

MINUTES
CALLED MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2019

A called meeting of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 immediately following the work session scheduled at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 333 W. Locust Street, Covington, Virginia.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr. with all members present as follows: Mayor Sibold, Vice Mayor David S. Crosier, Councilman C. J. Entsminger, Jr., Councilman Raymond C. Hunter and Councilman S. Allan Tucker.

The purpose of the meeting was to appoint an Interim City Manager.

Council voted to add action regarding Section 3.7 "Acting Appointments" of the Employee Handbook which limited the salary percentage that could be offered to an interim employee. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Sibold, seconded by Vice Mayor Crosier, to delete Section 3.7 of the Employee Handbook which provided Council with the ability to give additional wages for additional responsibilities. Motion carried 5 to 0. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, For; Mr. Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 5 to 0 to add a closed session to the agenda pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (1) regarding resignation of public employee and Sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (8) regarding consultation with legal counsel.

Council considered the appointment of an Interim City Manager. Mayor Sibold informed all present of the candidate Council has been in contact with regarding this position. Mr. Clay Goodman, retired, has served in administration with 38 years of experience. He has served in Roanoke, Vinton, Buena Vista and as interim in Craig County. Mayor Sibold stated that Council is well pleased with this choice to lead the City through the transition. He also noted that when a new City Manager is hired, that individual will be able to appoint a Chief of Police.

Mayor Sibold noted that there are good things going on and the City will move forward. Mr. Douglas had projects in place and Council will continue to move forward as proper.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to appoint Mr. Clay Goodman as Interim City Manager. Motion carried 5 to 0. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, For; Mr. Tucker, For.

At this time, Council provided the opportunity for the citizens to speak. Lisa Fraser spoke regarding the desire to have a citizen oversight committee for the Police Dept. Ron Leichter stated that he thought Police Chief Anthony Morgan has been an outstanding Police Chief. He also expressed concerns regarding trash at the Jackson River Complex/Trail. Josh Haynes expressed concerns regarding the condition of the fence on Edgemont Drive. Kathy Downey expressed concerns regarding out-sourcing evaluation of the Police Dept. and inquired about pay
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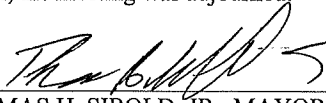
raises in this Department. Temple Kessinger stated that he did not like the Police Chief and the City Manager leaving. He noted that losing two top employees will make it difficult to attract small business in this type of environment. He felt that Mr. Douglas had resigned under duress.

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Upon a motion by Mr. Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to move into closed session under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as previously stated.

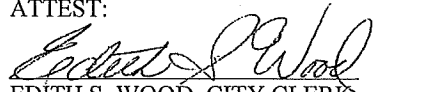
Following the closed session, Council reconvened and voted to certify that only the matters stated were discussed. No action was taken at this time.

No further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.



THOMAS H. SIBOLD, JR., MAYOR
PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND, AS SUCH,
EX-OFFICIO OFFICER OF THE CITY OF
COVINGTON, VIRGINIA

ATTEST:


EDITH S. WOOD, CITY CLERK

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