

City of Alexandria

*301 King St., Room 2300
Alexandria, VA 22314*



Action Docket - Final

Saturday, April 12, 2014

9:30 AM

Council Chambers

City Council Public Hearing

OPENING

1 Calling the Roll.

*The meeting was called to order by Mayor Euille, and the City Clerk called the roll.
All members of Council were present.*

2 Public Discussion Period.

[No more than 30 minutes. This period is restricted to items not listed on the docket.]

The following persons participated in this item:

1. Ronald Gochenour, 3011 Hickory Street, asked Council why it would allow almost 70 people go that work for the City and then it will hire 35. He asked why there are 11 unsolved murders in the City - from 2000 to 2014, and why there is no most wanted list from the Police Department.

2. Richard Merritt, 2729 Franklin Court, co-chair, Alexandria Coalition for Clean Smoke Free Air, said that last year Council provided a small grant for the Coalition to partner with the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority for developing policies and programs that could lead to a reduction in smoking prevalence and exposure to second-hand smoke within the ARHA community. He asked for Council's support for one additional year for funding to implement the non-smoking policy.

3. Sherry Kelly-Williams, 3102 Wilson Avenue, president, Alexandria Day Care Providers, asked Council to keep the training specialist position in the budget, which is a creative, interactive multi-media training that is a very important tool for the providers.

4. Juanita Skipwith, 236 Burgess Avenue, said her home, which she bought in 1980 for \$69,000 is now worth \$435,000, and she has no place to go so she can't sell her home and cannot afford to pay her taxes because of her medical expenses. She said she must have relief for her real estate property tax. She also asked how it breaks down the tax rate for year-by-year and how does it determine the rate on the homes based on the tax.

5. Gary Carr, 216 Aspen Street, spoke to the restoration of the historic running track at George Washington Middle School, noting that George Washington Middle School once had one of the finest high school stadiums in the nation, but its splendor was marred by the fact that it was for the exclusive use of only part of the community, and across the track sat the segregated Parker-Gray High School. Alexandria schools weren't fully integrated until 1971, and by that time, the running track that was once at the premier high school turned middle school was left to slowly decay. Mr. Carr said every middle school in the City has access to quality running tracks except one, and he said it is time to remedy this disparity.

6. Lonnie Phillips, 487 Mandy's Way, Front Royal, president, Alexandria Professional Medics Association, said the medic unit housed in fire station 204 will be placed out

of service effective next week, as a minimum staffing apparatus, which means that they can only put that unit in service if they can do it without incurring overtime costs. He spoke to the other duties that are performed by the medics, noting that they have 14 new medics that are inexperienced and they need a 6th medic unit to allow them to train the recruits. He urged Council to keep at least 5 and a half medic units and to allow the department to analyze whether medic 204 is still needed once medic 210 is up and running. Mr. Phillips spoke to pay and benefits, noting that they appreciate that Council has committed to support it. He urged Council to keep the merit increase in the budget. He also asked that the City continue to pay for the retirees life insurance premiums.

7. Bert Ely, 200 S. Pitt Street, speaking on behalf of Friends of the Alexandria Waterfront, spoke to two shortcomings in the waterfront plan with tour buses and flood mitigation. He spoke to barring all motor vehicles from the unit block of King Street and Strand, but there is no plan for getting bus passengers to and from the Dandy, Cherry Blossom and other commercial boats. He said the issue of where the commercial boats will dock and be serviced and where their passengers will disembark from and reboard must be addressed. Mr. Ely said they must reconsider the plan to minimize nuisance flooding at the bottom of King and Prince Street by building a multi-million dollar elevated walkway or other flood barriers. He spoke to the pumping of stormwater and storm-surge overtopping into the Potomac. He said T&ES must specifically address how it will handle contaminated storm-surge water trapped behind the barrier in Isabel or Sandy like events.

8. Megan Carroll Beyer, 801 Duke Street, spoke in support of keeping fire engine 204, noting that in the spring of 1993, she lived at 212 N. Lee Street when her kitchen caught fire. She said that when she toured the burned home, the room above where the fire started was her daughters room, and for her to see a crib and possessions charred and burned was something that stayed with her. She said the prospect of fire in Alexandria is a real one for her and it means a loss of life and property, and shaving minutes off of a response time can be property or life.

9. Rose Graves, 301 N. Ripley Street, spoke of the possibility of City Council voting away the senior taxi program. She said she has used the program for quite some time, using it when she had to go to physical therapy. Ms. Graves said the DASH bus system does not have a senior citizen or disability discount. She asked for the justification for the proposed cuts to senior taxi.

10. Carmentmae Hayes, 399 Pendleton Street, asked Council to keep senior taxi, noting that she has to travel to Virginia Hospital Center and what it costs her to get there. She said many seniors need that taxi service.

11. Lisa Jacobs, 2909 Richmond Lane, said she is a mother with two children in the ACPS Schools, and she spoke to the proposed \$5 million increase for ACPS and would like Council to consider what they can to close the gap between the \$5 million and the \$7.4 million the schools requested. She said the main driver of the budget is personnel cuts, and the biggest percentage of that are classroom teachers. She supported the half-cent tax increase to provide for the services the community needs, including schools.

12. Poul Hertel, 1217 Michigan Court, said there have been numbers emanating regarding the response time for engine 204. The City Manager's Office says 20 seconds, whereas other numbers that were provided to civic associations says that the response time in his neighborhood will go up by three minutes and in part of Old Town North by four minutes. He said it would be beneficial to reconcile those numbers.

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**ACTION CONSENT CALENDAR (3-4)****Planning Commission**

- 3 [ENC14-003](#) Encroachment #2014-0003
941 N. Alfred Street
Public Hearing and Consideration of a request for an encroachment into the public right-of-way; zoned Coordinated Development District #16. Applicant: James Bland Housing V, LP by Kenneth Wire, attorney
Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval 6-0-1
- 4 [SUP13-094](#) Special Use Permit #2013-0094
672 South Pickett Street (Parcel Address: 660 S. Pickett St.) - Tsedey Abeba Grocery and Restaurant
Public Hearing and Consideration of a request to operate a restaurant in an existing grocery store and a request for a parking reduction; zoned CG/Commercial General. Applicant: Seifu Tessema
Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval 7-0

END OF ACTION CONSENT CALENDAR

City Council adopted the consent calendar, as follows:

3. *City Council approved the Planning Commission recommendation.*
4. *City Council approved the Planning Commission recommendation.*

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

- 5 [14-2630](#) Public Hearing to Consider the Draft Fiscal Year 2015 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development.
- City Council held the public hearing on the draft FY 2015 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development, which includes the City's application for Federal Fiscal Year 2014 funding of \$722,919 in Community Development Block Grant monies and \$388,225 in Home Investment Partnerships Program monies and docketed the Action Plan for final Council approval on May 13, 2014.*

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES (continued)**Planning Commission (continued)**

- 6 [ENC14-002](#) Encroachment #2014-0002
115 & 117 King Street - Awnings at Landini's Restaurant
Public Hearing and Consideration of a request for encroachment of awnings

into the public right-of-way; zoned KR/King Street Retail. Applicant: Noe Landini

Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval 7-0

City Council approved the Planning Commission recommendation.

- 7 [SUP14-0014](#) Special Use Permit #2014-0014
800 North Henry Street - Lost Dog Café
Public Hearing and Consideration of a request to operate a restaurant; zoned CRMU-H/Commercial Residential Mixed Use High. Applicant: Wahoo Dog, LLC, trading as Lost Dog Café by Matthew J. Sisk
Planning Commission Action: Recommend Approval as amended 7-0
City Council approved the Planning Commission recommendation, with the understanding that Planning and Zoning and the City Attorney's Office will work on a policy that is logical as it looks at these types of establishments versus others, and that a report come back to Council in a short period of time.
- 8 [DSUP13-007](#) Development Special Use Permit #2013-0007
Transportation Management Plan Special Use Permit # 2014-0010
1199 South Washington Street - Hunting Terrace
Public Hearing and Consideration of requests for: (A) a development special use permit and site plan, with modifications, to construct two multi-family residential buildings with below-grade parking including special use permits for increased floor area ratio and density in exchange for affordable housing units pursuant to Section 7-700 of the Zoning Ordinance and a special use permit for a parking reduction; and (B) a special use permit for a transportation management plan; zoned RC / High Density Apartment Zone. (Hunting Creek Area Plan) Applicant: FP Alexandria, L.L.C, represented by, M. Catharine Puskar, attorney
Planning Commission Action: DSUP #2013-0007 Recommend Approval as amended 7-0; TMP SUP #2014-0010
City Council approved the Planning Commission recommendation.
- 9 [14-2526](#) Public Hearing to Consider an Appeal to a Decision of the Board of Architectural Review - Old and Historic District, for Property at 207 Prince Street. Appellant: Petitioners.
City Council upheld the decision of the Board of Architectural Review.
- 10 [SEC #14-001](#) City Charter Section 9.06 Case #2014-0001
509 N. Saint Asaph Street and 511, 513 and 515 Oronoco Street
FOR INFORMATION ONLY - NO APPROVAL NEEDED
Planning Commission review of whether the proposed sale of property owned by the City of Alexandria and the resulting change in use of that property is consistent with the City of Alexandria Master Plan pursuant to Section 9.06 of the City Charter. Staff: Department of General Services
Planning Commission Action: Approved 7-0

City Council received the report.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- 11 [14-2305](#) Public Hearing and Second Reading of an Ordinance to Establish the Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Rates for Calendar Year 2014 (Fiscal Year 2015). Adoption is Set for May 1, 2014.
City Council held the public hearing and noted adoption is set for May 1, 2014.
- 12 [14-2566](#) Public Hearing and Second Reading of an Ordinance to Implement the Local Motor Vehicle License Plate Tax as included in the FY 2015 Proposed Budget. Adoption is Set for May 1, 2014.
City Council held the public hearing and noted adoption is set for May 1, 2014.
- 13 [14-2567](#) Public Hearing and Second Reading of an Ordinance to Adopt Extended Parking Meter Hours by the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services for FY 2015. Adoption is Set for May 1, 2014.
City Council held the public hearing, amended the ordinance to strike the word "Saturday" from the text in Section 5-8-92(a)(2) and noted that adoption is set for May 1, 2014.
- 14 [14-2606](#) Public Hearing, Second Reading and Final Passage of an Ordinance to amend and reordain Section 11-416 (Modifications) of Section 11-400 (Site Plans) of Division B (Development Approvals) of Article XI (Development Approvals and Procedures) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 14-0001. (Implementation Ordinance for the Text Amendment to the modification section of the Zoning Ordinance approved by City Council on March 15, 2014.) [ROLL-CALL VOTE]
City Council adopted the ordinance. (ORD. NO. 4866)
- 15 [14-2646](#) Public Hearing, Second Reading and Final Passage of a Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance for the Support of the City Government for FY 2014. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]
City Council adopted the ordinance. (ORD. NO. 4867)
- 16 [14-2647](#) Public Hearing, Second Reading and Final Passage of an Ordinance Authorizing and Empowering the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of General Obligation Bonds to Finance Various Capital Projects. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]
City Council adopted the ordinance. (ORD. NO. 4868)
- 17 [14-2651](#) Public Hearing, Second Reading and Final Passage of an Ordinance to Amend the Performance Standards of the Eisenhower Science Redevelopment District. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

City Council adopted the ordinance. (ORD. NO. 4869)

- 18 [14-2652](#) Public Hearing, Second Reading and Final Passage of an Ordinance to Sell City Property at 509 North Saint Asaph Street and 511, 513, and 515 Oronoco Street. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

City Council adopted the ordinance. (ORD. NO. 4870)

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES (continued)

DEFERRAL/WITHDRAWAL CONSENT CALENDAR

Planning Commission (continued)

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Note: The action docket is a summary of Council's meeting deliberations prepared largely for staff follow-up. Formal minutes of the meeting, when approved by Council, become the official record of the meeting and of Council decisions made at the meeting.