

CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor William D. Euille, Vice Mayor Kerry J. Donley, Members of Council Frank H. Fannon, Alicia R. Hughes, K. Rob Krupicka, Redella S. Pepper and Paul C. Smedberg.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Young, City Manager; Mr. Banks, City Attorney; Mr. Johnson, Chief of Staff, City Manager's Office; Ms. Evans, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Jinks, Deputy City Manager; Police Captain Ogden; Deputy Police Chief Corle; Mr. Baier, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services; Mr. Lerner, Deputy Director, Transportation and Environmental Services; Mr. Lambert, Transportation and Environmental Services; Mr. Maslanka, Transportation and Environmental Services; Mr. Holmes, Transportation and Environmental Services; Ms. Gygi, Transportation and Environmental Services; Mr. Caton, Legislative Director; Mr. Castrilli, Director, Office of Communications; Mr. Catlett, Director, Code Administration; Mr. Pugh, Code Administration; Fire Chief Thiel; Ms. Wright, Planning and Zoning; Mr. Spengler, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Ms. Collins, Assistant City Manager, City Manager's Office; Ms. Bryan, ITS; and Mr. Lloyd.

Recorded by: Jacqueline M. Henderson, City Clerk and Clerk of Council.

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City Council held a work session at 5:30 p.m. with the Alexandria Transit Company Stockholders and on DASH issues.

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1. Calling the Roll.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Euille, 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.

3. Reading and Acting Upon the Minutes of the Following Meeting of City Council:

- (a) The Regular Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2012.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Donley, seconded by Councilwoman Hughes and carried unanimously, City Council approved the regular meeting minutes of February 14, 2012. The voting was as follows:

Donley	"aye"	Fannon	"aye"
Hughes	"aye"	Krupicka	"aye"
Euille	"aye"	Pepper	"aye"
	Smedberg	"aye"	

RECOGNITION OF YOUTH BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

None.

PROCLAMATIONS

4. Presentation of a [Proclamation](#) Declaring March 3, 2012 as St. Patrick's Day Parade Day and March as Irish American Heritage Month.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Fannon, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council endorsed the proclamation. The voting was as follows:

Fannon	"aye"	Donley	"aye"
Pepper	"aye"	Hughes	"aye"
Euille	"aye"	Krupicka	"aye"
	Smedberg	"aye"	

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

CONSENT CALENDAR (5-10)

(Resignations and Uncontested Appointments)

5. Receipt of the Following Resignation from Members of Boards, Commissions and Committees:

- (a) Commission for Women
Laura M. Zabriskie

(A copy of the above resignation is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked collectively as Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5 (a); 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

6. Uncontested Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees:
 - (a) Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee
2 Citizen Members
 - (b) Community Policy and Management Team
1 Representative of a Private Organization or Association of Providers of Children's or Family Services Which Provides Such Services Within the City on a Continuing and Consistent Basis
 - (c) Community Services Board
1 Citizen Member
 - (d) Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission
1 Citizen Member
 - (e) Sister Cities Committee
1 Citizen Member

(A copy of the above appointments is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked collectively as Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6 (a-e); 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

(Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)

7. Consideration of Authorization of Recommended [Capital Allocations and Planned Expenditures](#).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 22, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 7; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

8. Consideration of a [Grant Application](#) for the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 22, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

9. Consideration of a Renewal [Grant Application](#) to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles for an Aggressive Driving/DUI Interdiction Program in FY 2013.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 13, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 9; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

(Ordinances for Introduction)

10. Introduction and First Reading. Consideration. Passage on First Reading of an [Ordinance](#) to Establish the Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library as an Additional Absentee Voting Site for the 2012 Presidential Election. (The Public Hearing Will Be March 17, 2012.)

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 17, 2012, is on file in the Office of City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 10; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.

A copy of the informal memorandum explaining the ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 2 of Item No. 10; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.

A copy of the ordinance referred to in the above item, of which each Member of Council received a copy not less than 24 hours before said introduction, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 3 of Item No. 10; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Krupicka, seconded by Councilwoman Hughes and carried unanimously, City Council approved the consent calendar. The City Manager's recommendations were as follows:

5. City Council accepted the following resignation with regret: (a) Laura M. Zabriskie, Commission for Women.

6. City Council made the following appointments to boards and commissions: (1) appointed Amanda Gordon and reappointed Steffanie Housman as the two citizen members to the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee; (b) reappointed Gretchen Abell as the one representative of a private organization or association of providers of children's or family services which provides such services within the City on a continuing and consistent basis to the Community Policy and Management Team; (c) appointed Patrice Tighe as the one citizen member to the Community Services Board; (d) appointed Lisa Edouard as the one citizen member to the Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission; and (e) appointed Scott Stephens as the one citizen member to the Sister Cities Committee.

7. City Council authorized \$1,431,000 for capital project allocations and planned expenditures for the capital projects as detailed in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) expenditure summary.

Pepper - Dixon
Smedberg - Dixon

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR DISCUSSION

12. Discussion of Proposed Federal Legislation with [Congressman James P. Moran](#).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 22, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 12; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Congressman Moran made a presentation of the legislation and responded to questions and comments from City Council.

City Council received the report and discussed the legislation with Congressman Moran.

13. Receipt of Report on Items Before the [2012 Virginia General Assembly](#).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 27, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 13; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Caton, Legislative Director, made a presentation of the report and responded to questions of City Council.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Donley, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried 4-0, City Council approved the positions of the State budget that are included in attachment 1 of the staff report, as recommended by City Council's legislative subcommittee (Vice Mayor Donley and Councilman Smedberg.) The voting was as follows:

Donley	"aye"	Fannon	"aye"
Smedberg	"aye"	Hughes	absent
Euille	"aye"	Krupicka	absent
Pepper		absent	

14. Oral Report on Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC-133) Project at Mark Center.

Mr. Lerner, Deputy Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, and Mr. Baier, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, made a presentation of the report on BRAC and responded to questions of City Council.

15. Consideration of Providing Alexandria's Share of the Local Match for the [Route 7 High Capacity Transit Feasibility Study](#).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 21, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 15; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Vice Mayor Donley asked for an update from staff, including a timeline on what it can expect for construction for the King Beauregard intersection improvements.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Donley, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, City Council provided the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission with the assurance that it will provide its share of the local match for a feasibility study of High Capacity Transit in the Route 7 corridor of not to exceed \$30,000 utilizing City transportation improvement program funding. The voting was as follows:

Donley	"aye"	Fannon	"aye"
Smedberg	"aye"	Hughes	"aye"
Euille	"aye"	Krupicka	"aye"
Pepper	"aye"		

The following two items were heard out of turn:

17. Oral Report on the Potomac Yard Development and Capital Project Progress Update.
18. Consideration of an Interim Increase in the Budget For the [Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Environmental Impact Statement Study Project](#).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 21, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 18; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Ms. Wright, Planning and Zoning, made a presentation of the Potomac Yard Development and Capital Project Progress update and responded to questions of City Council.

Mr. Baier, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, along with Ms. Gygi, Transportation and Environmental Services, made a presentation of the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Environmental Impact Statement study project and responded to questions of City Council.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Krupicka, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council approved an interim allocation of \$600,000 from the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station CIP account for funding of the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) study project for a three-month period until the Phase III budget for the EIS are known as a

result of negotiations among the City, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and WMATA's EIS contractor. The voting was as follows:

Krupicka	"aye"	Donley	"aye"
Pepper	"aye"	Fannon	"aye"
Euille	"aye"	Hughes	"aye"
	Smedberg	"aye"	

16. Consideration of Authorization of Recommended [Capital Project Allocations to Alexandria City Public Schools](#).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 22, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 16; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Ms. Triggs, Acting Chief Financial Office, along with Ms. Byess, Deputy Superintendent, Alexandria City Public Schools, responded to questions of City Council.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Krupicka, seconded by Vice Mayor Donley and carried unanimously, City Council: 1. received the report from the Alexandria City Public Schools capital project transfers and authorization of capital project allocations and planned expenditures; and 2. authorized \$6,359,412 for capital project allocations as detailed in the ACPS financial report. The voting was as follows:

Krupicka	"aye"	Fannon	"aye"
Donley	"aye"	Hughes	"aye"
Euille	"aye"	Pepper	"aye"
	Smedberg	"aye"	

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

None

ORAL REPORTS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

and

ORAL PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

(a) Mayor Euille said Council received a letter from the chair of the Waterfront Committee noting that by March 1 the Committee will send to Council a recommendation to move forward with the Waterfront implementation process. He said it had been brought to his attention last week and he was going to ask his colleagues to think about the next steps in how it wants to proceed, but the better way to approach it is to wait until it gets the formal recommendation from the Waterfront Committee. In

essence, the existing make-up of the Waterfront Committee be the implementation committee, but also expand it to include additional citizen representatives.

Mr. Johnson, Chief of Staff, said it would come back to City Council on March 27.

(b) Councilwoman Hughes said some members of civic associations on the West End of Alexandria sent an email to members of City staff regarding the Beauregard Small Area Plan and processes in general in terms of planning meetings and how stacked they are and how to give meaningful input and have that input considered. She read from the comments from citizens. Councilwoman Hughes said when it gets to approving a plan, she was concerned that the sentiments of citizens aren't being heard in a meaningful way, and the objective is to ensure that the process works. She said she hoped they would look into it more.

Mayor Euille said the draft report was prepared by the citizens group, and because it was a culmination of information by the community and the workgroup, their report was reflective of those many meetings and discussions and conversations, and folks had additional commentary that they wanted to offer afterwards. Mayor Euille asked if what she is saying is that now that it is in the hands of staff, staff needs to be cognizant of the fact that there are additional comments and they need to find a way to incorporate them.

Councilwoman Hughes said that would be a start.

There was a discussion among Council and staff regarding the issue.

(c) Councilman Krupicka said he sent out an email with a draft resolution related to high bandwidth internet access and cable choice in the City. Over the years, they have received numerous citizen complaints about the concern that they don't have a high level of choice - it has one choice for cable access. He said it is time to think about what it can be doing from a policy standpoint and from a staff standpoint to encourage as much competition as possible so citizens have access to a range of choices. He said they need to put in place a strategy so it can provide a critical business infrastructure for the community and the City and attract as much choice and option as possible. He asked Council to ask the IT Commission to take a look at it and come back to Council with a more formal recommendation, as the IT Commission is the advisory body to the Council on these issues.

(d) Councilman Krupicka said they are evolving into campaign season in the City, and people will do lots of things in advocacy for their candidacy that they need to do. He said they have to be careful when doing that advocacy to make sure they are not crossing the line between truth and fiction. He said he had grave concerns about a letter that Councilwoman Hughes put in the paper two weeks ago, but was concerned about one line in it that accused the Council of tearing down all the public housing at Bland and not replacing it, and saying replacing it with high income townhouses. Councilman Krupicka said that what troubles him by that is not only what he could

assume are the political objections of trying to make an allocation like that that is untrue, but also troubled him because the City does care deeply about affordable housing, and the project replaced every single unit of housing that was taken down. He said to make the accusation that the Council deliberately tore down public housing with the intent of not replacing it is not fair to Council, City staff and ARHA. He said he could only assume that it was not intended to be said the way it was.

Councilwoman Hughes said that in looking at what's happened over the course of the past two and a half years, to frame why she wrote it like she did, the median household income in Alexandria in 2009 was around \$88,000 a year, and the new data reflects the median household income is now \$107,000 a year, so in two and a half years, somehow, despite the one for one replacement that it has, there have been an increase in the median household income that exceeds \$20,000 a year, and yet 20 percent of the citizens in the City are living below the poverty level. Councilwoman Hughes said that in reaching the conclusion that she did, it was based upon the fact that the numbers are telling of a story. She said her sentiments are what they are and she stated what she felt. Somehow, despite what has happened, it was not inaccurate to state that those projects have been torn down and what is in place of them, regardless of how it solves the issue of one for one replacement, and how things have gone in the City, she didn't think they could argue the facts that the median household income have increased in excess of \$20,000. She said they could not argue the fact that what was a housing development before are townhomes and condominiums that reached those levels or prices. Councilwoman Hughes said if he believes the implication is that the City and the Council does not support affordable housing, that would not be the intent of making that statement. She said there is something to be said about those developments being replaced with \$700,000 townhomes. It does not take away from the hard work that people have done and continue to do to solve what is a housing crisis.

Mayor Euille said what is missing in the big picture is the one for one replacement housing is still there and exists today and there has been no loss of affordable units. A collaboration was made with the public housing authority that when redevelopment took place and it approved the Braddock Road Small Area Plan, that the people in those homes in public housing would see an increase and upgrade to the quality of life.

Vice Mayor Donley stated that in the explanation, it is still muddled. He said if they are going to talk about median income and income increases over the last ten years, then that is what they should talk about rather than point at a particular housing development. Vice Mayor Donley said redevelopment of the Bland is about improving housing conditions for individuals and families. With the exception of 16 units, every one of those units was or will be replaced in that neighborhood. To say that housing project was replaced with \$750-800,000 townhouses ignores the fact that public housing tenants are living in those same conditions in that same neighborhood where they were before, and that has been the success and policy of the City for decades. They are also a City that continues to be the only jurisdiction in Northern Virginia that

has true public housing. He said if they want to talk about median income, then it should talk about that, but it shouldn't metaphorically use a housing project that is a success in providing good, better improved housing for Alexandria families rather than in 40 year old dilapidated hard to maintain public housing enclaves.

ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Mr. Young, City Manager, said Councilman Krupicka has earlier asked staff to take a look at broadly what process they would use for engagement and citizens in small area planning processes and how it would set about a more consistent public engagement strategy. He said they have begun to have those discussions with the cross section of staff and will come back and talk with Council and get input into what they are thinking and put together something they can walk through how it can engage the public, what their expectations are and what kind of strategies they should implore to do that better.

Mr. Baier, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, along with Mr. Pugh, Code Administration, Mr. Holmes, Transportation and Environmental Services, and Mr. Lambert, Transportation and Environmental Services, made a presentation on the Cityworks application and software and what proactive things they are doing and utilities they are using to improve service delivery and they responded to questions of City Council.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

None

OTHER

19. Consideration of City Council [Schedule](#).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated February 24, 2012, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 19; 2/28/12, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Hughes, seconded by Councilman Krupicka and carried unanimously, City Council: 1. changed the time and date of the work session on the Sanitary Sewer Master Plan from 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27 to 5:30 p.m. before Council's Tuesday, April 10 legislative meeting; 2. scheduled a work session on the Housing Budget and Master Plan at 5:30 p.m. before Council's Tuesday, March 27 legislative meeting; and 3. received the revised calendar which includes: the annual Commission on Persons with Disabilities awards reception at 5:30 p.m. before Council's Tuesday, June 26 legislative meeting the Vola Lawson Lobby; the 2012 Flora Krause Casey Public Health awards reception on Tuesday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the Vola Lawson Lobby; and Take Our Daughters and

Sons to Work Day on Thursday, April 26 at 8:00 a.m. in the Vola Lawson Lobby at City Hall. The voting was as follows:

Hughes	"aye"	Donley	"aye"
Krupicka	"aye"	Fannon	"aye"
Euille	"aye"	Pepper	"aye"
	Smedberg	"aye"	

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED, upon motion by Vice Mayor Donley, seconded by Councilwoman Hughes and carried unanimously, City Council adjourned the February 28, 2012 regular meeting at 10:23 p.m. The voting was as follows:

Donley	"aye"	Fannon	"aye"
Hughes	"aye"	Krupicka	"aye"
Euille	"aye"	Pepper	"aye"
	Smedberg	"aye"	

APPROVED BY:

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson
City Clerk and Clerk of Council