City of Alexandria

301 King St., Room 2400
Alexandria, VA 22314

Action Docket - Final

Tuesday, March 24, 2020
7:00 PM
EMERGENCY MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
Council Chamber

City Council Special Meeting
1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All members of Council were present for the meeting via teleconference call.


Mayor Wilson stated that the purpose of the meeting was to address the COVID-19 crisis, the City's response to the pandemic and to adopt emergency legislation to assist the community during this time.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

3. 20-0740

Introduction, First and Second Reading, Public Hearing and Final Passage of an emergency ordinance implementing emergency procedures to ensure continuity of city government and, in particular, to modify public meeting procedures and other public practices and procedures to address continuity of operations associated with the COVID-19 pandemic disaster.[ROLL-CALL VOTE]

City Council closed the public hearing and passed on first and second reading an emergency ordinance implementing emergency procedures to ensure continuity of city government and, in particular, to modify public meeting procedures and other public practices and procedures to address continuity of operations associated with the COVID-19 pandemic disaster, with the following amendments: on pg. 3, line 11 adding "except for emergency meetings" after the word meeting; on pg 3, line 12, delete "in compliance with all applicable laws" and add "at least three days in advance"; and on pg 4, line 15 delete, "in conformity with the notice provisions set forth in VA Code section 15.2-147." (ORD. NO. 5273)

4. 20-0737

Introduction, First and Second Reading, Public Hearing and Final Passage of an Emergency Ordinance to impose a moratorium on penalties and interest for Restaurant Meals Taxes, Transient Occupancy Taxes and BPOL taxes; and consideration of resolutions to change the filing deadline for Business Personal Property and Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief Applications.[ROLL-CALL VOTE]

City Council closed the public hearing and passed on first and second reading an emergency ordinance to impose a moratorium on penalties and interest for Restaurant Meals Taxes, Transient Occupancy Taxes and BPOL taxes; and approved resolutions to change the filing deadline for Business Personal Property and Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief Applications. (ORD. NO. 5274, RES 2929, and RES. 2930)

5. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to apply for grants subject to subsequent City Council ratification. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

20-0751

Special Delegation Authority for the City Manager to Apply for and Accept Grants During a Declared Emergency. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

City Council adopted a resolution to delegate to the City Manager the authority to apply
for grants and accept grant awards that are in the best interest of the City during this COVID-19 emergency in the event that the City Council is unable to do so in a timely manner.  (RES. NO. 2931)

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

6. COVID-19 Health Update from the Alexandria Health Department.

   City Council received a health update from Dr. Haering, Director, Alexandria Health Department, on the measures the Health Department are taking to address the health crisis and he responded to questions from City Council about testing, resources, and data about the pandemic.

7. COVID-19 Continuity of Government Update from the City Manager.

   City Council received an update from Mr. Jinks, City Manager, on continuity of government operations during this emergency.  Mr. Jinks highlighted scheduling for employees, availability of government services, leave for employees, ongoing planning for the changing needs of the community and he responded questions from City Council.

8. FY 2021 Budget Discussion:" Livable, Green, and Prospering City" Focus Area.

   FY2021 Budget Discussion

   City Manager Jinks gave an update on the current budgeting situation as it relates to the emergency.  City Manager Jinks explained there is now a need to give City Council a revised proposed budget for FY 2021 to address the expected shortfall created by the COVID-19 crisis.  Mr. Routt, Director, Office of Management and Budget, gave a presentation on items that might be considered to fill in the expected gap in the budget and he, along with department heads, highlighted areas in the budget for consideration to address the shortfall.  Mr. Routt stated that OMB would be updating the Budget Calendar to reflect the changed discussions.

9. Other. (COVID-19 Related)

   None.

   Adjourn.

   The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

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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 of Council decisions made at the meeting.