexandria
Meeting Minutes
City Council Public Hearing
Saturday, October 15, 2016
9:30 AM**

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Jinks, City Manager; Mr. Banks, City Attorney; Police Captain Andreas; Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services; Mr. Moritz, Director, Planning and Zoning; Mr. Kerns, Planning and Zoning; Mr. Dambach, Planning and Zoning; Ms. Horowitz, Planning and Zoning; Mr. Wagner, Planning and Zoning; Mr. Smith, Planning and Zoning; and Mr. Lloyd.

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

OPENING

1. Calling the Roll.

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

Mayor Silberberg said Council went to the King Street Gardens Park dedication of brick this morning. She said it was driven by community efforts in cooperation with the City, and thanks go to the King Street Garden Park Foundation, Roger Digilio, Tom Hollin, Linda Hollin, Kathryn Brown, Marlon Lord, Chet Avery, David Martin, Carol Supple, Matthew Harwood and Pam Sinclair. Special gratitude to Lynn Chambers for her donation in memory of her late husband.

Mayor Silberberg said this morning is Senior Law Day at The First Baptist Church and in cooperation with the Alexandria BAR Association is hosting an incredible event.

2. Public Discussion Period.

The following persons participated in the public discussion period:

1. Charles Smith, 7611 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, executive director and general counsel for the union representing City employees, local 3001, spoke about a union contract that was negotiated with the City 40 years ago, but because of the Dillon rule, the union contracts were outlawed. He spoke to the contracts and preservation of the good relationships that had been created. He asked that Councilmembers meet with their union leadership in the future.

2. Barbara Beach, 614 S. Royal Street, spoke to the quality of life in her neighborhood in the southeast quadrant of Old Town and noted that trees were removed without need or explanation along Union Street, and a bike share location was erected at Safeway without neighborhood input or notice and she asked that Council direct staff to remove it. Ms. Beach spoke to the excess number of directional signs in the area, and she requested that the ordinance to amend adult biking to prohibit sidewalk biking in the Old and Historic District.

In response to a question from Council, Mr. Jinks, City Manager, stated that on the bike share location, T&ES has a new process to be sure neighbors know, and he asked T&ES to pull together an informal group as a bike committee so they can have discussions about the issues of bicycle and pedestrian conflict. Mr. Jinks said on the trees, trees are trimmed and removed if they pose a hazard or if there is an invasive species and in preparation for a future Windmill Hill Park project.

3. Scott Leaf, 814 Duke Street, spoke about his concerns with pollution, road congestion, parking and traffic, both presently and in the future if there is expansion at the Alfred Street Baptist Church, noting that Alfred Street is only 24 feet wide, versus the parallel road, Columbus Street, which is 36 feet wide. Mr. Leaf said it is important that Council decide on the parking on the east side of Alfred Street on Sundays. He also spoke to Truman Alley, which is used as a pass-thru, and Alfred Street Baptist Church uses a mini-bus on Sundays and they drive through the alley. Mr. Leaf also spoke about buses in Old Town leaving their engines running while parked.

In response to a question from Council, Mr. Jinks said he would get Council information on idling of buses on streets and how it is enforced.

4. Nancy Jennings, 2115 Marlboro Drive, president, Seminary Hill Association, Inc., spoke to the quality of education in Alexandria and that the ACPS and the School Board chose option A-1 for the expanded Patrick Henry School and Rec Center, which she said is a waste of money. She spoke to a proposed resolution the School Board will vote on next week and the problems with the resolution.

5. Frank Putzu, 1423 Juliana Place, said the time has come for an outside independent audit and inspection of ACPS management of finances and compliance with special use permit requirements, and that Council control appropriations to ACPS until the independent audit is complete. He spoke to the rationale for Patrick Henry and the explanation of the figure and the overrun costs for other school projects. Mr. Putzu asked Council for help in knowing how the funds are being managed.

In response to a question from City Council, Mr. Jinks noted that the Schools are audited every year on financial management, but it is not a management audit.

There was discussion among City Council about the expansion of the Patrick Henry School and Rec Center.

6. Janice Grenadier, 15 W. Spring Street, spoke to her issues with the justice system, her jailing and torture and her \$50 million suit against the Alexandria Police.

7. Nancy Kelly, 2402 Cameron Mills Road, spoke to the exterior design of the

firehouse that will replace station 3 at Cameron Mills Road and Monticello Avenue, noting that people are worried about the new building design. She said the exterior is problematic and the current structure is red brick, but the new station is industrial in design with a lot of dark block material, has nothing in common with the neighboring homes or the church across Monticello, and it will stick out like a sore thumb. She asked that the design harmonize with the neighborhood.

Mr. Jinks said a community meeting was held to get feedback from the community, and staff will take that feedback and go back to the drawing board.

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

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

ACTION CONSENT CALENDAR (3-5)

Planning Commission

3. Special Use Permit #2016-0055
2307 A Mount Vernon Avenue (Parcel Address: 2305 Mt Vernon Avenue) - The Happy Tart Bakery
Public Hearing and Consideration of requests for: (A) a restaurant with outdoor dining; and (B) a request for a parking reduction; zoned: CL/Commercial Low. Applicant: Emma Cech
Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval 6-0

(A copy of the Planning Commission report dated October 15, 2016, is file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 3; 10/15/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

4. Development Special Use Permit #2016-0028
2318 Mill Road - Mill Race Block 17
Public Hearing and Consideration of a request for an amendment to an existing Development Special Use Permit (DSUP2002-0002) to allow flexibility for both office and retail uses in ground floor space; zoned CDD #2/Coordinated Development District #2. Applicant: Carlyle Overlook, LLC, represented by M. Catharine Puskar, attorney
Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval 6-0

(A copy of the Planning Commission report dated October 15, 2016, is file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 4; 10/15/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

5. Development Special Use Permit #2016-0027
CDD Concept Plan #2016-0001
2461 Eisenhower Avenue
Public Hearing and Consideration of a request for an amendment to previously-approved Coordinated Development District Concept Plan Special Use Permit #2014-0007 and

Development Special Use Permit #2000-0028 to allow flexibility for office or retail use on the ground floor of the existing building; zoned CDD #2/Coordinated Development District #2. Applicant: 2461 Eisenhower Acquisitions, LLC, represented by M. Catharine Puskar, attorney
Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval 6-0

(A copy of the Planning Commission report dated October 15, 2016, is file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 10/15/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

END OF ACTION CONSENT CALENDAR

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, City Council adopted the consent calendar, with the removal of item #4, which was considered under separate motion, as follows:

3. City Council approved the Planning Commission recommendation.
5. City Council approved the Planning Commission recommendation.

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

4. Development Special Use Permit #2016-0028
2318 Mill Road - Mill Race Block 17
Public Hearing and Consideration of a request for an amendment to an existing Development Special Use Permit (DSUP2002-0002) to allow flexibility for both office and retail uses in ground floor space; zoned CDD #2/Coordinated Development District #2. Applicant: Carlyle Overlook, LLC, represented by M. Catharine Puskar, attorney
Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval 6-0

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There were questions from City Council regarding allowed uses, the Planning Directors discretion on meeting the intent on what is allowed, along with various conditions in the report, which were responded to by Mr. Kerns, Planning and Zoning, Mr. Moritz, Planning and Zoning, Mr. Smith, Planning and Zoning, and Ms. Puskar, attorney for the applicant.

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

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES (continued)

Planning Commission (continued)

6. Encroachment #2016-0006

505 South Lee Street

Public Hearing and Consideration of a request for an Encroachment into the public right-of-way for a front stoop, including steps and railing; zoned: RM/Residential Medium-Townhouse. Applicant: Mark Warner & Lisa Collis, represented by Scot McBroom, architect
Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval 6-0

(A copy of the Planning Commission report dated October 15, 2016, is file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 10/15/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

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

7. City Charter Section 9.06 #2016-0002- FOR INFORMATION ONLY

2403 Potomac Avenue - Potomac Yard Rail Corridor

Public Hearing and Consideration of a request for Planning Commission to review whether the proposed acquisition of property is consistent with the City of Alexandria Master Plan pursuant to Section 9.06 of the City Charter. Applicant: City of Alexandria
Planning Commission Action: The request is consistent with the City's Master Plan 6-0

(A copy of the Planning Commission report dated October 15, 2016, is file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 7; 10/15/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

City Council received the report as information.

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, the public hearing meeting of October 15, 2016, was adjourned at 11:04 a.m. The voting 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:

Jacqueline M. Henderson
City Clerk and Clerk of Council