

**February 13, 2023**

The Alexandria Borough Council met at the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Hall at Alexandria, PA 16611. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Judy Scott. President Scott led council in the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Council members present were President Judy Scott, Mike Peters, Jane Pilch, and Vice President Joel Pheasant. Treasurer Leslie Jackson. Also present: Ken Patterson, Brandon Foster, Craig & Jason from Army Corps of Engineers, Tom Weyer (arrived later), Girl Scouts and moms – Sierra Franks, Ashley Scott, and another (name?)

- Motion to approve minutes from January 9<sup>th</sup> Mike Peters. Seconded by Joel Pheasant. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUTHORIZATION OF BILLS**

President Scott asked if council would approve training for code enforcement for Brandon Foster and President Scott on March 1<sup>st</sup> ? It's a webinar.

**Jane Pilch made a motion to approve the financial report and authorization of bills. Mike Peters seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Joel Pheasant made motion to approve funding for the Code Enforcement training. Jane Pilch seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Leslie wrote check for a total of \$90.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Gentleman (name??) was here to ask about his fence, he really would like to know. President Scott said she appreciates his diligence. Vice President Pheasant said that we are very close.
- Brandon Foster was in Porter Twp and there were heathen kids running around throwing swings in the air and damaging the picnic tables. They are running all over the place, hanging off the railing of the bridge.
- President Scott asked about the security cameras going up at the parks, Mike Peters said that he ended up not putting them up because he didn't feel they were adequate. Mike Peters said after he got them a played around with them there would be no camouflage at all... President Scott said she will also do some camera research.
- Vice President Pheasant said do we feel like putting up signs and whatever cameras we have may help? President Scott said she doesn't feel signs will help because people are unfortunately destroying property so they'd likely draw vulgarities on them.
- Ken Patterson mentioned putting poles in to make them high enough so folks can't get to them.
- Brandon Foster said some kid took the log and set it right behind someone's tire, dangerous
- President Scott said she needs to give Brandon Randy Rennells number for a permit for their addition? She asked council if we can give the library waivers so they don't incur

additional cost? Vice President Pheasant said, I think they are a non-profit, Mike Peters and VP Pheasant said they don't see a problem with it.

## SOLICITOR REPORT

### REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- **Representatives from Ken Patterson**
  - Doing some snow work
  - Almost have all the speed limit signs changed
  - The garbage man got back to Ken and his driver doesn't want to go out the alley anymore. The homeowner moved the trees so it was easier for the truck, now they prefer the homeowner takes the garbage can down the alley.
- **Code Enforcement Officer and Permit Officer – in public comment**
- **Water Authority**
  - \*
- **Sewer Authority**
  - \*
- **Alexandria Volunteer Fire Company**
  - Tom Weyer gave the reports for the calls they ran in Alexandria Boro last year
  - The QRS report
  - The center is making updates down there and they are asking we update our box alarm updated, he's required to get 3 signatures for this box update –
  - **Brian Hetrick wanted everyone to know their banquet is on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm – please let them know if you all would like to attend. All of council is invited.**
  - President Scott did let Tom know that there's more information to come regarding traffic calming, he also shared he doesn't have all the details yet regarding the accident on Main Street this past week

### NEW BUSINESS

- **USACE Flood Proofing Plan Kick-off**
  - Jason Schtick, Craig Thomas
  - Kicking off a flood proofing plan study following up what Craig did a year ago.
  - Option 2 was looking at individual structures and how we plan accordingly.
  - Jason walked council through the Plan of Study. (File into documents) This is 100% federally funded.
  - They'll ask the town to choose 15 – 20 different buildings (residential, industrial, historical or non – they can be any mix of buildings) they will help shift the direction that's taken
  - We could do a meeting with community members when they come out and/or this appearance can count as that meeting. President Scott and Vice President Pheasant said that they liked the format they did last March with the public attending and the Army Corps agreed.

- President Scott asked about a letter format that will help council reach out to members of the community. Craig and Jason said that they will look and give council that language.
- Vice President Pheasant asked if they have buildings in mind or do you have recommendations on what we could choose? President Scott mentioned historical buildings, homes prone to flooding, homes that won't give much resistance. Craig said if you can only get 10 buildings, they could do 10 also, but 15-20 is also good. President Scott thanked them for their time and funding and know these improvements will help.
- Mike Peters asked about a time to get them the homes list – Jason said sooner than later
- Jane Pilch asked what comes into play if a home was in such a bad place, they want to tear down a house? Craig said there's no regulatory authority with the Army Corps of Engineers – it'd be strictly up to the home owners.
- Mike Peters asked if we should have a meeting to identify the houses? President Scott said she thinks that council may be able to come to a consensus.
- Jane Pilch asked if we'd well to choose the worst type of flooding houses. Jason said you'll want a good mix, historic buildings are important. Craig said if you have two buildings right next to each other similar in structure – we'd only need one.
- Jason said some suggestions vary based on the homes in the registry so that's important to consider. Craig said if you go 30 buildings we could do that too.
- **Girl Scout Color Run**
  - Ashley Scott spoke and shared that Porter Twp. approved their plans for the Color Run/Walk event
  - April 29<sup>th</sup> from approximately 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
  - They've submitted everything to PennDOT and are waiting to hear back
  - They got State Police Approval, Alexandria Fire Company
  - They are wondering what's next as far approval or what council may need from you. The routes they found are neither a full 5k, but around 2 miles. They wouldn't be on Main Street at all.
  - President Scott said that it's your run, have fun with it! Sounds like you're getting all of the necessary approvals. President Scott and Vice President Pheasant concur they are on board with their plan. Vice President Pheasant said about giving our approval pending PennDot
  - Pending the approval from PennDOT the council gives their approval for the Color Run. Jane Pilch seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
  - They cannot promote the event until after cookie season ends. Council will wait for the confirmation email and then will help in whatever way possible to promote.
  - Jane Pilch shared something from Sam Monkern about Tree Planting. He said that he would like to chat about tree selection for the trees the girls are planting. He would like to arrange a discussion with them about the planting and locations. Jane mentioned putting Sam in contact with Huntingdon Conservation.

We will eventually be working at the town square area and would be welcoming help with that.

- **Spring Clean Up**

- Vice President Pheasant asked if we were doing any leaf pick up type of thing this spring? Not a dumpster or anything yet, but some trash.
- Mike Peters felt good about that and President Scott did as well
- Vice President Pheasant said that if we do any removal of cinder and things like that, Ken is welcome to dump it in the back of Joel's property especially as he's filling. He doesn't want anything taken away if it's being reused, but he just wanted to offer it up.
- Council discussed the possibility of dates...

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Tree Report**

- President Scott said that she is very comfortable with the knowledge Sam holds with trees and Jane holds with trees that they make the proper selections. She asked please due to protocols and procedurally also come to council before final approval. When it comes to grant opportunities can we give them leeway now to apply for grants? Vice President Pheasant said yes.

- **Traffic Calming**

- **Meeting Follow-Up**

- The February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting was very productive and she's feeling very hopeful
- The President of the District 9 office was there and very positive, Senator Judy Ward's Office, Rep Rich Irvin – they are all on board with helping us find solutions and get us situated for progress. We were able to share studies and things we've done in being proactive to get things done for our community. They are also helping with reaching out to ACCO to get them redirected so they don't come through town, but enter through the other end of town. President Scott shared about a rig that accelerated coming into town, it was Metzler Brothers, milk truck – the driver admitted yes he did accelerate from 35 mph to 45 mph.

- **Petition and Resolution**

- President Scott said that she would have proceeded further with the petition, but she wanted to make sure council was okay with the verbiage before she goes and gathers more signatures.
- At the meeting folks asked where signatures of support are and President Scott said they are working on it.
- Solicitor Jackson will be the one to write the resolution

- President Scott also said we have monies unused that was art (?) covid relief money and we can use the money as seed money for some of these projects. Vice President Pheasant said that traffic calming has been a concern of our residents for a long time now and if we can use monies for this priority of traffic

calming that'd be a great use of it. Jane Pilch feels it seems odd that you would use "Covid" relief monies for traffic calming.

- Jane Pilch asked what are we hoping to do to enforce and calm traffic. President Scott shared that they are researching many methods – speed bumps, speed limit signs, etc. Jane Pilch said that this means we would be doing any means to calm traffic. Mike Peters said yes, we want to take measures to traffic calm, we want to get what we can get to help. She wants to make sure people are signing what they really want.
- Vice President Pheasant also clarified that the petition is from the community. Would it be worthwhile having someone like Ron help gather signatures for this? He's been in a lot of meetings on this and voiced concerns; it may be worth seeing if he'd like to help with this. President Scott said yes.
- President Scott said that we are in compliance with speed limit signs. She put red stripes on the speed limit signs and they said they'd prefer white stripes because red signifies speeding and President Scott said yes, council want folks to stop speeding in town. However, they changed the strips from red to white and Ken has been working on that. The stop signs will get red and Ken is doing that, but the speed limit signs will get white.
- **Property Maintenance Ordinance**
  - Tabled
- **Alexandria Water Project Update**
  - GD&F Matt and they are making a change on the permit that they filed, they are changing the footage, with that they have to make residents aware. They sent a registered letter to council on the changes. There is also a questionnaire. If we're okay with it, fill it out and send it back. They have to move the line four feet. President Scott said that with our solicitor not being here tonight she had verbally responded that because the 30 days is prior to our March meeting she cannot fill out a form. The water project will not stop because of this, they'll still proceed.
  - Mike Peters agrees with her, it's fair to not fill out a form of that nature prior to advisement. President Scott shared the letter with council to review it.

Council entered executive session 8:23 pm

Executive Session

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:48 pm**

**Jane Pilch motioned to adjourn. Mike Peters seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**