

Alexandria City Council

Call to Order:

This meeting of the Alexandria City Council was called to order by Mayor Naselroad. Council Members - Roger Cuneo, present; John Burdsall, present; Wendi Goens, present; Amy McCurry, present; Dave Luck, present; Donna Key-Kerr, present; and Jeremy VanErman, absent. Also, in attendance were City Attorney, Chou-il Lee and Clerk-Treasurer Darcy VanErman.

Public Comment:

Lisa Summers, 114 S. Black St., voiced her questions to how the city can consider hiring new employees with the bills not paid as well as the on going issues with the Washington Street project.

Approval of Minutes/Claims/Payroll:

Amy McCurry motioned for an amendment to be added to the Minutes before approval to recite how there were discussions for Special Meetings to be held to continue to work on resolving the on going questions around bill paying. Donna Key Kerr second the motion. Wendi Goens motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes based on the amendment suggestions of Amy McCurry from March 16, 2026. Amy McCurry second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

After more discussion on how to proceed forward with paying for the bills being incurred by the Water and Waste Water Departments brought before Council for consideration, Donna Key Kerr motioned to only approve Claims from Funds with Positive balances and table the rest. Amy McCurry second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

Wendi Goens motioned to only approve Claims from Funds with Positive balances and to table the rest from Warrant 20333 through 20428 in the amount of \$198,846.45.

John Burdsall motioned to approve the Payroll from March 20, 2026 in the amount of \$150,633.47. Donna Key Kerr second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

Wendi Goens motioned to approve the Payroll from April 3, 2026 in the amount of \$144,226.94. Dave Luck second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

Donna Key Kerr motioned to approve Pension for March in the amount of \$19,083.16. Wendi Goens second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

Communication:

Wendi Goens motioned to amend the order for presenters so that the utility team from Baker Tilly could present first. John Burdsall second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

Doug Baldessari and Jessica Lynch from the utility division of Baker Tilly spoke to the Council about all of the work that went into rate studies and the work they put into insuring they were as low an impact as possible due to the long term since rates last saw an increase in Alexandria.

Wendi Goens asked if the revised and phased in approach will speak to the fund deficits we are facing. Jessica Lynch advised they would.

Donna Key Kerr asked if the proposed amounts would allow us to perform the projects we need to. Doug Baldessari stated the importance of getting the increased rates in place so we could begin recovering the funds so we could then, project forward on timelines to accomplish the projects and advised how phase acceleration assists with these needs.

Amy McCurry asked Mayor Naselroad about how to best modify our approach to assessing ERU billing to help lessen the storm water charges for all. Mayor Naselroad advised he would look into what best applications are out there. Doug Baldessari advised that that could be visited and remedied best as a next step from this evening's considerations as Sewer and Storm Water have a combined approach.

Roger Cuneo asked what each of the percentage increases are for each of the proposed utility departments are. Jessica Lynch shared, though percentage numbers don't give a clear understanding, through the work of Council, Sewage will see a 39% increase first year and 3% each year after – which reduced from the original percentage 14%; Water stayed the same; Storm Water is 100% over 5 years being increased \$1 per year.

Donna Key Kerr asked for clarity to if our Ordinance with be billing for 3000 gallons per month of usage or 4000. Attorney Lee spoke to how the study works off of 4000 gallons yet our Ordinance recites 3000.

No further questions were had for the utility team from Baker Tilly by the Council.

Though the Insurance Committee was on the agenda to present an update and recommendations on proceeding forward with storm damage needs, the matter will be continued to a future meeting.

Sam Schrader from the Baker Tilly Redevelopment division presented the annual report to Council that advises them to the TIF reporting requirements to the state. No questions were had by the Council.

Ordinances/Resolutions:

** see below Old Business for the Ordinance actions of this meeting**

Old Business:

Regarding the second reading for Ordinance 2026-002-C to amend sewage works fees – John Burdsall motioned to approve the three phase approach to the Ordinance. Wendi Goens second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

Regarding the second reading for Ordinance 2026-003-C to amend storm water fees – Amy McCurry motioned to amend the phases from 5 years to 3 years. Donna Key Kerr second the motion. All in favor; motion carries. Donna Key Kerr motioned to approve the amended phase from 5 to 3 years Ordinance. Wendi Goens second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

Regarding the second reading for Ordinance 2026-004-C to amend water utility and hydrant fees – Wendi Goens motioned to approve the Ordinance. John Burdsall second the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

New Business:

Other Business:

John Burdsall apologized to everyone for the need to have the utility rates increased as were approved this evening.

Donna Key Kerr asked Mayor Naselroad to clarify how the spending freeze is working. He advised he only approves purchases that are necessary or contractual. Donna Key Kerr is asking him to be more firm.

Amy McCurry spoke to the reports they are receiving and how she feels they would be beneficial for the Department Heads to receive. Darcy VanErman advised that the Department Heads are receiving the same reports.

Wendi Goens advised the Council that Alexandria Care Day will be held on May 9th from 8:00 a.m. until noon. John Burdsall added asked for people to share where help may be needed as they are willing to expand their efforts to residents.

Adjournment:

Upon hearing nothing further, a motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Wendi Goens and second by Donna Key Kerr. All in favor; motion carries.

Todd Naselroad, Mayor

John Burdsall, Council President

Attest:

Darcy VanErman, Clerk Treasurer

***These Minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Alexandria Common Council Meeting. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at www.youtube.com/@CityofAlexandriaIndiana for as long as this media is supported.*