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**MARCH 10, 2010 – from ANNABELLE FISHER  
TO: MAYOR EUILLE & MEMBERS OF COUNCIL  
RE: BUDGET ITEMS RECOMMENDATIONS & SUGGESTIONS**

- 1. SENIOR SERVICES, DIVISION ON AGING & HUMAN SERVICES need more clarity AS THERE IS TOO MUCH DUPLICATION OF SERVICES. DEBRA COLLINS, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN SERVICES MUST PROVIDE GREATER OVER-SIGHT WITHIN HER AGENCY AND DEFINE WHAT DIVISION ON AGING PERSONNEL ARE DOING AND SHOULD BE DOING THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM SENIOR SERVICES.**
- 2. SENIOR TAXI- THIS PROGRAM MUST BECOME AN INDEPENDENT GROUP WHEREIN THERE IS MORE COMPETITION FOR TAXI SERVICES FOR SENIORS. FURTHER, WHATEVER TAXI SERVICE IS SELECTED, THEY NEED TO RUN THE SHOW AND NO LONGER USE SENIOR SERVICES AS THE FIRST POINT OF CONTACT. ELIMINATE THE “MIDDLE GUY”.**
- 3. OFFICE ON WOMEN- THIS OFFICE SHOULD BE ELIMINATED. THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER PROGRAM, WHICH IS THE ONLY PROGRAM DOING ANY WORK, SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO THE ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPT., COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY’S OFFICE OR HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE. TO DATE, OFFICE ON WOMEN DOES NOT SHOW OUTCOMES AND THERE CAN BE A SAVING OF OVER \$250,000+, AS DIRECTOR EARNS \$106,000 plus her staff. ALSO, THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS IN ALEXANDRIA PROVIDING THE SAME SERVICE AS OFFICE ON WOMEN – CARPENTER SHELTER AND GUEST HOUSE.**
- 4. CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL WHO CONTINUE TO WORK FOR THE CITY, BUT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THEIR RETIREMENT, SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THEIR RETIREMENT NOW. MANY OF THESE POSITIONS HAVE BEEN MOVED TO OTHER DEPTS. WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT, AT A LOWER SALARY, WHICH KEEPS THEM ON THE CITIES**

**PAYROLL. CITY MANAGER NEEDS TO EVALUATE THESE ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS.**

- 5. CONSULTANTS – WHY DO WE NEED SO MANY FOR VARIOUS DEPTS? DON'T WE ALREADY HAVE QUALIFIED STAFF? If current staff is not qualified, they should no longer work for city and city should contract out. Or, hire one to two experienced personnel in place of consultants, for those 2-3 departments (PLANNING/ZONING & TES) that continually hire consultants in order to eliminate the high costs of consultants. This is more cost effective and saves taxpayers money.**
- 6. ELIMINATE EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMISSION AS WELL AS THE COMMISSION ON WOMEN.**
- 7. SMALL BUSINESS GROUPS SHOULD NOW BE APPLYING FOR THE EXTRA MONIES PRESIDENT OBAMA HAS ADDED TO SBA RATHER THAN ALEXANDRIA TAXPAYERS PAYING FOR THEIR START UPS. THIS WOULD INCLUDE ACVA, AED, and other small business groups.**
- 8. There should be no salary/step increases this year. People are glad to be working and the economy does not warrant a raise next year. This includes all members of city mgr's office as well as dept. administrators. Lower level positions should not be eliminated because it looks good for budget.**
- 9. Alex. Taxpayers cannot continue to bailout non-profits and other charities. I will decide what non-profits/charities I want to give my money to and not local elective officials. It's a tax write off for you, but not me.**
- 10. Restructure Office on Housing and Citizens Assistance.**
- 11. Gang Prevention position – money for this position should come from the Northern Va. Gang Task Force grant and not City of Alexandria. In fact, there is no need for this position as it continues to be a duplication of services with other alex. Agencies, i.e. juvenile court, local mentoring groups and other soc. Service agencies. What are the outcomes from this position created several years ago that merit continuation for this position?**