

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2023

Mayor Andy Schabell called the Alexandria City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the invocation and the pledge to the flag. The following Council Members answering roll call:

Joe Anderson Stacey Graus

Present

Tom Baldridge Kyle Sparks Present Present

Robert Strong

Present Present

Susan Vanlandingham

Present

Also:

Stephanie Tarter, City Clerk

Doug DeJaco, Public Works Supt.

Mike Duncan, City Attorney

Lucas Cooper, Police Chief

David Plummer, City Administrator

Mayor Schabell opened the public hearing at 7:01pm.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

The City of Alexandria proposes a tax rate which will exceed the compensating tax rate, but the proposed rate is lower than the preceding year. Additionally, the proposed rate is expected to produce revenue from real property, exclusive of revenue from new property, of four percent (4%) over the amount of revenue which would be produced by the compensating tax rate. The revenue in excess of the revenue produced in the preceding year is proposed to be allocated to the General Fund to be administered according to the budget for fiscal year 2023-2024. The purpose of this public hearing is to receive taxpayer input on the proposed tax rate for 2023. This notice is required by KRS 132.027 as passed by the Kentucky General Assembly.

Mr. Duncan explained the rate proposed should raise 4% more in revenue over last year's revenue. He also noted the proposed tax rate is a decrease from last year's rate.

The public hearing was closed at 7:03pm.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 3, 2023, Regular Meeting

**MOTION:** Tom Baldridge made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2023, Regular Meeting, seconded by Susan Vanlandingham. The motion passed 6-0-0.

### **SCHEDULED VISITORS AND GUESTS**

**Tim Ford, Fire Chief:** Mayor congratulated Tim Ford on his appointment to Fire Chief. Per KRS 65(A).100 for SPGE's they are to present to the largest government agency in the district they serve and explain their tax rate and fees. Chief Ford gave an overview of the rate; it will stay the same as last year at .18 per \$100. He spoke about the equipment they purchased in the last year and the equipment they will need to purchase. Their run volume is up by 220 runs over last year at this time. It was asked by the council what would happen to old equipment. Chief Ford explained they are in conversation with Southern Campbell regarding consolidation in the future. During that conversation, districts have been realigned and they would like to keep equipment among the county departments to save taxpayers money. Council asked about the number of full-time staff; currently there is 5 but they would like to hire a 6<sup>th</sup>. They are always accepting volunteer applications and they try to send them to the recruit school or EMT class.

### **UNSCHEDULED VISITORS AND GUESTS**

BJ & Sonjay Santosh, Nolen Schweitzer, Boy Scout 395: They have a merit badge where they find an issue in their community, interview someone about it and find out how young people can help. Their issue is that there is no sidewalk on Grandview Rd and they asked what is being done to address this issue. Mayor Schabell explained he would like to install a sidewalk from the Community Park to Main Street. The reason that has not been done yet is because of the high cost, needing to purchase property from homeowners and the terrain. Mayor Schabell further explained the city has applied for a grant to help with one leg of the project from Main Street to Stillwater. The city should know if they won the grant by the November meeting.

Mr. BJ Santosh asked how young people help solve the problem. Councilman Sparks explained them being at the meeting and getting involved in the city and asking questions is a huge help.

### ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & MUNICIPAL ORDERS

Mike Duncan read the following, 1st reading:

**Ordinance 2023-07:** An Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, in Campbell County, Kentucky, providing for the assessment of real property within the corporate limits of the City of Alexandria and levying an ad valorem tax of \$0.140 on each one hundred (\$100.00) of assessed valuation (\$1.40 per thousand) of real property in the city for the 2023 assessment tax year and specifying the purpose for which the tax is levied.

Mr. Duncan also read, 1st reading:

Ordinance 2023-08: An Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, in Campbell County, Kentucky, amending section 150.07 of the City of Alexandria Code of Ordinances in order to adopt the 2021 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code, thereby replacing the 2000 version.

Mr. Duncan explained this Ordinance is the result of the work done by the Code Enforcement Officer and City Administrator. This will update the city's code with the most recent requirements of the International Property Maintenance Code.

**Municipal Order 2023-12:** A Municipal Order of the City of Alexandria declaring surplus property and authorizing transfer of equipment to Northern Kentucky SWAT.

Chief Cooper stated there was some information left off of Exhibit A due to a communication error. The total amount of equipment to be is about \$17,000 that will be transferred to Northern Kentucky SWAT. This will be transferred to them in exchange for a waiver of fees for a several years.

**MOTION:** Kyle Sparks made a motion to approve Municipal Order 2023-12 with modifications to the exhibit, seconded by Stacey Graus. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**City Clerk:** Ms. Tarter reminded the council about the Fair Parade and asked them to let her know if they would like to ride the float or not.

**City Administrator:** Mr. Plummer shared there are likely to be more changes coming like the ones in Ordinance 2023-08.

**Police Department:** See attached report. Chief Cooper shared the department has made an offer to a recruit, but he will not be able to go to the academy until February 2024. They are also still looking to hire an SRO. There was a question regarding the start date for the recruit due to the time between offer and academy. It was explained he will start in November 1, he will complete his online classes prior to going to the academy and receive some of his department training prior to the academy instead of after.

Public Works: See attached report.

Zoning/Code Enforcement: See attached report.

Community Center: See attached report. Mayor Schabell read the report from the Dog Days at

the Park

#### **COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

Public Works - Tom Baldridge: Next meeting will be September 7 at 6:00pm.

Safety - Joe Anderson: Next meeting will be September 7 at 6:30pm.

Business Retention - Kyle Sparks: Next meeting will be September 21 at 6:30pm.

Personnel – Robert Strong: Next meeting will be September 21 at 6:00pm.

Future Planning - Susan Vanlandingham: Next meeting will be October 5 at 6:30pm.

Finance Committee - Stacey Graus: Next meeting will be October 19 at 6:00pm.

#### **BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

P&Z: Mayor Schabell gave an overview of the meeting and the approval of the Dollar General. He explained the developer had requested a variance on the number of parking spaces which allowed the city to make requests in return. He gave an overview of the requests from moving the sign to extended garbage corral and add some foliage. Unfortunately, the site is zoned commercial, and the Dollar General is an approved use for that site.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Profit & Loss: Council had the chance to review and ask questions.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

### **COUNCIL & MAYOR COMMENTS**

Joe Anderson: He shared he received a phone call regarding the 536 expansions from Boone County over to Kenton County and it has been funded. The hope is that the total project all the way to Route 8 will be funded.

Andy Schabell: He attended the meeting with County officials and other city mayors regarding the Opioid settlement payments and ways to work together to use the funds.

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

- September 5, 7:00pm Planning & Zoning
- September 6, 7:00pm Park & Recreation

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- August 25, Dusk Movie at the Park, Little Mermaid
- August 29, 7:00pm Free Yoga in the Park
- August 30, 6:30pm Fair Parade

September 8, 5-7 – Dollhouse Beauty Salon Ribbon Cutting

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MC	OTION:	Kyle Spark	s made a motion to adjou	rn, seconded by	Tom Baldridge	All in favor the
motion passed 6-		ssed 6-0-0.	The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.	All III lavor, the		

Stephanie Tarter, City Clerk

Date: 9-7-2023

Andy Schabell, Mayor