

**City of Alexandria  
City Council Legislative Meeting  
Tuesday, November 27, 2018 7:00 PM  
Meeting Minutes**

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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; Ms. Anderson, City Attorney; Ms. Taylor, Legislative Director; Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Baker, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES); Ms. Pledger, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Services (ITS); Mr. Saenz, Deputy Director, ITS; Ms. Kelleher, Director, Office of Human Rights; Mr. McPike, Director, General Services; Ms. Dawson, Director, Libraries, Ms. Garvey, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS). Ms. McLean, Executive Assistant, City Manager's Office; Ms. Coleman, DCHS; Mr. Mackey, Court Services Unit; Ms. Tallis, Health Department; Mr. Bernstein, Director, Department of Project Implementation; Police Captain Andreas; Ms. Bryan, ITS; and Mr. Lloyd.

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

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**Work Session - 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Work Session will be held in the Council Work Room)**

City Council held a work session with the State Legislative Delegation on the City's Legislative Package.

**1. Calling the Roll.**

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

**2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.**

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

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

**\*Quality of Life Subcommittee (Mayor Silberberg and Vice Mayor Wilson)**

Mayor Silberberg reported that the Quality of Life Subcommittee meeting was held recently and she noted that the Police Department reported historical low crime statistics in the City. Mayor Silberberg reported the City has been successful with diversion and helping juveniles make better choices to keep them out of the justice system.

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

Mayor Silberberg reported that the City/Schools Subcommittee received an update on the renovation of Patrick Henry Elementary School and the school superintendent would announce the move-in date on December 5. Mayor Silberberg announced that on the upcoming Friday, the Early Childhood Center would have a ribbon cutting ceremony at John Adams Elementary School at 9 a.m. Mayor Silberberg reported that there was an update regarding the Mount Vernon Community School and its facilities issues and the schools' staff are focused on fixing the issue and have a plan of action on the Schools website. Mayor Silberberg has requested that the facilities issues be included as a standing report item. Mayor Silberberg reported that the City is at 59% student receiving free and reduced lunch at City schools. Mayor Silberberg reported that the Department of Community and Human Services will be adding trauma focused training as service to the community.

Vice Mayor Wilson reported that there was a discussion about the high school planning efforts and the School Board discussed the official recommendation brought by the superintendent and there will be additional community input allowed and the vote will be held in late January 2019. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that there were additional conversations around afterschool activities and the recommendations were brought to the Children, Youth, and Families Collaborative Commission and there will be more work on the recommendations before they are finalized. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that there were discussions about afterschool transportation and how to simplify the number of sites and how assignments are made for those programs. Vice Mayor Wilson stated that there was discussion about the future Potomac Yard School site when more development occurs and the schools are performing feasibility studies to determine what can be put on the site. Vice Mayor Wilson noted that item was discussed to access any interim uses for the site until it is ready for school to be built. Vice Mayor Wilson stated that there was conversation about the transitioning of both the School Board and City Council and the possibility of having reciprocal briefings for the new members. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the School Board received an updated enrollment report and he noted that the City had a total enrollment of 15,737 students and there will be future conversations to assess the methodology and its accuracy, which currently appears to be sound. Vice Mayor Wilson noted that there was a comprehensive assessment of the Mount Vernon Community School facilities and the number of issues will likely increase following the assessment and this will impact the Capital discussion for the Schools during the budget cycle.

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

The report was deferred in lieu of the update scheduled later on the docket.

**\*City Naming Committee (Councilmember Lovain and Councilwoman Pepper)**

Councilwoman Pepper reported that the Naming Committee meet to discuss the naming of the park at the foot of King Street and the combining of the park sites. Councilwoman Pepper noted that the Committee has been working on the issue for a couple of months, reviewing the online survey responses and held a public hearing on the matter. Councilwoman Pepper reported that on November 29, the Committee would meet to discuss all the materials and input to come up with a recommendation to bring forth to Council in December.

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

Councilmember Lovain reported that the Board received a report from the Council of Governments on traffic incident management and noted there was regional incident response using best practices. Councilmember Lovain noted that an estimated 55% of traffic congestion is caused non-recurring incidents. Councilmember Lovain noted that the TPB will pass its long range plan at the December meeting and the plan is named Visualize 2045 that includes seven initiatives that will be emphasized including expanding bus rapid transit region wide, completing the National Capitol Trail, and improving pedestrian and bicycle access to transit.

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

City Manager Jinks reported that the City received an award from the Partners of Livable Places, a national civic organization related to environmental sustainability, livable cities and quality of life and social equity. Mr. Jinks stated that the award was shared with EYA for the archeology work at Robinson Terminal. Mr. Jinks showed a brief clip highlighting the archaeological work occurring at the site. Mr. Jinks reported that Audrey Davis, Director of the Black History Museum, has been reappointed to the State Historical Records Advisory Board by Governor Northam. Mr. Jinks reported that the City received an award for its Storm Water Management Program, noting that the City is ahead of the mandated program, thereby receiving recognition for the efforts. Mr. Jinks reported that the City has a new initiative to welcome newcomers to the City of Alexandria and he handed out the cards that will be available to new residents that will give information on all the services they will need. Mr. Jinks noted that the cards will be available in four languages and available at various locations.

#### **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER CONSENT CALENDAR**

None.

3. Consideration of City Legislative Package for the 2019 Virginia General Assembly Session.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated ????, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 3; 11/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Legislative Director Taylor gave a brief overview and responded to questions from Council about the Legislative Package.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Smedberg, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council adopted the following items, as recommended

by Council's Legislative Subcommittee and members of City Council as set out in Attachment 1, for inclusion in the City's Legislative Package for the 2019 General Assembly Session:: Key Initiatives 1-3; items A1, B1 through B14, C1 through C4, D1 through D5, E1, F1, G1 through G4, H1 through H3, I1 through I7, J1 through J7, and K1; and requested that the goals of City to achieve sustainability and note the City's support for legislation seeking to achieve these goals, including the priorities in the City's Environmental Action Plan Phase One. 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.

4. Report from the Racial Equity Initiative Work Group.

(A copy of PowerPoint presentation is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 4; 11/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager, introduced the work group and they gave a presentation of the report on Racial Equity and responded to questions from Council.

City Council received the report from the Racial Equity Initiative Work Group.

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

5. Receipt of the Proposed Strategic Facilities Plan.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 21, 2018, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 11/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. McPike, Director, General Services gave a presentation on the proposed Strategic Facilities Plan and he responded to questions from Council.

**WHEREUPON**, motion by Councilman Smedberg, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council received the proposed Strategic Facilities Plan and docketed it for approval on December 11, 2018. 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.

6. Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Project Update

(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; 11/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, and Mr. Bernstein, Director, Department of Project Implementation, gave a presentation on the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station project and he, along with Transportation and Environmental Services staff, responded to questions from Council about the project.

City Council received the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Project Update.

7. Information Technology Services Department: Major Program Update

(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; 11/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Ms. Pledger, Chief Information Officer gave a presentation on the major program initiatives for Information Technology Services and responded to questions from Council.

City Council received the major program update from the Information Technology Services Department.

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

1. Councilman Chapman requested an update from staff about the reported smell of gas in the Clover/College Park neighborhood. Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services reported that Washington Gas has investigated the area and Washington Gas was aware of the concerns and reports and have followed up and repaired some leaks that were located and would closely monitor the situation for the safety of the neighborhood. City Manager Jinks reported that the upcoming noise ordinance revision and the amount of coverage for areas with nighttime activity.

2. Councilman Chapman requested information as it relates to economic development and infrastructure at night in the City and how we work with businesses and community to enhance the activity and protect neighborhoods.

3. Councilwoman Pepper mentioned that the holiday lights had been installed on King Street for the holiday season.

4. Councilwoman Pepper reported that there will be a community meeting on December 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the old school for an update on the project, including the date for the opening of the school.

5. Mayor Silberberg reported that the Adult Day Service Center at the Lee Center held its Annual Caregivers Thank You event, recognizing those caring for seniors in the community and she highlighted the important services that the Center provides for the senior community in Alexandria.

**OTHER**

8. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 21, 2018 is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 11/27/18, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper

and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) received the updated City Council schedule which includes the April 10, 2019 Budget Work Session #8 which has been changed to April 8, 2019. The meeting will be held in the Sister Cities Conference Room 1101; and (2) approved the City Council schedule for November 2018 to June 2019. 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.

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**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, the regular meeting of November 27, 2018 was adjourned at 10:34 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.

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APPROVED BY:

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**ALLISON SILBERBERG   MAYOR**

ATTEST:

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Gloria A. Sitton, CMC   City Clerk