

**City of Alexandria, Virginia**  
**Commission on Information Technology**

**November 20, 2025 IT Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**7:00 – 8:30 PM**

In attendance: Rhonda Syler, Timothy Casey, Brandon Mosoriak, Daniel Rodriguez (virtual), Emily Dillard, Heather Barrows (virtual), Francisco Ortiz, Benjamin McGinniss, Steve Davidson, Randall Williams

City IT Staff: Steve Chozick, Patrick Eze, Muhammad Mansour

Public/Other: John Crites (ACHS, virtual), Nathan Zencey (will be Commission member as of next meeting)

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Minutes**

(a) Approval of the October 16, 2025 meeting minutes

- Minutes approved unanimously (motion by ED, seconded by TC) with edit to add two additional speakers to cybersecurity event.

(b) Approval of the October 28, 2025 meeting minutes

- Minutes approved unanimously (motion by SD, seconded by TC).

**3. Public Comments**

No public comments.

**4. Updates**

- Final Budget Priorities Input Memo Completed – Memo submitted Monday, November 3.

**5. City Information Technology Services Updates**

- Fiber Update (Patrick Eze)
  - Construction and testing completed with good results.
  - Go live scheduled for fourth quarter 2026.
  - City will pursue use for excess capacity after completion, will put together an RFP.
  - Comcast renewal is going fine, renewal in October 2026.
- Budget Update (Steve Chozick)
  - Departments are currently working on their independent budgets, expected to be flat this upcoming year.
  - City Manager will introduce budget to public February 2026.

- Work sessions in February and March 2026.
- Budget adoption scheduled for April 20, 2026.
- Cybersecurity Month Review (Steve Chozick)
  - There was a different topic each week along with a small event (trivia contest, phishing campaign, capture the flag event, event with CISO).
  - SD: Did Council participate? SC: Not sure, will look into it.

## **6. Cybersecurity Community Event Report & Future Outreach (Steve Davidson)**

- Event was held October 25 at The View (senior living facility).
  - There were three speakers: Ryon Saenz, Jason Belford and Jas Easterly.
  - Four items on the agenda: keeping the bad guys out of your stuff, protecting privacy/ID theft, social engineering and scams, resilience.
  - There was a quiz and giveaway.
- Next actions:
  - E-news channel setup.
  - Web site to host info.
  - Public videos from cyber events.
  - Planning the next outreach event.
- SC: Is there a willingness to put it on channel 70? SD: Didn't know about this, it's a great idea.
- BM: What is the posting policy on web site? SC: Not a technical issue, it's a policy issue.
- Discussion about posting policy. What is stopping us from doing this? We will have everybody come back with examples of items for discussion in January. Maybe put together a position paper?
- RW: What about social media? SD: We did this for last year's event, there were issues around the City seal and Computer CORE partnering.

## **7. Open Data Discussion & Next Steps (Tim Casey)**

- At the last meeting we went over an Open Data rubric.
- BM: Any thoughts on an inventory of data sets we could test this rubric against? SC: Ideas could be 311 database, permitting database, real estate assessment documents, budgeting documents.
- TC: Just because it's public doesn't mean the data is open (easily accessible).
- SD: Suggest another scale for the rubric, possibly a Fibonacci sequence.
- RS: What are our action items? Run some data sets through the rubric?
- BM: Use the following to see how they rate against the rubric: 311 database, real estate assessments, permitting database, budget documents.
- RS: Everyone do 311 database and pick one of the others.

- BM: Has the City considering acquiring a ‘digital twin’ that citizens can explore, BAR can use, etc.? SC: Conversations have come up for years, we’ve done a neighborhood or two, it’s still costly to do.
- Discussion around GIS data that the City has: oblique and low-flight photography.
- DR: Propose to further discuss GIS and other data comingling at a future meeting.

## **8. AI Discussion**

- Should the City have their own LLM or use someone else’s?
- SD: Red teaming this, what could go wrong with different options, protecting the citizens. Be careful about over-enthusiasm. Provide guidance: a checklist, for example, for City staff to experiment with.
- BM: Where is the City in the evaluation process? SC: Some experimentation, avoiding putting something out to staff or public at large.
- BM: Does the City have any data scientists on staff? SC: No, we would need to train/outsource.
- RW: Cost/benefit analysis of going with a vendor or not, consider ongoing costs for out years.
- BM: Focus on data where the attack surface is small. Meeting transcription, for example, would save time. Or possibly turning on a feature that is already included with software that the City is licensed for.
- RS: Is there an AI strategy? SC: There is an internal group that is working on this to develop guidelines and criteria to assist as the AI strategy is being created.
- ED: Is there a way that AI works in the school system, does some of that mirror what we do on the Commission and the City?
- SD: Homework, thoughts that we can send to Rhonda and synthesize.
- Send Rhonda any ideas by the third week of December.

## **9. Next Meeting**

- Thursday, January 15.
- Two homework assignments in the notes above (Open Data and AI).
- We will add GIS as an agenda item for the January or February meeting.

## **10. Other Business**

- None.

## **11. Adjournment** (motion by SD, seconded by BM) at 8:35 pm. Next meeting scheduled for January 15, 2026.