

City of Alexandria

*301 King St., Room 2400
Alexandria, VA 22314*



Action Docket - Final

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

City Council Legislative Meeting

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency, the December 8, 2020 Legislative Meeting of the Alexandria City Council is 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 the members of the City Council and staff are participating from remote locations through a 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 can accessed via Zoom by following the link below:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pHUK4Qh4Q3-xQacaRK8OAQ

Webinar ID: 910 0070 1583

Webinar Passcode: 138944

Dial-in number: 301-715-8592

If you use the Zoom Webinar application, please be sure you have updated the application to the latest version for best results. If you are unable to access Zoom, please use the Dial-In number to access the meeting.

PLEASE LOG-IN EARLY IF POSSIBLE.

Links:

Meeting Agenda and Live Webcast

The meeting will be webcast live and video and audio recordings will be available a few days after the meeting.

Zoom Registration Form

If you wish to use Zoom to watch this meeting or to address Council, you must register first. Those wishing to address Council should also submit a Speaker's Form using the link below.

Speaker's Form

<https://survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/VIRTUAL-City-Council-Speakers-Form>

Those wishing to address Council should submit a Speaker's Form.

Submission of written statements is encouraged. Please sign up after the docket is created and you are able to verify the meeting date on the City's website. If the docket is not posted, you will have to return at a later date to complete the speaker's form in order to speak at a Council meeting.

Public Comment will be received at this meeting.

All persons wishing to speak before City Council must complete a Speaker's form (see link above). If you have a prepared statement or written comments for the record, you may email it to the City Clerk at gloria.sitton@alexandriava.gov. Speakers are encouraged to submit their written comments to the City Clerk.

Individuals with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in the City Council meeting may call the City Clerk and Clerk of Council's Office at 703.746.4550 (TTY/TDD 838.5056). We request that you provide a 48-hour notice so that the proper arrangements may be made.

City Council meetings are closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.

When your name is called to speak, the Zoom host will prompt you to unmute your microphone. If you are participating via smartphone, press *6 to mute/unmute your microphone. You will be called on by your name or the last 4 digits of your phone number when it is your turn to speak. When you are finished speaking or at 3 minutes (whichever comes first), you will be muted again.

1. Calling the Roll.

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

Mayor Wilson stated that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency, the December 8, 2020 Legislative Meeting of the Alexandria City Council is being held electronically pursuant to 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 the members of City Council and staff are participating from remote locations through a 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 government channel 70, streaming on the City's website, and can be accessed via Zoom.

2. Closed Meeting.

[21-0513](#)

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.

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.

City Council reconvened in open session at 7:07 p.m.

3. Public Comment Period.

[This period is a public comment period. The first 15 speakers will be heard under item #3 at the beginning of the meeting. Any remaining speakers will be heard at the conclusion of the docketed items.]

The following persons participated in the public comment period:

1. Ingris Moran, Alexandria, representing Tenants and Workers United, spoke about the need for rental assistance to prevent evictions, need for a comprehensive affordable housing plan for the City, the elimination of SROs in the school to free up funding for other critical needs, and need for legislation to properly identify individuals in police reporting.

2. Sulema Acosta, Alexandria, representing Tenants and Workers United, spoke about how her family has been impacted by the pandemic emergency and the need for rental assistance to avoid eviction this winter.

3. Jonathan Krall, Alexandria, representing Grassroots Alexandria, spoke about the housing crisis in the City and region and requested that Council extend assistance to those in need in the City.

PROCLAMATIONS

4. [21-0502](#)

Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing December 31, 2020 as a Fair Weather Night for First Night Alexandria.

City Council endorsed the proclamation.

5. [21-0503](#)

Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing Volunteers in Alexandria during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

City Council endorsed the proclamation.

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

***MacArthur Advisory Committee Update (Councilwoman Jackson)**

***Eisenhower Partnership Board of Directors (Councilwoman Jackson and
Councilwoman Pepper)**

***COG - Human Services Subcommittee (Councilman Chapman)**

***Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) (Vice Mayor
Bennett-Parker and Councilman Aguirre)**

***Library Board (Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker)**

City Council gave the reports.

ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Jinks reported that the City was award a 100% score for Municipal Equality Index from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and Equality Federation Institute and he reported that the State Corporation Commission on approved an increase of up to 2.9% in revenue for the Virginia American Water Company after an intervention by the City.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER (five min.)**CONSENT CALENDAR (6-17)****(Resignations and Uncontested Appointments)**

6. [21-0505](#) Receipt of Resignations from Boards, Commissions, and Committees:

(a) Commission on Persons with Disabilities

Mark Benedict

Amy Blackwood

Jennifer Gentry

Toni Popkin

(b) Human Rights Commission

Damien Hammond, Sr.

Amy Blackwood

Uncontested Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees:

7. [21-0504](#) Uncontested Appointments to Boards, Commissions, and Committees:
- (a) Beautification Commission
 - 1 Member who shall be a Master Gardner, Master Naturalist, or a Tree Steward
 - 1 Citizen Member
 - (b) Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee
 - 1 Member Designated by the Alexandria School Board
 - (c) Commission for the Arts
 - 1 Professional in fields relevant to arts and cultural development, including cultural planning, marketing, finance, funding, tourism, promotion, nonprofit organizational development, and real estate development
 - (d) Commission on Persons with Disabilities
 - 2 Citizen Members
 - (e) George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee
 - 1 Member to be Nominated by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association
 - (f) Historic Alexandria Resources Commission
 - 1 Representative from the Alexandria Historical Society
 - (g) Historical Restoration and Restoration Commission
 - 1 Citizen Member appointed by Council
 - (h) Social Services Advisory Board
 - 1 Parent Member

(Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)

8. [20-1055](#) Consideration of the Monthly Financial Report for the Period Ending October 31, 2020.
9. [21-0157](#) Consideration of Receipt of Fiscal Year 2021 First Quarter Capital Projects Status Report Related to City Council Approved Capital Projects.
10. [21-0410](#) Consideration of an Amendment to the FY 2021 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development to Include Funding for Utility Assistance.
11. [21-0424](#) Consideration of a Grant Application to Virginia Humanities to support the

preliminary research on the potential ownership and use of enslaved labor by the City of Alexandria Government.

12. [21-0446](#) Consideration of a License Agreement with ALIVE! Inc. to Utilize a Portion of the City-Owned Building Located at 801 South Payne Street
13. [21-0475](#) Consideration of a License Extension between the City of Alexandria and the Tall Ship Providence Foundation for the Docking of the Tall Ship Providence in the City Marina.
14. [21-0477](#) Consideration of a Five-Year License Agreement with the Alexandria Seaport Foundation for Docking the Maritime Heritage Center at its Present Location at the Alexandria City Marina.

(Ordinances for Introduction)

15. [21-0448](#) Introduction and First Reading. Consideration. Passage on First Reading of an Ordinance to amend and reordain Chapter 10 (CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION) of Title 12 (EDUCATION, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELFARE) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.
16. [21-0455](#) Introduction and First Reading. Consideration. Passage on First Reading of an Ordinance to amend and reordain the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, and the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, as amended, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2020-00008 (Implementation Ordinance for Text Amendment No. 2020-00008 associated with the Temporary Program for Business Relief and to Address Public Need Related to COVID-19 approved by City Council on November 14, 2020).
17. [21-0457](#) Introduction and First Reading. Consideration. Passage on First Reading of an Ordinance to amend and reordain the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, by adopting and incorporating therein the amendment heretofore approved by city council to the Alexandria West Small Area Plan chapter of such master plan as Master Plan Amendment No. 2020-00004 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of the said master plan as may be inconsistent with such amendment (Implementation Ordinance for Master Plan Amendment No. 2020-00004 associated with Benchmark at West Alex approved by City Council on November 14, 2020).

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

City Council approved the consent calendar. The City Manager's recommendations were as follows:

6. City Council received the following resignations with regret: (a) Commission on Persons with Disabilities, Mark Benedict, Amy Blackwood, Jennifer Gentry, and Toni Popkin; and (b) Damien Hammond, Sr., and Amy Blackwood.

7. City Council made appointments to following boards, commissions, and committees: (a) appointed Megan Rainey as the member who shall be a master gardener, master naturalist, or a tree steward and appointed Vineeta Anand as the citizen member to the Beautification Commission; (b) reappointed Kathy Stenzel as the member designated by the Alexandria School Board to the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee; (c) reappointed William Kurowski as the profession in fields relevant to arts and cultural development, including cultural planning, marketing, finance, funding, tourism, promotion, nonprofit organizational development, and real estate development to the Commission for the Arts; (d) appointed Jeffrey Phillips and reappointed Jeffrey Pool as the two citizen members to the Commission on Persons with Disabilities; (e) appointed Jeanne Jacob as the member to be nominated by the Friendships Veterans Fire Engine Association to the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee; (f) reappointed Severiano Ortiz as the representative from the Alexandria Historical Society to the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission; (g) appointed Marie Smith as the citizen member appointed by Council to the Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission; and (h) appointed Matthew Walsh as the parent member to the Social Services Advisory Board.

8. City Council received the Monthly Financial Report.

9. City Council received as information as FY 2021 First Quarter Capital Projects Status Report.

10. City Council: (1) scheduled a public hearing on December 12, 2020 to receive comments on the proposed amendment to the City's FY 2021 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development to including funding for utility assistance to qualified households, and additional funding for rental assistance; (2) following the public hearing, approve the Amendment; and (3) authorized the Office of Housing and the Department of Community and Human Services to provide amounts above the \$5000 cap authorized by City Council in September, to supplement other City resources to keep families, who are at risk of eviction due to nonpayment, and would likely face homelessness as a consequence, remain housed.

11. City Council authorized the City Manager to: (1) approve the application to Virginia Humanities for a \$5000 grant; (2) approve the acceptance of funds from Virginia Humanities for \$5000, if the grant is awarded; and (3) authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents that may be required.

12. City Council: (1) received the report and set the license agreement for public hearing on December 12, 2020 and consideration for approval of this proposed five-year license agreement after the public hearing; and (2) authorize the City Manager to execute the proposed license agreement with ALIVE! Inc.

13. City Council: (1) received the report and scheduled the proposed license extension for public hearing on December 12, 2020 and after the public hearing approve the proposed sixty day (60) license extension; and (2) authorize the City Manager to execute the attached sixty-day (60) license extension with the Tall Ship Providence Foundation.

14. City Council: (1) received the report and scheduled the proposed five-year license

agreement for public hearing on December 12, 2020, and after the public hearing approve the proposed five-year license agreement; and (2) to authorize the City Manager to execute the five-year license agreement with the Alexandria Seaport Foundation.

15. City Council passed the ordinance on first reading and scheduled it for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, December 12, 2020.

16. City Council passed the ordinance on first reading and scheduled it for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, December 12, 2020.

17. City Council passed the ordinance on first reading and scheduled it for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, December 12, 2020.

CONTESTED APPOINTMENTS

18. [21-0506](#) Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force
1 Member representing the African-American community
1 Member representing the Latino community

City Council moved to readvertise the position for a member representing the African-American community for the Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force. City Council appointed Marilyn Nevy Cruz as the member representing the Latino community to the Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force.
19. [21-0507](#) Children, Youth, and Families Collaborative Commission
1 Member with expertise in children, youth and family issues, public safety, medical/health related profession or nonprofit experience

City Council appointed Jessica Cuddy as the member with expertise in children, youth and family issues, public safety, medical/health related profession or nonprofit experience to the Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission.
20. [21-0508](#) Commission for Women
1 Citizen Member

City Council appointed Crystal Kramer as the citizen member to the Commission for Women.
21. [21-0509](#) Commission on HIV/AIDS
1 Citizen Member

City Council waived the residency requirement and appointed Bryon Garner to the Commission on HIV/AIDS.
22. [21-0510](#) Environmental Policy Commission
1 Member from the field of environmental sciences(e.g. environmental/sanitary engineering, ecology, geology, botany, hydrology, chemistry) or who have Alexandria waterfront expertise, provided that at least four members shall have scientific expertise

City Council appointed Amber Myers as the member in the field of environmental sciences (e.g. environmental/sanitary engineering, ecology, geology, botany, hydrology, chemistry) or who have Alexandria waterfront expertise, provided that at least four members shall have scientific expertise to the Environmental Policy Commission.

23. [21-0511](#)

Public Health Advisory Commission

1 Non-Healthcare Professional Citizen Member

City Council reappointed Allison Miner as the non-healthcare professional citizen member to the Public Health Advisory Commission.

24. [21-0512](#)

Sister Cities Committee

1 Citizen Member

City Council reappointed Esther Petrilli-Massey as the citizen member to the Sister Cities Committee.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR DISCUSSION (60 min.)

25. [21-0258](#)

Consideration of Proposed City Legislative Package for the 2021 Virginia General Assembly Session.

City Council adopted the City of Alexandria 2021 General Assembly Legislative Package, as recommended by Council's Legislative Subcommittee and members of City Council, and including additional items discussed at the Public Hearing and during the Work Session with the General Assembly delegation.

26. [21-0484](#)

Consideration of an Update to the City's Affordable Housing Contributions Policy and Procedures

City Council received and discussed the proposed Update to the City's Affordable Housing Contributions Policy and scheduled the Update for public hearing, consideration and adoption on December 12, 2020. In the updated document key policy recommendations include: (1) requiring applications pursuing residential density above levels envisioned in an underlying small area plan (SAP) to provide 10% of the additional density as affordable housing in core markets and 8% in emerging markets; (2) requiring 2% of the total units (minimum of one unit) be affordable for continuum of care (COC) projects, other than rezonings, which pursue density above levels envisioned in an underlying SAP; (3) requiring COCs seeking rezonings to provide 3% of the total units (minimum of one unit) yielded through density above levels envisioned in underlying SAP as affordable, with 2% (minimum of one unit) provided on the base unit number; (4) requiring age restricted/independent living multifamily projects pursuing density beyond the level envisioned in an SAP, other than through a rezoning, to provide a monetary contribution (or convert the contribution to onsite units) based on the existing City contribution policy and procedures; (5) requiring age-restricted/independent living multifamily projects pursuing density beyond the level envisioned in the SAP, through a rezoning, to provide 3% of the total units yielded through that density (minimum one unit) as affordable through a 60% discount on housing and services; and (6) requiring commercial to residential conversion projects to contribute \$1.52/sf (one-half of the 2020 Residential Tier One rate), or units of equivalent value, with credit for prior housing contributions, if applicable. Members of Council agreed to with staff prior to the public hearing to fine tune these recommendations to Council's specifications.

27. [21-0498](#) Oral Update on Winter Weather Preparations
City Council received the update on Winter Weather preparations.
28. [21-0491](#) Consideration of a Proposed Post CARES Act Funding Plan for to Continue Addressing Food Insecurity and Eviction Prevention.
City Council approved an allocation of \$375,000 to support a four-month program of food security and \$625,000 to support eviction prevention for City residents most at-risk for the period covering January through April 2021.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

29. [21-0451](#) Introduction and First Reading. Consideration. Passage on First Reading of Ordinances to grant a telecommunications facility franchise agreement to CELLCO Partnership d/b/a/ Verizon Wireless: New Cingular Wireless, PCS, LLC (“AT&T”); and CROWN CASTLE.
City Council approved the ordinances on first reading and scheduled them for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, December 12, 2020.
30. [20-1056](#) Introduction and First Reading. Consideration. Passage on First Reading of an Ordinance to Make Supplemental Appropriations for the Support of the City Government for Fiscal Year 2021.
City Council approved the ordinance on first reading and scheduled it public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, December 12, 2020.
31. [21-0398](#) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant Application for Four Mile Run Sediment Dredging. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]
City Council: (1) adopted the resolution to apply for \$1,406,250 FY 2020 Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) for the new Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) pre-disaster mitigation grant program to assist in funding the removal of sediment from the Four Mile Run flood channel to restore the design conveyance; and (2) authorized the City Manager to submit the resolution and enter into any agreements that may be required to receive these funds should the requested allocation be approved. (RES. NO. 2970)
- 31a. [21-0531](#) Review and Confirmation of the Suspension of Enforcement of Certain City Codes and Ordinances Taken by the City Manager Pursuant to the City's Continuity of Government Ordinance to ease certain restrictions on package delivery businesses that are working to comply with the Governor's Forward Virginia Plan.
City Council confirmed the suspension of enforcement of the codes and ordinances to allow flexibility for package delivery businesses as described in the attached document labeled Attachment 1 and allowed the suspension to continue until March 21, 2021 or sooner if the City Manager determines that the suspensions should be lifted for any reason.

ORAL REPORTS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

Councilwoman Pepper reported on the honors and awards the City received during 2020 including the following:

- 100% Score for Municipal Equality Index from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and Equality Federation Institute;*
- Named top five friendliest city by Conde Nast Traveler;*
- Named number two Best Small City by Conde Nast Traveler;*
- Named number in the top seven Black History Museum in the United States by Conde Nast Traveler;*
- Named as one of the top five safest communities by U.S. News and World Report;*
- Ranked 5th by the Digital Cities Survey as a Digital City for its size;*
- Ranked in the Top 15 Best City in the South by Southern Living Magazine;*
- Ranked in the Top 17 as a Best Destination by Travel Destinations Magazine;*
- Ranked as a top 8 best getaway from New York City by Forbes Magazine;*
- Ranked as a Best Christmas Town by Women's Day Magazine; and*
- Maintained its AAA Bond Rating.*

OTHER

32. [21-0493](#) Consideration of City Council Schedule.

City Council received and adopted the FY 2021 City Council Schedule for November 2020 through July 2021, with meetings for January 2021 being held virtually.

Closed Meeting (continued if needed)

33. [21-0513](#) 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.

City Council reconvened in closed executive session at 10:42 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.

City Council reconvened in open session at 12:17 a.m.

City Council adopted the resolution regarding the closed executive session previously circulated to Council. (RES. NO. 2971)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 a.m.

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