

**City of Alexandria  
City Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, November 24, 2020 6:00 PM  
Virtual Meeting  
Meeting Minutes**

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Present: Mayor Justin M. Wilson, Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, Members of Council Canek Aguirre, John Taylor Chapman, Amy B. Jackson, Redella S. Pepper, and Mohamed E. Seifeldein.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Jinks, City Manager; Ms. Anderson, City Attorney; Ms. Triggs, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager; Acting Sheriff Captain Casey; Mr. Routt, Director, Office of Management and Budget; Ms. S. Taylor, Legislative Director, Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES); Ms. Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES; Police Chief Brown; Police Captain Wemple; Ms. North, Division Chief, T&ES; Ms. Caudullo, Urban Planner, T&ES; and Mr. Duval, Deputy Director, T&ES.

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1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All members of Council were present via Zoom webinar.

Mayor Wilson noted that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency, the November 24, 2020 Legislative Meeting of the Alexandria City Council was being held electronically pursuant to the Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 and Section 4.0-01(g) in HB29 and HB30, enacted by the 2020 Virginia General Assembly (Virginia Acts of Assembly Ch. 1283 and 1289, to undertake essential business. All members of the City Council and staff are participating from remote locations through video conference on Zoom. This meeting is being held, electronically, unless a determination is made that it is safe enough to be held in person in the City Council Chamber at 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia. The meeting can be accessed by the public through the live broadcast on the government channel 70, streaming on the City's website and via Zoom.

2. Closed Meeting.

6:00 p.m. - Consideration of a closed meeting for the discussion of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial

interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected, to consult with legal counsel regarding a specific legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice and discussion of a personnel matter.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker and carried unanimously, City Council convened in closed executive session at 6:03 p.m. to discuss the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where if made public initially, the financial interest of the City would be adversely affected, to consult with legal counsel regarding a specific legal matter requiring provision of legal advice and to discuss a personnel matter; specifically, potential investment of public funds for development on the west end of the City, a decision by the City Manager regarding a personnel matter and the legal implications regarding the rights of public employees; pursuant to Sections 2.2-3711(A)(6), (A)(8) and (A)(1) of the Code of Virginia. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council reconvened in open session at 7:20 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

3. Public Comment Period.

There were no public speakers for the public comment period.

**ORAL REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

**\*Waterfront Commission (Councilman Seifeldein)**

Councilman Seifeldein reported that the Commission discussed the Torpedo Factory and the changes proposed for the building and he informed that the Council did not request an additional study. Councilman Seifeldein noted that the group discussed both artist involvement and the use of private management for the facility.

**\*COG Climate Energy and Environmental Policy Committee (CEEPC) (Councilwoman Pepper)**

Councilwoman Pepper that the committee reviewed the regional Metropolitan Washington 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan and discussed ways to control climate change in the region.

**\*Virginia Railway Express (VRE) (Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker)**

Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker reported that the Board received the audit and approved the legislative agenda. Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker reported that the Board authorized a passenger rail operations and access agreement, to fund the Long Bridge Project in Virginia.

**\*Visit Alexandria Board of Governors (Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker)**

Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker reported that hotel revenue was down 69% for the City due to the pandemic and efforts are being focused on marketing to three hour drive area. Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker reported that Conde Nast named Alexandria one of the top small cities and Southern Living had a feature story on Alexandria. Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker reported that Visit Alexandria was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Virginia Tourism Corporation for the Black History Travel Initiative. Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker noted that Alexandria Shop Small Week begins on Friday.

**\*Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission (CYFCC) (Councilwoman Jackson and Councilman Aguirre)**

Councilwoman Jackson reported that Commission discussed the goals of the 2025 Youth Master Plan and Ms. Tucker, Racial Equity Officer gave a presentation and answered questions for the Commission. Councilwoman Jackson noted that the Commission has established subcommittees to work on the goals.

**\*COG - Food and Agriculture Committee (FARM) (Councilwoman Jackson)**

Councilwoman Jackson reported that the Committee was approved by resolution to establish the committee. Councilman Jackson reported that the Committee would support a resilient food and farm economy across the region.

**\*COG - Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (Councilwoman Jackson)**

Councilwoman Jackson reported that the Committee discussed stream restoration, Earth Day activities and regional outreach, regional water quality and budget approval, and the annual paper competition and preparation for the Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week in May. Councilwoman Jackson reported that there was presentation on salt management for the region.

**\*Citizen Corps Council (Councilwoman Jackson and Councilman Seifeldein)**

Councilwoman Jackson reported that Council Resilient Alexandria charter will be coming to Council for consideration and there will be resuming of CERT training with enhanced certification and training.

**\*COG-Transportation Planning Board (TPB) (Councilman Aguirre)**

Councilman Aguirre reported that the Board discussed the Community Advisory Committee, which has been restructured and he will be encouraging City residents to apply to participate.

**\*Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy (ACAP) (Councilman Aguirre and Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker)**

Councilman Aguirre noted that School Board Member Jacinta Greene joined the group

to represent ACPS. Councilman Aguirre reported that the group reviewed information from the Biden transition team for possible funding for programs.

**\*Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Group (PYMIG)(Councilman Aguirre and Mayor Wilson)**

Councilman Aguirre and Mayor Wilson reported that the project is on schedule and addressed the impact of truck traffic on the surrounding neighborhood.

**\*ARHA Redevelopment Committee (Mayor Wilson and Councilman Chapman)**

Mayor Wilson reported that three properties have been approved for Section 18 and will facilitate different alternatives as it relates to redevelopment. Mayor Wilson noted that three are at their fifteen year compliance period and allows for recapitalization of the project and for renovation of those properties. Mayor Wilson noted that the Lineage, formerly Ramsey Homes, will be opening soon and there will be virtual symposium on the history of the property in February.

**\*Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) (Mayor Wilson)**

Mayor Wilson reported that Board held an Executive Session and there was a discussion on the extension of 495 Express Lanes, with an impact in Fairfax County. Mayor Wilson reported that the Board received the annual audit and discussed the draft 2021 Legislative program.

**\*Combined Sewer Workgroup (Mayor Wilson and Councilwoman Jackson)**

Mayor Wilson reported that the Alexandria Renew Board issued an award to the consortium of Traylor Shae to work on the combined sewer project.

**ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

\*Oral Update on Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic Risks and Vaccination Planning by Dr. Stephen Haering, Health Director

City Council received an updated from Dr. Haering, Director, Alexandria Health Department, on the ongoing pandemic and the risks caused by the virus. Dr. Haering also gave an overview of the proposed distribution plan for any vaccines that may be approved for use and responded to questions from Council.

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER  
CONSENT CALENDAR (4-8)**

**(Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)**

4. Consideration of the nomination of the Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery to the National Park Service African American Civil Rights Network.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the

Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 4; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

5. Consideration of a Submission of a Grant Application for The Center for Tech and Civic Life COVID-19 Response Grant.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

6. Consideration and Approval of the Pass-through of State Compensation Board Money to Sworn Sheriff's Department Personnel.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

7. Consideration of a Grant Application to the Institute of Museum and Library Services to support the digitization of the Moss Kendrix Collection at the Alexandria Black History Museum.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 7; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

8. Authorization to Participate in the Commonwealth of Virginia Municipal Utility Relief Program.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

## **END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilwoman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council approved the consent calendar, with the exception of item #6, which was considered under a separate motion. The City Manager's recommendations were as follows:

4. City Council: (1) ratified the nomination of the Contrabands and Freedman Cemetery to the National Park Service African American Civil Rights Network; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required.

5. City Council: (1) ratified the grant application and award of \$201,650 received from Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL). The City of Alexandria is eligible to apply for a grant amount based on a formula that considers the citizen voting age population and other jurisdiction demographic data; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required.

7. City Council authorized the City Manager to: (1) approve the application to the Institute of Museum and Library Services for a \$237,355 grant; (2) approve the acceptance of funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for \$237,355, if the grant is awarded; and (3) authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents that may be required.

8. City Council: (1) supported the Alexandria Renew Enterprise's (AlexRenew) participation in the COVID-19 Municipal Utility Relief Program; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute all required documentation for participation in the program.

The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

6. Consideration and Approval of the Pass-through of State Compensation Board Money to Sworn Sheriff's Department Personnel.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council, in carrying out the intent of the recently adopted State budget bill, approved the payment of one-time \$500 bonuses to all sworn employees of the Sheriff's Office. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

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

9. Duke Street Transitway Project Oral 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. 9; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

City Council received the oral update on the Duke Street Transitway Project.

10. Receipt of Body-Worn Camera Report.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 10; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Staff from the Police Department, the Commonwealth Attorney's Office, and the City Attorney's Office gave a presentation on the Body-Worn Cameras and how implementation would impact the offices and their workload. Staff also responded to questions from Council about the report.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Chapman, seconded by Councilwoman

Jackson and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) received the Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Proposal Report; and (2) directed the City Manager to develop a plan for a multi-year phase in of the BWC program for the Alexandria Police Department. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

11. Consideration of a Resolution to extend the Phase II Dockless Mobility Pilot Program through 2021. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 11; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Aguirre and carried 5-2 by roll-call vote, City Council: (1) approved a resolution for a 12-month extension of the Phase II Dockless Mobility Pilot Program from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021; and (2) authorized the City Manager to amend the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with permitted dockless mobility operators to extend the terms of the MOU. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, Councilman Chapman and Councilwoman Jackson.

The resolution reads as follows:

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2967**

#### **RESOLUTION TO EXTEND PHASE II OF THE DOCKLESS MOBILITY PILOT PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council wishes to study the use of shared mobility devices in the City and explore the implementation of a permanent shared mobility program; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council approved the Phase II Dockless Mobility Pilot Program through December 31, 2020 and established an Ad Hoc Scooter Task Force; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency, scooter usage and deployments were much lower than 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency, staff was not able to do community outreach events planned for 2020, nor meet with the Ad Hoc Scooter Task Force as planned; and

**WHEREAS**, if no action is taken, the Phase II Pilot Program will expire on December 31, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council wishes to authorize the City Manager to proceed with all steps necessary to extend the Phase II Pilot Program through December 31, 2021;

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

1. That the City Council hereby extends the Phase II Dockless Mobility Pilot through December 31, 2021.
2. That the City Manager be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to take such additional actions as may be necessary or convenient to amend the Phase II Dockless Mobility Pilot Memorandum of Understanding to extend the Phase II Dockless Mobility Pilot through December 31, 2021.
12. Consideration of a Resolution for a competitive grant application to the Virginia Department of Transportation 2022-2023 State of Good Repair (Primary Extension) Program. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 18, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 12; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council: (1) adopted the resolution to apply for a Primary Extension Improvement Program funding allocation for \$1.5 million from Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the resurfacing of City-maintained primary route extensions; and (2) authorized the City Manager to submit this resolution to VDOT and enter into any agreements with the State that may be required to receive these funds should the requested allocation be approved. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2968**

**RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION (VDOT) PRIMARY EXTENSION GRANT FUNDING**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to submit an application for an allocation of funds of up to \$1,500,000 through the Virginia Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2022-2023 State of Good Repair (Primary Extension) Program; and

**WHEREAS**, \$1,500,000 of these funds are requested to fund concrete rehabilitation for the following segments: Duke Street from Dulaney Street to Patrick Street, King Street from Janney's Lane to west of Callahan Drive, Northbound South Washington from I-495 to Prince Street and Northbound North Washington Street from Cameron Street to First Street;

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



1. Hereby supports this application for an allocation of \$1,500,000 through the Virginia Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2022-2023 State of Good Repair (Primary Extension) Program.
2. Hereby 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**

- a. Expanding Opportunities for Public Comment (Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker)

Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker requested information for City staff about different methods of receiving public comment beyond the current methods that are used by the City. The City Manager and City Clerk will provide information for Council to review and consider at a future meeting.

## **OTHER**

13. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated November 10, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 13; 11/24/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker and carried unanimously, City Council received and adopted the FY 2021 City Council Schedule for November 2020 through July 2021, with the remainder of the Council meetings for the calendar year to held in the virtual format. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

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**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council reconvened in closed executive session at 11:13 p.m., to discuss the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the City would be adversely affected, to consult with legal counsel regarding a specific legal matter requiring provision of legal advice and to discuss a personnel matter; specifically, potential investment of public funds for development on the west end of the City, a decision by the City Manager regarding a personnel matter and the legal implications regarding the rights of public employees; pursuant to Sections 2.2-3711(A)(6), (A)(8) and (A)(1) of the Code of Virginia. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson and carried unanimously, City Council reconvened in open session at 12:36 a.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre,

Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council adopted the resolution regarding the closed executive session previously circulated to Council. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2969**

**WHEREAS**, the Alexandria City Council has this 24th day of November, 2020 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.

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**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson and carried unanimously, City Council adjourned the regular meeting of November 24, 2020 at 12:37 a.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

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APPROVED BY:

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JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

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DRAFT