

**City of Alexandria  
Meeting Minutes  
City Council Legislative Meeting  
Tuesday, October 24, 2017, 6:00 PM  
Council Chambers**

Present: Mayor Allison Silberberg, Vice Mayor Justin M. Wilson, 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; Mr. Banks, City Attorney; Ms. Triggs, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Lambert, Director, Department of Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES); Mr. Dambach, Division Chief, Planning and Zoning (P&Z); Ms. Baker, Deputy City Manager; Mr. McMahan, Deputy Director, Code Administration; Ms. Kelleher, Director, Office of Human Rights; Ms. Garvey, Director, Department of Community and Human Services; Mr. Useem, Director, Office of Performance and Accountability; Mr. Skrabak, Deputy Director, T&ES; Ms. North, Principal Planner, T&ES; Ms. Ziemann, Division Chief, T&ES; Ms. Moxley, Civil Engineer, T&ES; Mr. Nunez, Civil Engineer, T&ES; Ms. Orr, Special Assistant to the City Manager; Police Captain Andreas; Mr. Ward, Information Technology Services; and Mr. Lloyd.

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

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1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Silberberg called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All members of Council were present, except Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, and Councilman Smedberg, who arrived during the closed executive session.

2. Closed Meeting.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried 4-0-3, City Council convened in closed executive session at 6:00 p.m., to discuss the use or investment of public resources where bargaining is involved where, if made public, the financial interests of the City would be adversely affected; specifically, the possible investment of public funds in support of a proposed development project; pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(6) of the Code of Virginia. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Lovain, and Councilwoman Pepper; Opposed, none; Absent, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, and Councilman Smedberg.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council reconvened in open session at 7:07 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 previously circulated pertaining to the closed 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. 2792**

**WHEREAS**, the Alexandria City Council has this 24th day of October, 2017 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 Meetings of City Council:

The Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of September 16, 2017; and the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2017.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council approved the public hearing meeting minutes of September 16, 2017, and the regular meeting minutes of September 26, 2017. 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.

### **ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND**

## **COMMITTEES**

### **\*City/Schools Subcommittee (Mayor Silberberg and Vice Mayor Wilson)**

Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the Committee received updates on Early Education and Afterschool initiatives, including documentation on the fiscal mapping on how these initiatives are funded and recommendations for how to be utilize the money in the future. Vice Mayor Wilson also reported that there was an update from the Joint Facilities Task Force and schedule for the task force go forward. Vice Mayor Wilson noted that there was a significant amount of discussion about budget guidance for the schools for the upcoming budget process and he pointed out that several methods have been used over the years to develop the schools' budget. Vice Mayor Wilson stated that there needs to be some general context for their budget situation and he suggested that the memorandum be review prior to the Council Retreat on November 4.

Mayor Silberberg reported that Dr. Berlin, Interim Superintendent, is working with the Police Department to add cameras to school buses to increase safety for children crossing the streets after exiting school buses.

### **\*ARHA/City Redevelopment Committee (Vice Mayor Wilson and Councilman Chapman)**

Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the Committee received an interim update regarding the Adkins redevelopment project about the continuing staff collaboration. Vice Mayor Wilson also noted that there was a discussion about how to pursue some of the best practices in public housing in the ARHA organization. Vice Wilson reported that the ARHA board announced the hiring of the new CEO, Keith Pettigrew, who will start on November 13.

### **\*Visit Alexandria (Vice Mayor Wilson)**

Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the Board of Governors were given the annual meeting updates on spending and tax revenue which included the following information: \$790 million in visitor spending produces \$26 million in tax revenue for the city, tourism supports 6450 jobs in the city, which saved every household \$391 in taxes, and there was 73% hotel occupancy last year. Vice Mayor Wilson also reported that the Visit Alexandria announced their new immersive tour, Visit Alexandria 360 Tour, that was funded from state grant support marketing and tourism. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that there was a discussion about regulations for short-term rentals such as AirBnB, and the potential regulatory framework for the upcoming year.

### **\*COG - Transportation Planning Board (Councilmember Lovain)**

Councilmember Lovain reported that the Board discussed the constrained plan in addition to the unconstrained projects and he noted that the Board would decide if the approximately 10 unconstrained projects should receive regional funding. Councilmember Lovain also noted that one constrained projects is the US 301 Nice

Bridge replacement, which would have significant changes that would change the makeup of the bridge. Councilmember Lovain stated that the Board discussed submitting comments to the Maryland Department of Transportation about the proposed project changes that would include removing the bike lanes and lowering height of the shoulders of the bridge. Councilmember Lovain reported that four of top ten unconstrained projects included improving pedestrian access to Metrorail stations.

**\*Alexandria Transportation Commission (Councilman Chapman)**

Councilman Chapman reported that the Commission received the Central City Traffic Study and is seeking feedback from the public. Councilman Chapman also reported that the Commission received a draft of the Vision Zero Plan, which will come back on Dec. 6 for final approval.

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

Councilman Bailey reported that the Commission received a budget presentation from the Office of Management and Budget and from Alexandria City Public Schools providing information on data to be considered during development of the FY 2019 City and ACPS budgets. Councilman Bailey also noted that the November meeting will be used as retreat to explore the appropriate role of the Commission in continuing the Children and Youth Master Plan implementation. Councilman Chapman reported that there was discussion about the After School study and the Commission was able to provide staff with feedback on the study.

**\*Sister Cities Committee (Councilman Chapman)**

Councilman Chapman reported that the Sister Cities-Caen, France; Exploring Art of the Finch Comic Book event has been postponed to December 7.

**\*Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) (Councilman Smedberg)**

Councilman Smedberg reported that WMATA has a meeting on Thursday.

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

Councilman Smedberg reported that localities will have to approval refinancing loans and the City will receive documents for the approval soon. Councilman Smedberg stated that the board approved the proposal for the newly redesigned and enhanced Crystal City Station.

**\*Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) (Councilman Smedberg)**

Councilman Smedberg did not have a report.

**\*Library Board (Councilman Bailey)**

Councilman Bailey reported that all branches now have security cameras, and that some branches requested exterior cameras which are being considered by the board. Councilman Bailey also stated that the video footage can be accessed online by staff. Councilman Bailey noted that Duncan Library will be closed this week for carpet installation and a new registration desk, but will reopen on Oct 29.

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR DISCUSSION**

5. Consideration of a Resolution to Endorse Staff Comments Related to the D.C. to Richmond (DC2RVA) Southeast High Speed Rail Project - Tier II Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

(A copy of the above resolution is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 10/24/17, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Vice Mayor Wilson recused himself from voting on this item due to his employment.

Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, gave a brief description of the projection and the process for the submitting comments for the environmental impact statement, and he and Jennifer Mitchell, Director, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation responded to questions from Council about the project, including train speeds and retaining walls and rail location in the City. Jennifer Mitchell, Director, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation gave a presentation on the D.C. to Richmond Southeast High Speed Rail Project.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Smedberg, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously by roll call vote, City Council approved the resolution to endorse staff comments related to the D.C. to Richmond (DC2RVA) Southeast High Speed Rail Project – Tier II Draft Environmental Impact Statement, with the changes in the resolution from 110 to 90 miles per hour. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none; Recused, Vice Mayor Wilson.

The resolution reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2793**

**RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE STAFF COMMENTS OF THE D.C. TO RICHMOND  
(DC2RVA) HIGH SPEED RAIL PROJECT DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the DC2RVA project corridor is a segment of the federally-designated Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor (SEHSR) in the northernmost part of a five-state network of a high speed rail corridor under development, stretching southward from Washington D.C. through Richmond to Raleigh, Charlotte, Atlanta and Jacksonville; and

**WHEREAS**, track and signal improvements for the SEHSR will provide capacity for more trains operating at speeds up to 90 miles per hour in rural areas and up to 79 miles per hour in urban areas, although trains are expected to travel much slower in urban areas such as Alexandria; and

**WHEREAS**, the SEHSR states, in conjunction with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), completed a Tier I Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the implementation of high speed rail passenger service within the SEHSR corridor from Washington, D.C. to Charlotte, NC in 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, the DC2RVA project corridor is a 123-mile stretch of railroad along the northern most segment of SEHSR, between Richmond, Virginia and Arlington, Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of the DC2RVA project is to improve reliability and on-time performance, reduce travel time and improve trip times, and increase frequency by adding up to nine (9) additional Amtrak round-trips daily between D.C. and Richmond from the current service of 10 trips per day; and

**WHEREAS**, infrastructure improvements from the DC2RVA project will enable future growth and expansion of Virginia Railway Express (VRE), a vital transit service along the I-95 corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is engaged in a Tier II Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for DC2RVA that evaluates the benefits, costs, and environmental effects of several possible alternatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Draft EIS was released in September 2017, and a 60 day comment period began on September 8, 2017, and ends on November 7, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, city staff has reviewed the Draft EIS to determine impacts to the City and consistency with the City's Strategic Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Virginia has received a Federal FAST LANE grant (\$165M) which includes funding to construct a 4<sup>th</sup> track within CSX right-of-way between Arlington County and the vicinity of Telegraph Road in Alexandria and modify existing CSX tracks in Alexandria;

**WHEREAS**, staff comments document both technical and key high level concerns of the City, including the impact of shifting existing tracks toward residential areas,

property acquisition, noise and vibration impacts and mitigation, and impacts to Alexandria Union Station parking;

**WHEREAS**, staff has identified comments on the Draft EIS that will be submitted to DRPT by November 7, 2017;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:**

1. That the City Council endorses staff comments on the DC2RVA project.
  2. That the City Manager be authorized to submit the provided staff comments to DRPT before November 7, 2017; and
  3. That this Resolution shall be effective immediately.
6. Proposed City Legislative Package for the 2018 General Assembly Session.

(A copy of the above memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 10/24/17, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Deputy City Manager Triggs gave a presentation of the proposed City Legislative Package for the 2018 General Assembly Session and responded to questions from Council about the contents of the package.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Smedberg, seconded by Councilman Bailey and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) received the proposals for the City's 2018 Legislative Package, as recommended by Council's Legislative Subcommittee and include the two additions under fiscal issues: the school district request for greater support for school systems with high percentages of low income children/families; and inclusion of language that will allow the Virginia Preschool Initiative funds to be redistributed to jurisdictions using the funds; (2) scheduled the Legislative Package proposals for public hearing on Saturday, November 18, 2017; and (3) scheduled adoption of the Legislative Package for Tuesday, November 28, 2017.

7. Oral Report on Commercial Parking Standards Study.

(A copy of the above memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 7; 10/24/17, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, and Ms. North, Planner, Transportation and Environmental Services, gave a presentation on the commercial parking standards in the City and reviewed the recommendations from the Task Force and responded to questions from Council about parking requirements



throughout the City.

City Council received the oral report on commercial parking standards study.

8. Oral Report on Vision Zero Plan Development Update and Fall Pedestrian Safety Efforts.

(A copy of the above memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 10/24/17, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, Ms. Orr, Special Assistant to the City Manager, Mr. Useem, Office of Performance and Accountability, and Police Captain Andreas gave a presentation on the proposed Vision Zero Plan and the process for implementation of the plan and they responded questions from Council about Vision Zero and Pedestrian Safety efforts.

City Council received the oral report on Vision Zero Plan development update and fall pedestrian safety efforts.

9. Consideration of the Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Manual for Non-Residential Properties.

(A copy of the above memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 9; 10/24/17, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Maines, Division Chief, Transportation and Environmental Services, gave a presentation on the Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Manual for non-residential properties and how the fee will be implemented and he, along with Mr. Skrabak, Deputy Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, responded to questions from Council.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried 6-0-1, City Council received the manual and authorized the City Manager to implement the credit policy outlined in the manual. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none; Absent: Councilmember Lovain.

10. Consideration of Appointment of Viewers for Vacation #2017-0006 (116 West Alexandria Avenue) and Vacation #2017-0006 (118 West Alexandria Avenue).

(A copy of the above memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 10; 10/24/17, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)



**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried 6-0-1, City Council approved the Appointment of Viewers for Vacation #2017-0006 and Vacation #2017-0006. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none; Absent: Councilmember Lovain.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

11. Consideration of a Competitive Grant Application to the Virginia Department of Transportation for FY 2019 and FY 2020 Revenue Sharing Program Funding.

(A copy of the above memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 11; 10/24/17, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, noted that there needed to be a correction of the dollar amounts in the resolution. Mr. Lambert stated that the corrections were as follows: the dollar amount in the first clause should be \$2,875,500, the dollar amount in the third clause should be \$5,235,000, and the dollar amount in the first enactment clause should be \$5,235,000.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried 6-0-1 by roll-call vote, City Council endorsed the application and adopted the resolution with changes to the first clause to reflect \$2,875,500, third clause to reflect a total of \$5,235,000, and the first enactment clause to reflect \$5,235,000. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none; absent: Councilmember Lovain.

The resolution reads as follows:

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2794**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to submit an application for an allocation of funds of \$2,875,500 through the Virginia Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2019 Revenue Sharing Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to submit an application for an allocation of funds of \$2,359,500 through the Virginia Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2020 Revenue Sharing Program; and

**WHEREAS**, \$5,235,000 of these funds are requested to fund the reconstruction and rehabilitation of streets Citywide.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**

That the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia:

1. Endorses this application for an allocation of \$5,235,000 through the Virginia Department of Transportation Revenue Sharing Program.
2. Grants authority for the City Manager to execute project administration agreements for any approved revenue sharing projects.

## **ORAL REPORTS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL**

1. Mayor Silberberg reported that she participated in the Future of Health Summit sponsored by the Milken Institute that was held in Washington, D.C. Mayor Silberberg noted that she spoke on the topic of healthy aging and highlighted the many programs offered by the City. Mayor Silberberg noted the many collaboration that the City has with City departments and nonprofits that help the programs be successful and beneficial to the community.

2. Mayor Silberberg reported that she would be attending a meeting in New York City tomorrow sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors that will focus on inclusiveness. Mayor Silberberg reported that the meeting will be hosted by Mayor de Blasio of New York City in conjunction with Mayor Landrieu of New Orleans and Mr. Cochran of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

3. Mayor Silberberg reported that she would host in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce the Mayors Business Roundtable Coffee to speak with the local business owners and commercial property owners to hear their opinions and concerns about doing business in the City. Mayor Silberberg stated that the meeting would be at 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., at Grant Thornton LLP, 333 John Carlyle Street, hosted by Robert Shay.

4. Vice Mayor Wilson requested Ms. Garvey, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS), to explain the impact that the lapsing of Children's Health Insurance Program by Congress would have on the City and to explain what kind of stop-gap measures the City can use to protect those who are vulnerable. Ms. Garvey gave an update on how staff intends to respond to the children who would be impacted by this lapse and she noted that DCHS is working with the Commonwealth on the matter. Ms. Garvey stated that there would be a regional meeting on Friday about additional notification to those who will be impacted by this action. Ms. Garvey noted that there would need to be a significant outreach campaign and other work to see if those impacted would be eligible for other types assistance, like Medicaid.

5. Councilman Chapman reported that in early November he would be representing the National League of Cities by going to Tokyo, Japan and participating in the Clair Fellowship Exchange Program to learn about their disaster management response efforts and to learn how to enhance our response efforts and how to rebuild following disasters.

## **ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Jinks reported on the free bus ride initiatives started by DASH and he noted that about 100 students each weekday are riding the DASH buses. Mr. Jinks noted that attendance at T.C. Williams High School has increased because of the use of the bus rides.

## **OTHER**

### **12. Consideration of City Council Schedule.**

(A copy of the above memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 12; 10/24/17, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried 6-0-1, City Council: (1) received the updated City Council schedule for October 2017 to June 2018, which includes the new date of Saturday, April 14, 2018 for the public hearing; and (2) approved the City Council schedule. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none; Absent, Councilmember Lovain.

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**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO CONSIDER**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried 6-0-1, City Council adjourned the legislative meeting of October 24, 2017 at 10:30 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none; Absent Councilmember Lovain.

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APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALLISON SILBERBERG                      MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria A. Sitton, CMC      City Clerk