

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Americans have always risen to the need to protect our freedom and security, as well as the freedom and security of nations around the world, when a clear danger is demonstrated; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council supports the men and women serving in the armed forces and honors their commitment to our nation's safety and security; and

WHEREAS, American veterans are deserving of honor and continued recognition; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for genuine multilateral action to eliminate weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and world wide; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council condemns all acts of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Saddam Hussein has demonstrated repressive treatment of his own citizens; and

WHEREAS, the international community supports United Nations weapons inspections to achieve disarmament in Iraq, and most governments around the world oppose U.S. military action without express consent of the United Nations Security Council; and

✓ **WHEREAS**, the imminent threat of Iraqi actions against its neighbors or the United States has not been demonstrated; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations inspectors have said they need more time to complete their work; and

WHEREAS, military action against Iraq would result in the significant loss of lives, both military and civilian; and

WHEREAS, a unilateral preemptive strike ^{MAY} risk international destabilization by encouraging other countries to engage in unilateral attacks; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. has not built an anti-Iraq coalition similar to that which underwrote the financial costs of the Gulf War; and

WHEREAS, most American cities and states are suffering fiscal crises that threaten funds for basic services and endanger programs that benefit working people and the poor; and

WHEREAS, military action against Iraq would cost billions of dollars at a time when the American economy is struggling and at a time when the federal government is operating with a deficit; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council urges the federal government to dramatically increase environmentally sound efforts to reduce dependence on foreign oil including higher fuel efficiency standards, tougher emissions standards for industry, and increased conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, former President and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Jimmy Carter has called on Iraq to disarm, but also warned: "We must remember that today there are at least eight nuclear powers on earth, and three of them are threatening to their neighbors in areas of great international tension. For powerful countries to adopt a principle of preventive war may well set an example that can have catastrophic consequences;" and

WHEREAS, former President Carter also said: "Great American power and responsibility are not unprecedented, and have been used with restraint and great benefit in the past. We have not assumed that super strength guarantees super wisdom, and we have consistently reached out to the international community to ensure that our own power and influence are tempered by the best common judgment;"

WHEREAS, Martin Luther King Jr. told us: "War anywhere intensifies the possibility of war everywhere. When major world powers flaunt the authority of the United Nations and embark on unilateral courses of action they open the door to similar action on the part of other nations in situations of conflict and tension;" and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alexandria City Council goes on record as opposing preemptive military action against Iraq without the consent of the United Nations Security Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alexandria City Council supports granting United Nations weapons inspectors in Iraq the time they seek to complete their work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alexandria City Council calls on the federal government to continue working through the United Nations Security Council towards a diplomatic resolution that brings disarmament in Iraq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States and to our Senatorial and Congressional delegation.

ADOPTED: _____

KERRY J. DONLEY

MAYOR

ATTEST:

BEVERLY I. JETT, CMC CITY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 2062

WHEREAS, Americans have always risen to the need to protect our freedom and security, as well as the freedom and security of nations around the world, when a clear danger is demonstrated; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council supports the men and women serving in the armed forces and honors their commitment to our nation's safety and security; and

WHEREAS, American veterans are deserving of honor and continued recognition; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for genuine multilateral action to eliminate weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council condemns all acts of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Saddam Hussein has demonstrated repressive treatment of his own citizens; and

WHEREAS, the international community supports United Nations weapons inspections to achieve disarmament in Iraq, and most governments around the world oppose U.S. military action without express consent of the United Nations Security Council; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations inspectors have said they need more time to complete their work; and

WHEREAS, military action against Iraq would result in the significant loss of lives, both military and civilian; and

WHEREAS, a unilateral preemptive strike may risk international destabilization by encouraging other countries to engage in unilateral attacks; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. has not built an anti-Iraq coalition similar to that which underwrote the financial costs of the Gulf War; and

WHEREAS, most American cities and states are suffering fiscal crises that threaten funds for basic services and endanger programs that benefit working people and the poor; and

WHEREAS, military action against Iraq would cost billions of dollars at a time when the American economy is struggling and at a time when the federal government is operating with a deficit; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council urges the federal government to dramatically increase environmentally sound efforts to reduce dependence on foreign oil including higher fuel efficiency standards, tougher emissions standards for industry, and increased conservation efforts;

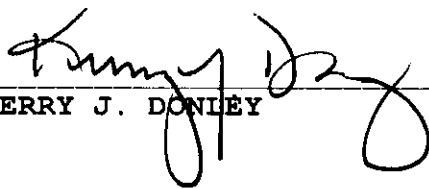
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alexandria City Council goes on record as supporting a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Middle East.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alexandria City Council supports granting United Nations weapons inspectors in Iraq the time they seek to complete their work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alexandria City Council calls on the federal government to continue working through the United Nations Security Council towards a diplomatic resolution that brings disarmament in Iraq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States and to our Senatorial and Congressional delegation.

ADOPTED: March 11, 2003


KERRY J. DONLEY MAYOR

ATTEST:


Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk



City of Alexandria, Virginia $\frac{19}{3-11-03}$
 301 King Street, Suite 2300
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314



Beverly I. Jett, CMC
 City Clerk and
 Clerk of Council
 beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us

Kerry J. Donley
 Mayor

William C. Cleveland
 Vice Mayor

Members of Council
 Claire M. Eberwein
 William D. Eulle
 Redella S. Pepper
 David G. Speck
 Joyce Woodson

March 13, 2003

(703) 838-4550
 Fax: (703) 838-6433

The Honorable James P. Moran, Jr.
 House of Representatives
 2239 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515-0001

Dear Congressman Moran: *Jem*

At the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, the Alexandria City Council adopted Resolution No. 2062 going on record as supporting a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Middle East.

City Council requested the City Clerk to forward a copy to you.

Sincerely,

Bew

Beverly I. Jett, CMC
 City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Enclosure

"Home Town of George Washington and Robert E. Lee"



City of Alexandria, Virginia
 301 King Street, Suite 2300
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314

19
 3-11-03



Kerry J. Donley
 Mayor

William C. Cleveland
 Vice Mayor

Beverly I. Jett, CMC
 City Clerk and
 Clerk of Council
 beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us

(703) 838-4550
 Fax: (703) 838-6433

Members of Council
 Claire M. Eberwein
 William D. Euille
 Redella S. Pepper
 David G. Speck
 Joyce Woodson

March 13, 2003

The Honorable John Warner
 United States Senator
 204 Russell Senate Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

At the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, the Alexandria City Council adopted Resolution No. 2062 going on record as supporting a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Middle East.

City Council requested the City Clerk to forward a copy to you.

Sincerely,

Beverly I. Jett, CMC
 City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Enclosure



City of Alexandria, Virginia
301 King Street, Suite 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

19
3-11-03



Kerry J. Donley
Mayor

William C. Cleveland
Vice Mayor

Members of Council
Claire M. Eberwein
William D. Euille
Redella S. Pepper
David G. Speck
Joyce Woodson

March 13, 2003

Beverly I. Jett, CMC
City Clerk and
Clerk of Council
beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us

(703) 838-4550
Fax: (703) 838-6433


The Honorable George F. Allen
United States Senator
204 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Allen:

At the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, the Alexandria City Council adopted Resolution No. 2062 going on record as supporting a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Middle East.

City Council requested the City Clerk to forward a copy to you.

Sincerely,


Beverly I. Jett, CMC
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Enclosure



Kerry J. Donley
Mayor

William C. Cleveland
Vice Mayor

Members of Council
Claire M. Eberwein
William D. Euille
Redella S. Pepper
David G. Speck
Joyce Woodson

City of Alexandria, Virginia
301 King Street, Suite 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

19
3-11-03



Beverly I. Jett, CMC
City Clerk and
Clerk of Council
beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us

(703) 838-4550
Fax: (703) 838-6433

March 13, 2003

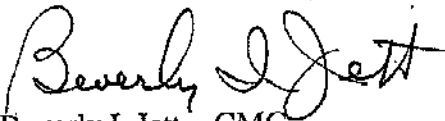
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

At the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, the Alexandria City Council adopted Resolution No. 2062 going on record as supporting a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Middle East.

City Council requested the City Clerk to forward a copy to you.

Sincerely,


Beverly I. Jett, CMC
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Enclosure

"Home Town of George Washington and Robert E. Lee"

EXHIBIT NO. 2

19
3-11-03



<VarmallCPA@aol.com

To: <beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us>

>

Subject: Fwd: Request for city council to vote for peace

03/07/03 10:54 PM

please forward to all city council members.

thanks much, Renata Varmall

Return-path: <VarmallCPA@aol.com>

From: VarmallCPA@aol.com

Full-name: VarmallCPA

Message-ID: <126.244fbeb1.2b9ac32a@aol.com>

Date: Fri, 7 Mar 2003 22:53:14 EST

Subject: Request for city council to vote for peace

To: beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us

MIME-Version: 1.0

X-Mailer: 7.0 for Windows sub 10638

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;

boundary="part2_1ca.4976734.2b9ac32a_boundary"

19. Consideration of Resolution Opposing United States Military Action
Against Iraq and Calling Upon the Federal Government to Continue Working
Through the United Nations Security Council Towards a Diplomatic Resolution
that Brings Disarmament in Iraq. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

19
3-11-03



"Wright, Elizabeth P"
<elizabeth.wright@bae
systems.com>

To: "Beverly Jett (E-mail)" <beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us>
Subject: Agenda Item #19, Peace Resolution

03/08/03 07:15 PM

Ms. Jett, please forward this email to all city councilors for the record.
Thank you.

Dear Honorable Mayor Donley and City Councilors,

On Tuesday night, you will discuss whether is it appropriate and/or right to
pass a peace resolution here in Alexandria. I request that your answer will
be yes for both questions.

I have concerns about going to war with Iraq, the highest being the
unilateral move and the lack of consensus with our allies. When the FBI
states they can find not a connection between Saddam Hussein and Al Queda, I
am at a loss to understand. The moving speech Senator Byrd gave on October
3, 2002 was eloquent.

The President is using the Oval Office as a bully pulpit to sound the call
to arms, but it is from Capitol Hill that such orders must flow. The people,
through their elected representatives, must make that decision. It is here
that debate must take place and where the full spectrum of the public's
desires, concerns, and misgivings must be heard. We should not allow
ourselves to be pushed into one course or another in the face of a full
court publicity press from the White House. We have, rather, a duty to the
nation and her sons and daughters to carefully examine all possible courses
of action and to consider the long term consequences of any decision to act.

To be sure, weapons of mass destruction are a 20th century horror that the
Framers of the Constitution had no way of foreseeing. But they did foresee
the frailty of human nature and the inherent danger of concentrating too
much power in one individual. That is why the Framers bestowed on Congress,
not the President, the power to declare war.

By passing a Peace Resolution, we are reminding the President that citizen's
voices do have a place and a right to speak out. We may not be listened to,
but if enough voices join the chorus, the Peace Initiative will be difficult
to discount. I was moved by the Kurdish Iraqi woman who spoke at
Congressman Moran's town hall meeting. She said her own family has been
gassed by Saddam Hussein, and she still was opposed to going to war at this
time. Innocent people do not have to die or suffer, people including our
own Armed Forces.

I am no Neville Chamberlain. On the issue of Iraq, I just do not connect
the dots. Please consider voting for a Peace Resolution, and place
Alexandria on the map of reason.

The following is from a White House press conference held on February 25,
2003. If this is the path that President Bush is taking to gain support for
his war initiative, then this is the wrong path.

Respectfully yours,

Elizabeth Wright

Toward the end of the press conference today, a reporter from South America raises the question of President Bush bribing foreign governments to side with the United States against the will of their own people on war with Iraq.

This is obviously happening, and has been reported just today by the Associated Press and USA Today, among others. The United States is sending billions of taxpayer dollars to countries like Spain and Turkey, where more than 90 percent of the people oppose the war. We bribe their governments to turn against the will of their own people.

And the President talks about exporting democracy?

Anyway, the South American journalist wanted to know whether the President was seeking to buy the vote of Mexico in the United Nation's Security Council's upcoming vote on war in Iraq by promising some "sort of immigration agreements like amnesty or [a] guest worker program."

"Think about the implications of what you're saying," Fleischer responds. "You're saying that the leaders of other nations are buyable."

19
3-11-03



<paulfiscella@netscape.net>

03/09/03 10:28 PM

To: <mayoralx@aol.com>, <billclev@comcast.net>, <wmeuille@wdeuille.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>, <dspeck@aol.com>, <eberweincouncil@comcast.net>

Subject:

Dear Members of City Council:

I am writing to register my strong support for the efforts by Councilwoman Joyce Woodson to pass a Peace Resolution. This is a local issue as it directly affects each of us in our homes and jobs. Certainly, the war on Iraq and its aftermath will have devastating effects on both our federal budget and on our local economy and should be a matter of great concern to all local officials. More importantly, this war raises serious issues of morality and I urge you to send a clear message that Alexandrians support peace.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Fiscella

The NEW Netscape 7.0 browser is now available. Upgrade now!
<http://channels.netscape.com/ns/browsers/download.jsp>

Get your own FREE, personal Netscape Mail account today at
<http://webmail.netscape.com/>

19
3-11-03



Derek and Ellen van
Bever
<vanbever@comcast.net>

03/09/03 11:01 PM

To: <MayorALX@aol.com>, <jw@joycewoodson.net>,
<BILLCLEV@comcast.net>, <wmeuille@wdeuille.com>,
<delpepper@aol.com>, <DSpeck@aol.com>,
<eberweincouncil@comcast.net>,
<beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us>
Subject: Support for a Peace Resolution in Alexandria City Council

Dear Members of Council,

As citizens of Alexandria, we call upon our elected officials in Council to promulgate a resolution in support of peace, and in support of an immediate pause in the build-up toward war with Iraq. We believe that it is entirely appropriate for local governments to declare their position on this most pressing of issues on the national agenda, and that it is in the proud tradition of Alexandria to weigh in on the most momentous issues facing the country.

We would ask that Council publish the view that we cannot support the war in Iraq unless and until the following conditions are met:

- 1) The war will be waged only as a last resort, with all nonviolent options exhausted;
- 2) The weapons we employ in the war will discriminate between combatants and noncombatants;
- 3) The war's violence will only be proportional to the injury we ourselves have suffered;
- 4) We will ensure that we have legitimate authority sanctioned by the society whose interests we profess to represent; and
- 5) Our vision for the peace of the region will be a clear, workable improvement over what exists.

These five principles above are commonly regarded as the requirements of "a just war," and we urge Alexandria City Council to hold our national leaders to this eminently reasonable standard.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Derek and Ellen van Bever

320 South Fairfax Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
703-684-8085

19
3-11-03



"Alexandra van Bever"
<avanbever@holton-ar
ms.edu>

03/10/03 10:30 AM

To: <delper@comcast.net>, <dspeck@aol.com>,
<mayoralx@aol.com>, <beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us>,
<billclev@comcast.net>, <eberweincouncil@comcast.net>,
<jw@joycewoodson.net>, <wmeuille@wdeuille.com>

Subject: Peace Resolution

My first letter should only focus on thanking you for the work you do for a city I love. I wish that letter were already on file.

I write with another particular focus. I am deeply disturbed that we are on the brink of invasion into Iraq. I know it is not Alexandria's mission and I have written letters directly to decision makers but I write to you as well because our city needs to be a safe place for all citizens. We must not support an action that puts our sons and daughters at risk, leaves our long standing allies bewildered and sets in motion a horror that will only spread.

To not support the war is clearly NOT unAmerican. I quote a man devoted to this country and to peace: Former president Jimmy Carter, a frequent Bush administration critic, described it as "increasingly unilateral and domineering" in yesterday's New York Times. Bush's foreign policy, he wrote, had "brought international trust in our country to its lowest level in memory. American stature will surely decline further if we launch a war in clear defiance of the United Nations."

I ask that Alexandria resolves to support in peace.

Alexandra van Bever
3500 Russell Road
Alexandria, VA 22305

19
3-11-03



"paul vogel"
<pvogel@hotmail.com
>

To: <beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us>
Subject: peace resolution

03/07/03 09:53 PM

send to all councellars.

I believe that we should go to war!
15 out of 19 hijackers from 9-11 were Saudis citizen.
This is WW3 we are in. 18 months after pearl harbor everybody in the USA
was instep with the war. Now we are 18 months past 9-11 and its time we
started kicking some butt. I do not want to see a "peace resolution" Lets
remember 9-11 instead.

Hi there its a nice day
Paul Vogel

MSN 8 helps eliminate e-mail viruses. Get 2 months FREE*.
<http://join.msn.com/?page=features/virus>



Steve Abrahamson
<s.abrahamson@comcast.net>

03/10/03 12:24 PM

To: mayoralx@aol.com, BILLCLEV@comcast.net,
wmeuille@wdeuille.com, delpepper@aol.com, dspeck@aol.com,
eberweincouncil@comcast.net, council@joycewoodson.net
Subject: Support for Peace Resolution

19
3-11-03

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to support a peace resolution. Support for this action is broad and Alexandria can join the growing list of cities expressing the concerns of their citizens.

On January 18th, to honor the memory of Martin Luther King, Jr., my wife and I boarded the Metro train at Braddock Road station along with hundreds of fellow residents of Alexandria to travel into the District to raise our voices for peace. On the train were hundreds more from Alexandria and throughout the region. We were young and old, black and white, families and singles coming together to make our voices heard. Throughout the country 133 cities have already passed resolutions including Washington DC, Baltimore, and Charlottesville locally and Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, Syracuse and New Haven nationally. Our Representative in the House, Jim Moran, clearly states his position opposing the administration's rush to a preemptive war and calling for a continuation of diplomacy to achieve our ends.

Won't you join your fellow citizens throughout the region and the country in calling for peace not war.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Abrahamson
112 East Alexandria Ave
Alexandria, VA 22301
ph and fax: 703 535 6810
sra20@columbia.edu

PF

19
3-11-03



<Elran36@aol.com>
03/11/03 08:03 AM

To: <MayorALX@aol.com>, <billclev@comcast.net>, <wmeuille@wdeuille.com>, <DELPepper@aol.com>, <DSpeck@aol.com>, <eberweincouncil@comcast.net>, <beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us>
Subject: The Proposed Peace Resolution

I am deeply appalled at our nation's unwillingness to exhaust all avenues at demonstrating the need to preserve the gift of human life. As we review the history of the wars and conflicts in which we have been engaged, we are truly a blessed people to have been spared the ravages of what war does to the psyche of a nation. Wars have been known to reorder life in an adverse manner and rob nations of their resolve to exist as free human beings. The pending war with Iraq should be every American's concern, because it will deminish humankind on one side or the other or both. I am also appalled to learn that some of our local legislators are of the impression that the war question is not a "local" issue which persuades them to not support the proposed Peace Resolution. That is a sad commentary.

The people of Alexandria need brave voices, among our legislators, to rise to the occasion of testifying to what is RIGHT, regardless of political parties, individual insensitivities, or the choice of President. THE WAR IS WRONG! America is gifted with the intellegence, and persuaveness to exhaust all the means to a peaceful solution to the problem before us. Will North Korea suffer the same treatment as Iraq, or will China or other countries who have arsenals of destruction? I am not a supporter of Saddam Hussein nor do I subscribe to his hateful ideology but they are persons who are citizens of Iraq who desire the same gifts of life as you and I do.

I implore you, as peace loving members of the Alexandria City Council, to rethink your position on the proposed Peace Resolution and become a part those who have strong convictions about things that matter to must of us which is human life. As the late Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King so eloquently raised the questions when making a difficult decision:

"Cowardice asks the question, is it safe?
Vanity asks the question, is it popular?
Expedience asks the question, is it politic? But
Conscience asks the question, is it right?"

One must make the decision not because it is safe, or popular, or politic, but because conscience dictates that it is RIGHT! I compell you to do the right thing.

Elbert Ransom, Jr.

19
3-11-03

PHONE-O-GRAM[®] for: CC

From Ann Donofria - Benson Company _____
City _____ Area Code _____ Phone _____
 Telephoned Please return the call Returned your call Will call again Came in See me
Message She is in favor of the peace resolution.

Date 3/11 Time 9:40 Taken by Ky
Action Wanted _____
Action Taken _____



"Kevin D. Dohmen"
<kevin.dohmen@verizon.net>

03/10/03 09:42 PM

To: <mayoralx@aol.com>, <billclev@comcast.net>, <wmeuille@wdeuille.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>, <dspeck@aol.com>, <eberweincouncil@comcast.net>, <jw@joycewoodson.net>

Subject: Peace Resolution

19
3-11-03

Dear Mayor Donley, Vice Mayor Cleveland, and City Councilmembers Eberwein, Euille, Pepper, Speck, and Woodson:

It has come to my attention that it has been proposed that a peace resolution be drafted by the Alexandria City Government. I also understand that there has been some hesitancy among you, our city's elected officials, to draft such a resolution. I further understand that at least two Councilmembers oppose a peace resolution because it is not a "local" issue. As a tax-paying citizen of the City of Alexandria for more than 20 years, here's what I have to say on this issue:

1. Whenever we as a nation are contemplating sending our sons and daughters off to risk their very lives to fight a war, it is ALWAYS a local issue, and we as Americans are duty-bound to participate in the dialog.
2. No one in the entire world, as far as I know, supports Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. No one.
3. The issue is one of how we Americans will decide how to behave on the world stage. We say that America stands for democracy, but President Bush has baldly stated that we will attack Iraq without the support of ANY OTHER NATION. Mr. Bush has also stated that if the United Nations will not pass a resolution promoting war against Iraq right now and on America's terms, then the UN cannot be looked to for political and moral guidance in the world. Is this how a democratic republic behaves? Is the Bush administration's rhetoric the language of moral guidance?
4. Has the Bush administration pursued alternatives to war? Has there been any serious public consideration as to why we should make war against Iraq at this moment? I cannot imagine that we would consider war against Iraq if there were no oil under it. In the first Gulf War, our stated intent was to liberate Kuwait. What was actually done was to liberate American energy interests in the Middle East. The Kuwaitis have never been free by any American definition of freedom: the country is ruled by a hereditary monarchy. Why did we not intervene in the Rwandan war, in which many, many more people were killed and maimed? Because there were not enough American big-business interests there. The proposed war against Iraq is about American big-business interests using the political machinery of the United States and the US armed forces, comprised of our sons and daughters, to do their dirty work.
5. Who will suffer most in a war against Iraq? Everyday Iraqis, who like you and me are working to make ends meet, to feed, clothe, and shelter their children. Millions of them. We would without a doubt win a war against Iraq and maybe even kill or imprison Saddam and those loyal to him, but some of our sons and daughters would not come home alive.

How many American deaths would be acceptable? I would not want my son or daughter — or yours, or any American's — to be one of those to die.

6. America should not be bullying the world into war for the benefit of selfish big-business interests. If the world agrees that Saddam Hussein must go, and that force is the only way, then I will support American participation to oust him by force. Until then, we should, as Dr. Martin Luther King said decades ago, see to "putting our own house in order," to making our economy less dependent upon Middle East oil, to working to achieve consensus about what is to be done about the Saddam Husseins of the world. Waiting to be sure that America's actions in the world are of the people, by the people, and for the people of the world is worth the risk.

7.

We Americans should not just celebrate our right to free speech — we should use to support what is right. And if we believe in democracy, then we should not act like tyrants.

I wholeheartedly support a peace resolution from the democratically elected government of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

Sincerely,
Kevin D. Dohmen
21 West Caton Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22301-1519
kevin.dohmen@verizon.net

(home) 703.683.9619
(office) 703.683.9617
(fax) 703.684.9241
(mobile) 703.623.9617

❖In the days ahead we must not consider it unpatriotic to raise certain basic questions about our national character. We must begin to ask, 'Why are there forty million poor people in a nation overflowing with such unbelievable affluence? Why has our nation placed itself in the position of being God's military agent on earth...? Why have we substituted the arrogant undertaking of policing the whole world for the high task of putting our own house in order?'❖

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

City Council of Alexandria, Virginia
Tuesday, March 11, 2003 -- 7:30 p.m.
Verbatim Transcript of Docket
Item No. 19

* * * * *

19. Consideration of Resolution Opposing United States Military Action Against Iraq and Calling Upon the Federal Government to Continue Working Through the United Nations Security Council Towards a Diplomatic Resolution that Brings Disarmament in Iraq. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

Mayor: Ms. Woodson.

Woodson: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I brought this to Council I guess it was a couple of weeks ago for lots of reasons, but certainly, it's no great surprise to anyone certainly in this town or really anywhere in the country that the growing sentiment is that peace makes a lot more sense than war. And, it seemed to me that it was appropriate given the magnitude of the proposition of war that we at least go on record as supporting peace. And so to that end, I did some research as I mentioned in my discussion on that Council meeting., went to the web, pulled out some data and have gone back and revisited it, and found that of the cities that I brought to the Council's attention, I think there were fewer than 110 just in a short couple of weeks has now risen to 136 cities that have passed a resolution and the numbers are growing. The numbers who are working on it has grown quite a bit. When I came to the City the first time, we had Charolettville as the only city in Virginia. Today, campaigns are underway in Williamsburg, Staunton, Roanoke, Falls Church, Fairfax County, Blacksburg, Arlington, and obviously, in Alexandria. So, we're not alone. I know there has always been that thought of never being, you know, the lead and never being the laggard, but we're clearly are not in this proposal. What I'd like to do having reviewed staff's resolution which was simply a sample resolution that came from Austin, Texas, which had passed a resolution, with a couple of changes that I'd like to read to the Council, I'd like to move this resolution. I have several items that I certainly could use to share some of my conviction, and I'd certainly be

glad to do that as we go through the discussion. But, let me share with you what I think might make some reasonable to the resolution as we currently have it. If you will turn to the second page of your document, I propose that we strike, because it's really verbose and isn't necessary for our resolution, the quotes. So, that's the first three paragraphs.

Mayor: So, essentially, Whereas clause number 16, 17, and 18.

Woodson: Um hum. Well, I don't have them numbered, but if that's the number, I trust they are the first three paragraphs on page 2 of that document.

Mayor: Okay.

Woodson: And, I also suggest that we change the first Resolve clause, so that it would read: NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alexandria City Council goes on record as supporting a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Middle East. And, those are the changes that I would like move in this resolution.

Mayor: We have a motion by Ms. Woodson with some slight modifications to the resolution deleting the 16th, 17th and 18th Whereas clauses, and making a change to the first Resolve clause to read: NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLED that the Alexandria City Council goes on record as supporting a peaceful resolution to the disputes in the Middle East, or something along those lines. Do we have a second to that motion?

Euille: Second.

Mayor: Second by Mr. Euille. Is there any discussion?

Cleveland: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor: Mr. Cleveland.

Cleveland: Mr. Mayor, being, I think, the only person on the Alexandria City Council to fight in war, the war in Viet Nam, and I know that people back home did a lot anti-war or peace resolutions, anti-war demonstrations, and they really supported the troops. I have to say to Veterans that I know that served in Viet Nam,

Welcome Home. You see while everyone was out doing anti-war demonstrations and other things like this and other men were over there fighting, losing their lives and coming back home, no one really got a welcome home. I support the troops, and as in this resolution it says they support the troops. I'm pretty sure people way back then supported the troops. They say they supported the troops, but I'm thinking about the morale of the men that are over there. We have 265,000 troops overseas. They're going to receive my full support all the way, all the way. We talk about peace. I know a young man that wanted peace during the war that was overseas, a young pilot here from the City of Alexandria that was flying over and got shot down. He was on the ground for about a week. He wanted peace. This is a small world. The world is getting smaller. A gentleman that I know that was the first president of the Carlyle-Eisenhower Civic Association, his name is Kurt Nepole, he was the Commander of the Cole, all he wanted was peace. 250,000, 265,000 troops, the City Manager just said tonight, we have some City personnel that are there. I also said there are 23 Capitol Police Officers. These young people all they want is peace, and you know they had to give up a good salary to go over and serve. I'm going to support them all the way. I don't think this resolution takes care of that. How soon we forget 9-11, 3,000 people died, how soon we forget. How soon we forget Code Orange. Listen, I'm going to tell you something. We want peace, yes. I want peace, but we may not see peace if don't support our troops. This resolution does not do anything about that. How soon we forget plastic and duct tape. How soon we forget. And, I'll tell you I cannot support this resolution because I going to support the troops all the way with my prayers, but not doing this. This does not help the troops one iota. I will not vote for this resolution. I was going to duck this, but I can't because I am a veteran and I must speak up for them. Thank you.

Donley: Well, I just want to make a couple of brief comments. This resolution actually, I think, does support the troops.

Euille: It does.

Woodson: Right. The third Whereas.

Donley: It supports them not because questioning the mission. It supports them not because we are questioning their abilities. We do support the military, and I'm sure that if they are engaged that we will continue to support them. What I think it does do, it does call upon the patience and the diplomacy of the federal government and international leaders so hopefully, hopefully, those troops will not be called to fight. So, you know, we have a mechanism right now through the United Nations that would permit more weapons inspections. The teams are over there. And, quite frankly, at least it's my opinion, and again, it's just my opinion, that they haven't found the evidence necessarily to call out the troops. We certainly, I think, have lost, at least again in my opinion, some of the, uh, some of the support that we enjoy throughout the international community, you know who questioned the United States' rush to commit military might. This resolution, again, asks that we employ diplomatic means. It asks that we grant sufficient time for weapons inspectors to continue their search, and hopefully, they find no weapons of mass destruction. And, more importantly, it indicates that we would prefer, prefer a peaceful resolution to the conflict rather than war.

Cleveland: Mr. Mayor.

Woodson: Let me just read what it says to the audience that doesn't have a copy of it. In fact, the second Whereas reads: Whereas, the Alexandria City Council supports the men and women serving in the Armed Forces and honors their commitment to our nation's safety and security; and Whereas, American Veterans are deserving of honor and continued recognition and it goes on....the very first one acknowledges that America has always risen to the need to protect freedom. This is not a resolution that says, we don't support our troops. We don't support our country. This is not an America love it or leave it resolution. This is not the sixties, and it's not an anti-government resolution. It's a pro-peace resolution. And further, it's a resolution that calls into focus how at a time when we have great financial problems, not only at the City level which we just heard, but at the state level and at the federal level that we're looking at committing, 40, 50, 100, name a number, billion dollars to go to a war and then ultimately reconstruct another country. So. I think what we're looking at here is a

statement that's one, pro-America, two, pro our troops, and three pro-peace, because I think it really does require some diplomacy in order to achieve it. It requires some resolve in order to achieve it. And, it requires some courage in order to achieve it. And, that's what I'm asking the Council to give us tonight.

Cleveland: Uh, Councilwoman Woodson.

Mayor: Mr. Cleveland to respond.

Cleveland: I truly respect this as being a peace resolution. To me it's almost, it's looking to me as a mandate for something else. In case anyone does not know they found the drone plane, the drone plane that can be flown remotely. And, they also found over there, the bombs that go on the inside to where you can put the gas and fly it in. That was found. So, I understand where you're coming from, but to me, just like you're stating, this is pro-peace, I am not going to vote for this resolution to be sent anywhere else. I am pro-troops. And, that's where my vote will be. Thank you.

Mayor: Ms. Eberwein.

Eberwein: I don't know how productive it's going to be to analyze this piece by piece and talk about who's right and who's wrong. I think each Council Member has to make their own decision of conscience as to what this resolution does or does not do. And, I absolutely respect Ms. Woodson's views. I respect the Mayor's views. I, indeed, respect the views of everyone who feels positively, negatively, or in between, but I do not believe this is properly before us. I was not elected because of my foreign policy views. I was not elected because I have access to national security information, and I have no authority in this area. Most of the public is unaware that this is on our docket, and it would seem at a minimum that a public hearing is in order. I have only heard from a very few people and that is within the last three to four days. Therefore, since this is coming before us and there will not be a public hearing, again, I repeat, I do not believe it is properly before us. It is not within our authority, so I will not be participating in the vote.

Mayor: Mr. Euille.

Euille: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. This resolution certainly, you know, has some difficulties and as we're witnessing amongst ourselves, but I've decided to support the resolution, and I want to explain why. I don't believe that Alexandria or any local government should have it's own foreign policy, and I agree with Ms. Eberwein in that regard. That's one reason why we have a federal government. There are times, however, when a foreign policy decision is so important that local governments do want to lend their voice to the debate. And this is one of those times as our nation has its own struggles dealing with the economy, public education, affordable housing and health care, just to name a few. And, the fiscal costs of a war will further exacerbate these issues. Many city governments throughout America have voted on this resolution or will consider it soon or should, and so should we. I yield to no one in my contempt for Saddam Hussein and his regime. He is a vicious tyrant and a threat to international peace. I believe, however, the inspection process deserves more time. We should work more closely with our allies to disarm Iraq by peaceful means, if possible. Hasty unilateral military action could produce terrible and avoidable damage to our Nation's credibility, interest and objectives. Having said that, if our Nation goes to war, America's troops will have my full support and my prayers. This issue is very emotional and some leaders have made statements that they later regretted. I believe that Congressman Moran regrets the statements he made recently about the possible influence of Jewish leaders over the decision whether to go to war. He was clearly mistaken in what he said, and many Jewish leaders and other Northern Virginians were understandably upset with Jim's choice of words. His remarks were both inexcusable and insensitive, and I'm pleased that he has now apologized publicly. An issue like war with Iraq demands the best in our judgment, in our actions, our choice of words and our respect to those who disagree with us. I pray that our national leaders will choose rightly and will advance the cause of peace and justice in the world. May God Bless America, and I will be supporting the resolution.

Mayor: Mr. Speck.

Speck: Thanks, Mr. Mayor. This actually has been kind of an interesting process because it's caused me to do some

thinking, and although, as I said to Joyce, I had any number of personal discussions about this, virtually hourly about the issues that are going on over the last few days about the resolution. No one's asking me in my capacity as a City Council Member you know, what my views are on this, I mean, you know, it's all very personal. So, at one point, you know, my view was vote on things for what you have statutory authority and knowledge, and I'm not sure I have either on this to any great extent. But it's caused me to then sort of think about just sort of the role that we all play in different capacities, and we are in some position of leadership and the accumulative effects of what we do, I think, does have some bearing on public opinion. We haven't heard from that many people. And, it concerns me a little bit in the sense that we're almost sort of doing something unilaterally, but you know, that happens sometimes. I mean I think we're having a good discussion about this, and it's pretty important that we have that discussion. And, I think that some of the changes probably help to make this a stronger statement, frankly. But, it's also very, I think, evident in all of the discussions that are taking place and everything that we are reading that this is also a very divisive issue in our community, the country and the Congress. The polls that I've been reading or hearing as I've been listening to the news suggests that our country is pretty divided on what to do. Although it is interesting that the polls suggest that there are some real divisions within our society on what action to take that there appears very little division among the citizens of this country about support of the troops. And that if, in fact, the U.S. does take military action against Iraq that probably there will be very little disharmony on that regard. So, I want to support this, and I want to just tell you where I'm trying to sort of think my way through it. I think the changes that you've made particularly at the back end helped to make clearer what we're talking about. If we're going to do this, I think, at least my opinion is it should be something that, to the extent it can be, is as unifying a message as we can make. So, where I have some questions, and where I'd like to ask for some comment from Ms. Woodson or others as for policy and direction, does this, do you feel that this needs to be in the resolution to make it clear what we're talking about or do you think that some of those various specific sort of foreign policy statements and positions could be removed and still have a strong statement of our

views about support of the troops, about peace, about working to pursue a peaceful solution before making a military action in any way lessen the effects of this resolution?

Woodson: Well, to be perfectly honest, Mr. Speck, I don't think anything we do would have any bearing on ultimate military action. However, that withstanding, I read something recently in the *New York Times* which I thought was pretty interesting because it suggested that there were, in fact, two superpowers, the United States and world public opinion. And, I say that not to be funny, but the fact is that there are two diverging opinions here. The United States' opinion which even within itself is divided as you have already stated, but also world opinion. So, you could probably bring to bear ten people who would support the statement that you just made, and probably it wouldn't be terribly difficult to bring ten people who support the Whereas as currently written. I'm not wedded to any of these words. I'm wedded to a statement that strong that says the City of Alexandria supports peace. Now, I'm not interested in it being that simple, but quite frankly if that's what it takes to get movement on this Council then maybe that's where we have to go, but I don't think that's what it's going to take to get movement on this Council. I think we do demonstrate within this resolution a clear support for our troops, a clear support for our country and a clear support to do what's necessary if peace doesn't work. But, I think we can't possibly be so divided to think that if as Councilman Cleveland has pointed out that something has been found suggests to me that what is currently happening with the inspectors is working. So, if it's working, let's let it work.

Speck: Well, see, this is where I think we begin to start to get into a little bit of a slippery slope. Because, I mean, at various levels, at the United Nations, Congress and the Administration, you begin to start to have disagreements about is it working, isn't it, is this the right direction to take or isn't it.

Woodson: So, do we go to war because we have a disagreement if it's fifty-fifty. Wouldn't we rather err on the side of peace?

Speck: Absolutely, of course.

Woodson: It's just a statement.

Speck: I mean that's, I mean I don't even think that's that's not even debatable.

Woodson: What would you like it to say? Why don't we start with that as opposed to asking me, what would you like it to say?

Mayor: Why don't we do this. Mr. Speck, do you have specific amendments or changes you'd like to make why don't you offer them?

Woodson: Yes, I think that makes sense.

Euille: Mindful of the fact that there's a motion on the table with the amended resolution with a second, so yours would be friendly amendments.

Mayor: friendly amendments.

Speck: I mean let me just ask if you see where there are six whereas that begin the sixth being Whereas, Saddam Hussein has a demonstrated repressive treatment of his own citizens. Not a debatable issue, obviously.

Woodson: Okay, so that one's okay.

Speck: When you go to the next and then Whereas, the international community supports United Nations weapons inspections.

Woodson: It's not debatable. It's not debatable.

Speck: And those clauses, the next six clauses, all get into very specific foreign policy, military strategy issues that are, you see, this is where I'm trying to go on this. That if we want to draft, if we want to adopt a resolution that the Council presents and says this is a reflection of our views about what we're for and what we believe in strongly. Let's not give people a chance to pick at it and to be able to say well that's not, you know, that's not, in fact, the case. That's not policy.

Woodson: Mr. Speck, what do you want to do?

Pepper: But can I suggest something?

Speck: Whereas seven through twelve.

Mayor: Seven being which one.

Speck: Seven starting with Whereas, the international community supports the United Nations weapons inspection, that one

Woodson: Those are okay.

Speck: and the next five that ends with the Whereas, the U.S. has not built an anti- Iraq coalition similar to that which underwrote

Pepper: That's a fact.

Speck: Again, even that one there's argument about is that in fact the case.

Mayor: What are you suggesting to do?

Woodson: What is the argument?

Speck: Delete those, delete those five Whereases.

Woodson: Where's the argument for twelve?

Pepper: I think he does have a point, though, with eight and that is Whereas, the eminent threat of our...

Woodson: That's fine. Take that eight out.

Pepper: That one we can take out.

Woodson: No problem.

Pepper: But the rest, I don't know.

Woodson: I mean I think they're all pretty factual. So, if you want eight removed, I mean, no problem.

Pepper: Yes, that one probably should be removed.

Speck: Okay.

Pepper: But read the rest and see if it doesn't work for you.

Mayor: All right, so, we have accepted the removal of Whereas clause number eight as a friendly amendment.

Speck: um hum.

Woodson: Well, actually he's not made that yet.

Mayor: Well, you

Woodson: No, I'm just asking him a question. I already did my motion.

Speck: Okay, okay. Skip down to Whereas eleven. A unilateral preemptive strike risks international destabilization by encouraging other countries to engage in unilateral attacks. I mean that's real foreign policy stuff that I don't, I certainly don't feel competent to either agree with or not, but certainly people don't agree with that.

Woodson: Could we add a may?

Speck: Could we delete it?

Woodson: No. Could we add Whereas, the unilateral preemptive strike may risk.

Pepper: Yes.

Speck: Yes.

Woodson: Good. Next.

Euille: We're getting there.

Pepper: I think those are the two most objectionable...

Speck: Okay.

Woodson; Good.

Pepper: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor: Mrs. Pepper.

Pepper: We do have, I for one don't really appreciate being asked to vote on issues that are not local, but I haven't campaigned on them where people don't which direction I'm coming from; however, there is precedent for this. I know that in earlier times we have passed resolutions that were certainly of national in scope, and I will be supporting this, and I do like the amendments that were made, the changes that were made. I think are really very, very helpful. So, I will be supporting this.

Mayor: All right. So, we have a motion and a second, and I'm going to assume that the amendments that were offered by Mr. Speck, the deletion of Whereas clause number 8, and the addition of "may" into 9, 10, 11, whereas clause number 11. So, it will read, Whereas, the unilateral preemptive strike may risk international destabilization, etc., etc.

Speck: And, could I just ask, I know this is going to be voted on, that when we finish this and we essentially achieve world peace, can we then deal with Windmill Hill Park? You knew that was coming, didn't you?

Chuckle, chuckle, chuckle...

Woodson: I think that if we can achieve world peace, Windmill Hill Park will be just a no brainer.

Mayor: We have a motion and a second with friendly amendments. We have a motion and a second with friendly amendments, is there any further discussion? This is a resolution and the Clerk will call the roll.

Clerk: Councilwoman Woodson.

Woodson: Aye

Clerk: Councilwoman Euille.

Euille: With distinction, aye.

Clerk: Mayor Donley.

Donley: Aye.

Clerk: Vice Mayor Cleveland.

Cleveland: No.

Clerk: Councilwoman Eberwein. [was out of room]

Clerk: Councilwoman Pepper.

Pepper: Aye.

Clerk: Councilman Speck.

Speck: Aye.

Donley: Okay, very good.

Clap, clap, clap.

Donley: And for those who didn't feel that this isn't something that shouldn't have been brought before us because it is not truly local, I mean, you know, it is timely, and it is our opportunity as elected officials to at least express our opinion. Lord knows those folks at the higher levels of government, like the state and the federal government, they tell us what to do all of the time.

Euille: Unfunded mandates.

Cleveland: Yeah, and they're going to take this one and through it in the garbage can, too.

Donley: Okay, very good. Let's move to item 20.

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19
3-11-03

City Council of Alexandria, Virginia
March 11, 2003 Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

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**Verbatim transcript of Councilwoman Claire Eberwein's remarks
made on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, related to
the Peace Resolution item, Docket Item No. 19,
as transcribed by the office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council.**

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- 19. Consideration of Resolution Opposing United States Military Action Against Iraq and Calling Upon the Federal Government to Continue Working Through the United Nations Security Council Towards a Diplomatic Resolution that Brings Disarmament in Iraq.

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Eberwein: I don't know how productive it's going to be to analyze this piece by piece and talk about who's right and who's wrong. I think each Council Member has to make their own decision of conscience as to what this resolution does or does not do. And, I absolutely respect Ms. Woodson's views. I respect the Mayor's views. I, indeed, respect the views of everyone who feels positively, negatively, or in between, but I do not believe this is properly before us. I was not elected because of my foreign policy views. I was not elected because I have access to national security information, and I have no authority in this area. Most of the public is unaware that this is on our docket, and it would seem at a minimum that a public hearing is in order. I have only heard from a very few people and that is within the last three to four days. Therefore, since this is coming before us and there will not be a public hearing, again, I repeat, I do not believe it is properly before us. It is not within our authority, so I will not be participating in the vote.

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