Alexandria Borough Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 10, 2026

Adjournment Time: 9:47 PM

Opening

- **Pledge of Allegiance & Prayer**
- **Roll Call:** Present: Mike Peters (VP), President Scott, and other council members.

Approval of Minutes & Agenda Adjustments

- **Motion:** To accept the previous meeting minutes.
    - *Moved by:* VP Peters | *Seconded by:* Scott | *Status:* All in favor, motion carries.
- **Adjustment:** Officially added the previous adjournment time of 9:06 PM to the record.

Financial Report & Authorization of Bills

- **Motion:** To accept the financial report and pay the bills as presented.
    - *Moved by:* VP Peters | *Seconded by:* President Scott | *Status:* All in favor, motion carries.
- **Notes:** Borough accounts have been organized with separate tracking for DCNR and Congressman Joyce funding.

Reports

Solicitor Report

- Solicitor was excused from attending future routine meetings unless specific action items require his presence.

Water Authority Report

- Presented by Dain Davis. Meeting minutes from July were received by President Scott.

Sewer Authority Report

- Working on a new contract with the operator and preparing next year's budget for review within the month. A new secretary hire was anticipated for Tuesday, August 11.

Fire Department Report

- The department met last week to review summer items. They are awaiting feedback from an external group regarding presented suggestions and opportunities.

Public Comment

- Ron and his daughter attended to observe local government operations. Ron requested that meeting minutes be updated online promptly.
- Sarah raised questions regarding medical center playground boundaries and general municipal ordinance enforcement.

Old Business

Tucker Lalli – Eagle Scout Project

- **Project Details:** Tucker presented the final specifications for a replica log for Hartslog Day (9 feet by 2.5 feet wide) housed under an 11-foot by 4-foot timber roof structure with a stone base, led by Jason Showalter. Total estimated cost is $4,300 (including pillars for vehicle protection).
- **Funding:** Historical Society previously expressed willingness to contribute $1,000; Tucker is pursuing additional fundraising and requested borough funding assistance.
- **Next Steps:** Council will review the request; funding and placement will be finalized before Hartslog Day.

Insurance Renewal (Brown & Walters Insurance Agency)

- Clay Aiken presented declaration pages and coverage updates. Adjustments include moving $4,200 of coverage from sheds to park equipment, removing building location 2, and covering playground equipment.
- The borough received a state program dividend check of $404, which offsets a minor 4% increase in air and emissions coverage.
- **Motion:** To retain and renew Brown & Walters Insurance Agency for the borough insurance needs for the policy term of September 1, 2026 – September 1, 2027, paying annually.
    - *Moved by:* VP Peters | *Seconded by:* President Scott | *Status:* All in favor, motion carries.

Melvin Lane & Tree Maintenance

- **Groundbreaking/Cleanup:** Scheduled for September 20, 2026. A community workday is proposed for September 12–13 for cleanup, mulching, weeding, and tree-tub maintenance.
- **Tree Trimming vs. Removal:** Council reviewed tree estimates.
- **Motion:** To approve estimate #1 for tree trimming and canopy reduction (specifically addressing the oak in front of Ron's property and Phillips) rather than complete removal.
    - *Status:* Approved, all in favor, motion carries.

- Additional tree follow-ups (including the Dolores Gahagan tree) remain pending with the contractor.

Buddy Claar Swimming Pool Permit

- Buddy Claar attended regarding a stop-work order placed on an above-ground swimming pool due to a permit misunderstanding.
- Lucas Parkes signed the Bureau Veritas North America Stop Work Order Notice of Violation and issued Borough Permit #6 so installation can proceed.

Curbside Cleanup Day

- Scheduled for Saturday, September 26, 2026. Items may be placed curbside up to two days prior.

Dayze Gone By Carriage Rides

- **Motion:** To sponsor the Dayze Gone By Carriage Rides for the borough on December 23, 2026, for $600.
    - *Moved by:* VP Peters | *Seconded by:* President Scott | *Status:* All in favor, motion carries.

Melvin Lane Kiosk & DCNR Funding

- **Motion:** To purchase the kiosk kit recommended by Dain Davis for $9,150.
    - *Moved by:* VP Peters | *Seconded by:* President Scott | *Status:* All in favor, motion carries.
- Discussion held regarding DCNR grant compliance, 50% fund reimbursement checklists, and gathering arborist documentation (Sam) to match wetland/tree credits.

Stormwater Contract & Infrastructure

- Paperwork is fully signed; the contractor will begin work the week after Hartslog Day. Paving is scheduled for spring.
- Discussion held regarding additional drainage projects on Bridge Street, Shelton, and the fire department area.

Fee Schedule & Ordinances

- Council discussed adopting a comprehensive fee schedule by resolution to cover engineering and administrative costs for code enforcement and permits.
- Yard sale permit limits and minor roof replacement exemptions were discussed for future refinement before formal advertisement.

Grants & Future Planning

- Council reviewed potential grants, noting that the *Main Street Matters* grant requires a 50% match for infrastructure/stormwater projects and will be kept under consideration.
- President Scott reminded the council that all five borough council positions are open for election next year, emphasizing the importance of community participation.

Hartslog Day Street Closure

- **Motion:** To close Main Street at the west end of the borough for the Hartslog Day Festival on October 10, 2026.
    - *Moved by:* VP Peters | *Seconded by:* President Scott | *Status:* All in favor, motion carries.
- President Scott delivered the formal approval letter to Leighton Kyle for PennDOT notification.

Executive Session

- **Entered:** 9:17 PM | **Exited:** 9:46 PM
- **Purpose:** Personnel matters. No formal actions were taken immediately following the session.

Adjournment

- **Time:** 9:47 PM

Summary of Motions and Action Items

Summary of Motions Carried

1. **Accept Previous Minutes:** Moved by VP Peters, seconded by Scott. (All in favor)
2. **Accept Financial Report & Pay Bills:** Moved by VP Peters, seconded by Scott. (All in favor)
3. **Insurance Renewal:** To renew Brown & Walters Insurance for Sept 1, 2026 – Sept 1, 2027. Moved by VP Peters, seconded by Scott. (All in favor)
4. **Tree Maintenance Trimming:** Approved estimate #1 for canopy reduction/trimming rather than removal. (All in favor)
5. **Dayze Gone By Sponsorship:** To sponsor carriage rides on Dec 23, 2026, for $600. Moved by VP Peters, seconded by Scott. (All in favor)
6. **Melvin Lane Kiosk Purchase:** To purchase the recommended kiosk kit for $9,150. Moved by VP Peters, seconded by Scott. (All in favor)
7. **Hartslog Day Street Closure:** To close Main Street at the west end for Hartslog Day on Oct 10, 2026. Moved by VP Peters, seconded by Scott. (All in favor)

Action Items & Follow-Ups

- **Lucas Parkes:** Verify bank account numbers with borough treasurer Leslie; ensure proper paperwork and DCNR compliance documentation are in place.
- **President Scott / Kelly Mohnkern:** Coordinate with arborist Sam and Stephanie regarding tree evaluations, credit documentation, and final clean-up follow-ups (including the Dolores Gahagan tree).
- **President Scott:** Send the fee schedule to Jeff and prepare it for formal advertisement.
- **Tucker Lalli:** Finalize construction specifics with Jason Showalter and pursue remaining funding/fundraising for the Eagle Scout project.