

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2939**

### **RESOLUTION REGARDING EXTENDING DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR TAX RELIEF FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED CITIZENS**

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, the Governor of Virginia issued Executive Order Fifty-One (the “Governor’s Executive Order”) declaring a state of emergency for the Commonwealth of Virginia arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and further acknowledging the existence of a disaster, as defined by Virginia Code § 44-146.16, arising from the public health threat presented by this spreading communicable disease; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020, effective at 5:00 p.m. and extending through June 10, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. (the “Emergency Period”), the City Manager, in his capacity as Director of Emergency Management, issued a Declaration of Local Emergency (the “City Declaration”) applicable throughout the entire City of Alexandria, Virginia (the “City”), pursuant to authority granted pursuant to City Code Section 4-3-5, Virginia Code Sections 44-146.21 and 15.2-1413, which City Declaration was unanimously consented to the by the City Council on March 14, 2020, pursuant to City Resolution No. 2928, as required by applicable law; and

**WHEREAS**, social distancing measures are creating severe disruption within the community and the elderly and disabled community are especially affected by this crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, April 15, 2020 is the deadline to apply for 2020 real estate tax relief, and April 10, 2020 is the deadline to apply for personal property tax relief for elderly and disabled citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, these renditions provide the information necessary to properly adjust real and personal property tax bills; and

**WHEREAS**, completion of this application may cause additional stress at a time when the community is focused on other matters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Finance is already empowered to accept late applications provided good cause is shown for the failure to file by the proscribed deadline; and


**WHEREAS**, the Alexandria City Council desires to provide all support possible at this time, especially to the elderly and disabled.

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

That the City Council:

1. views any late 2020 real or personal property tax relief applications associated with the COVID-19 crisis to be a matter of “good cause;” and
2. commends the Director of Finance to accept such applications as timely filed; and
3. affirms that the Department of Finance already accepts such applications online and that the Department should continue to encourage applicants to file electronically in order to promote social distancing to the benefit of the public and staff.

Adopted: April 18, 2020

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**JUSTIN M. WILSON   MAYOR**

ATTEST:

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Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk