

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 5, 2005

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO #23: TIMING OF TAX AND FEE HEARINGS AND REMAINING BUDGET WORK SESSIONS

Given the number of fees and tax issues which Council is considering this month, keeping track of when the discussions will occur and when the hearings are is more complex than in past years. As a result, here is a calendar of key budget discussions and hearings:

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| <p>Wednesday, April 6<br/>7:00 p.m.</p> | <p>Joint work session with the School Board on the School's CIP and FY 2006 Operating Budget</p>  |
| <p>Monday, April 11<br/>7:00 p.m.</p>   | <p>Work session - Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse, Information Technology Plan, Transportation and Environmental Services, DASH</p>   |
| <p>Tuesday, April 12<br/>7:00 p.m.</p>  | <p>Introduction and First Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Real estate tax relief for senior, disabled and limited income residents</li> <li>(2) Establish a cell phone tax (\$3 per phone per month)</li> <li>(3) Increase the cigarette tax to 70¢ per pack</li> <li>(4) Increase the sanitary sewer maintenance fee to \$1.00</li> <li>(5) Increase the fees charged for new connections to the sanitary sewer system</li> </ul> <p>Discuss and review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Establishing an admissions tax of 50¢</li> <li>(2) Establishing a reduced personal property tax rate for hybrid fuel vehicles</li> </ul> |
| <p>Saturday, April 16<br/>9:30 a.m.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Public hearing on Real and Personal Property Tax Rates Ordinance and on "Effective Tax Rate Increase" (required by State because of increased assessment values in conjunction with proposed tax rate)</li> </ul>  |

- (2) Public hearing on ordinances to:
  - (a) increase the fee for sewer connection
  - (b) increase sewer maintenance service charge to \$1.00
- (3) Introduction and first reading regarding establishing a reduced personal property tax rate for hybrid fuel vehicles (if Council authorizes on April 12)
- (4) Introduction and first reading to establish admissions tax of 50¢ (if Council authorizes on April 12)

Tuesday, April 26  
7:00 p.m.

Public hearing on ordinances (assuming approval on first reading) with deferred action until May 2:

- (1) Real estate tax relief for senior, disabled and limited income residents
- (2) Establish a cell phone tax (\$3 per phone per month)
- (3) Increase the cigarette tax to 70¢ per pack
- (4) Establishing an admissions tax of 50¢ (if Council authorizes on April 12)
- (5) Establishing a reduced personal property tax rate for hybrid fuel vehicles (if Council authorizes on April 12)

Wednesday, April 27  
7:00 p.m.

Work session on Preliminary Add/Delete List Review and discussion of the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee (BFAAC) report

Monday, May 2  
6:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

Work session on finalization of Add/Delete List  
Budget Tax Rates Adoption Special Council Meeting (including decision on all prior tax and fee items which were subject to a prior public hearing)