

**City of Alexandria
Meeting Minutes
City Council Public Hearing
Tuesday, February 27, 2018
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. Baker, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Caton, Consultant; Ms. Taylor, Legislative Director; Police Chief Brown; Dr. Berlin, ACPS Interim Superintendent; Ms. McIlvaine, Director, Office of Housing; Mr. Greenlief, Assistant Director of Finance/Revenue; and Mr. Routt, Director of Management and Budget Ms. Bryan, Information Technology Services, Police Captain Andreas, and Mr. Lloyd.

Recorded by: Alexis Lacy, Deputy City Clerk and Clerk of Council.

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1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Silberberg called the meeting to order and the Deputy City Clerk called the roll. All the members of Council were present with Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, and Councilwoman Pepper arriving during the closed meeting.

2. Closed Meeting.

6:00 p.m. - Consideration of a Closed Meeting to Discuss the Use or Investment of Public Resources where Bargaining is Involved and to Consult with Legal Counsel and Staff Regarding Actual or Pending Litigation.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson and seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried 4-0 City Council convened in closed executive session at 6:04 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 negotiation and acquisition of component of a specific transportation infrastructure 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, Councilman Bailey, and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none. Absent: Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, and Councilwoman Pepper.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously City Council reconvened in open session at 7:03 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, 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 pertaining the closed executive session previously circulated to members of Council. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper; Opposed, none. Absent: Councilman Chapman and Councilman Smedberg.

The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2815

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council has this 27th day of February, 2018, 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 participated in a moment of silence and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

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

Councilman Smedberg reported that there was a focus on the Virginia and Maryland Legislature's regarding dedicated funding, and the Board's new officers were sworn in. Councilman Smedberg reported that he will now be on the CEO Committee and the Audit Committee for VRE.

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

Councilman Smedberg reported that the committee received updates on the rush hour fare rebate program and the back to good program. Councilman Smedberg stated that the board finalized the last 3 FTA considerations.

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

Mayor Silberberg reported that the school board renamed the west end school after Ferdinand Day, the first African-American serving on the Alexandria School Board and the first African-American school board chair in Virginia. Mayor Silberberg reported the new Ferdinand Day School is undergoing renovations, and Patrick Henry School renovations are on schedule.

Vice Mayor Wilson reported that board had a discussion about the status of the transportation management plans for a couple school sites, and schools at-large. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the board discussed the reopening of the Patrick Henry School which will be opening mid school year. Also, Vice Mayor Wilson reported that there was conversation about the after school efforts and the joint taskforce recommendations.

***Long Range Educational Facilities Committee (Vice Mayor Wilson)**

Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the draft chapters for both high school and pre-school from the long range educational facilities workgroup effort, and survey are available for residents to respond and provide input on ways to address capacity at the early education and high school levels.

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

Councilmember Lovain reported that there are 17 million person trips daily in the region and the board received a presentation on cooperative forecasts from staff used in future planning efforts. Councilmember Lovain reported that the forecasts indicated that the majority of development will take place near metro stations and bus rapid transit stations to avoid gridlock as the population grows.

***Transportation Commission (Councilman Chapman)**

Councilman Chapman reported that the board discussed the City's budget for the upcoming year and the long-term interdepartmental budget for the next ten years.

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

Councilman Chapman reported that the commission went over a snapshot of the mission of the commission for the members. Councilman Bailey reported that the commission is accepting nominations for the Champion of Children Award that will be presented in June.

***Library Board (Councilman Bailey)**

Councilman Bailey thanked Delegate Levine for his efforts to increase the fee for the Law Library. Councilman Bailey reported that the library is now offering Wi-Fi printing and will have a full release at the end of March. Councilman Bailey reported that the Library Board, in partnership with the Sheriff's department, was awarded a grant to participate in a pilot program to engage incarcerated young adults in a reading and discussion series through reading and racial healing work.

ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Mr. Jinks reported that the City executed their tax collection agreement with Airbnb, wherein the jurisdiction in Virginia to institute such an agreement which adds about \$100,000 in tax revenue to the City.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

CONSENT CALENDAR (4-6)

(Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)

4. Consideration of an Application for the Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF) Grant Program for Nasal Naloxone.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 21, 2018, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 4; 2/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

5. Consideration of an Agreement with the National Park Service to Facilitate Design and Construction of the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Project.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 21, 2018, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 2/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

6. Consideration of Appointment of a New Viewer for Vacation #2017-0008 (2410 and 2460 Mill Road).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 22, 2018, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 2/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried by 7-0 by roll-call vote, City Council approved the consent calendar. The City Manager's recommendations were as follows:

4. City Council (1) approved the submission of a no cost grant application to the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services for nasal naloxone (Narcan); and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute the necessary documents that may be required.

5. City Council authorized the City Manager to sign the Cost Recovery Agreement.

6. City Council received the new viewer appointed by Mayor Silberberg and will have the City Clerk notify him of his appointment and responsibilities. Mayor Silberberg appointed the following person as a viewer: Joseph LaMountain

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

7. Update on the 2018 General Assembly Session.

Ms. Taylor, Legislative Director and Mr. Caton, Consultant, provided an update to Council

on the 2018 General Assembly Session.

8. Consideration of the Proposed Alexandria Police Department Data Refinement and Transparency Plan.

Police Chief Brown gave a report to Council about the proposed Alexandria Police Department Data Refinement and Transparency Plan, and answered questions from Council.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Bailey and carried unanimously, City Council endorsed the proposed Alexandria Police Department data refinement and transparency plan. 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.

9. Discussion of the Alexandria Police Department 21st Century Policing Plan.

Police Chief Brown gave a report about the Alexandria Police Department 21st Century Policing Plan, and answered questions from Council.

City Council also had a discussion with Police Chief Brown and Alexandria City Public Schools Interim Superintendent Berlin about school security.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council received the Alexandria Police Department 21st Century Policing Plan. 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.

10. Work Session on Discussion of Affordable Housing Funding Options

City Council had a work session with Ms. McIlvaine, Director of Housing; Mr. Greenlief, Assistant Director of Finance/Revenue; and Mr. Routt, Director of Management and Budget, to discuss affordable housing funding options.

10.1 Resolution Calling for Common-Sense Gun Laws. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

City Council discussed the resolution calling for common-sense gun laws and a proposal to begin a program to educate business owners about their rights regarding firearms being present at their businesses.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilmember Lovain, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried 7-0 by roll-call vote, City Council adopted the resolution calling for elected federal and state representatives to swiftly enact common-sense gun laws. 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. 2816

WHEREAS, our nation is grieving and heartbroken due to the ongoing gun violence throughout the land, especially as it has affected our children in schools in Florida, Colorado, Connecticut, Virginia, and other states;

WHEREAS, our children have the need and the right to go to school in order to learn and grow, and they should be able to do so without fear;

WHEREAS, more than 150,000 students have experienced a shooting on their campuses since the Columbine High School massacre in 1999;

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria was deeply affected by the gun violence at Simpson Field in June 2017;

WHEREAS, gun violence is a major cause of death and injury in the United States, killing more than 30,000 people every year and injuring more than 73,000, and approximately 1.4 million people have been killed by firearms in our nation in the last 50 years, which is more than twice as many as the number of U.S. service members killed in combat in all wars in the history of our country;

WHEREAS, our police officers and other first responders have suffered trauma and grave losses, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund advocate for the adoption of common sense policies to assist in reducing gun violence;

WHEREAS, federal and state laws limit the ability of local governments to carry out their public safety duties by prohibiting common sense gun regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia: that the City of Alexandria urges the United States Congress and state legislatures, including the Virginia General Assembly, to prioritize the protection of students and our citizens and pass common sense gun reform laws, including: stronger background checks for all gun buyers; prohibiting the sale of armor-piercing ammunition; bans on assault weapons, high- capacity magazines, and bump stocks; funding for public health research on firearms-related issues; mental health support; “red flag” laws to aid earlier identification and court-ordered removal of guns determined to pose a danger to the owner or others; and allowing local governments to enact common sense local gun policies.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Chapman, seconded by Councilman Bailey and carried unanimously, City Council approved a proposal to develop a program in partnership with the Public Health Advisory Commission to educate private business owners on their rights regarding the use of guns on their property and the community at-large. 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 AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

1. Mayor Silberberg reported that she had a meeting about the upcoming Census to ensure a fair and accurate count and to protect individual's privacy. Mayor Silberberg stated that the federal government has significantly reduced the budget for the Census, and the process is focused on going digital.
2. Councilman Chapman announced that the Alexandria Sister Cities Committee is having their annual Whiskey and Wine Tasting on March 9th at the Lloyd House at 7 p.m.
3. Mayor Silberberg announced the St. Patrick's Day Parade is Saturday, March 3rd, preceded by the Dog Show in Market Square.
11. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 21, 2018, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 11; 2/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper City Council received and approved the schedule. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

CLOSED MEETING CONTINUED (if needed)

12. Consideration of a Closed Meeting to Discuss the Disposition of Publicly Held Real Property.

This meeting was not needed.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO CONSIDER, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council adjourned the legislative meeting February 27, 2018 at 10:36 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper, Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

APPROVED BY:

ALLISON SILBERBERG MAYOR

ATTEST:

Alexis Lacy Deputy City Cler