

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2019

The regular meeting of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 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. The Invocation was given by Rev. Russell Urban followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Council showed the following members present: Mayor Sibold, Vice Mayor David S. Crosier, Councilman Raymond C. Hunter and Councilman S. Allan Tucker. Councilman Claiborne "C.J." Entsminger, Jr. was absent.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, two items were added to the agenda for consideration: (1) Authorization for Interim City Manager Goodman to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Covington, Alleghany County and the Sheriff's Office; (2) Nomination of alternate to the Board of Equalization. Motion carried 4 to 0.

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to approve the following minutes as presented: Called Meeting of May 7, 2019; Work Session of May 7, 2019; Regular Meeting of May 14, 2019 and Called Meeting of May 28, 2019.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

David Bryant, Director of Finance and HR, presented the monthly financial report which included expenditures and noted items in Public Works which included water/waste water and solid waste. The final numbers will be in during the following week as the state numbers are two months behind.

Mr. Goodman introduced a proposed memo of understanding between the City of Covington, Alleghany County and the Sheriff's Office which includes funding for level of service, level of service requested, Jail fund and past billings for joint services. A committee is to be formed which will include 2 members of Council. Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to authorize Interim City Manager Goodman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Covington, Alleghany County and the Sheriff's Office as follows: "All three parties have agreed to begin negotiations immediately to resolve: (1) Funding for Sheriff Law Enforcement and level of service requirements desired by the City of Covington; (2) Regional Jail Funding; (3) Reconciliation of Past Due Billings for Joint Services. Parties agree to meet monthly beginning in July, 2019 and continue meeting monthly with the intent of mutually resolving those items noted above by December 31, 2019." Motion carried 4 to 0. Councilman Entsminger absent.

REQUESTS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted to appoint Stephanie Clark to serve on the Dabney S. Lancaster Community College Board.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted to reappoint Vice Mayor David Crosier to the Economic Development Corporation Board.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to appoint Josh Haynes to the Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

At this time, the appointment to the Social Services Board was tabled until the July meeting of Council.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to recommend Joyce Persinger as an alternate to the Board of Equalization.

#### REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

1. Grant in the amount of \$271,625 has been awarded for the Alleghany Highlands Drone Zone. This is the second grant received. A third grant in the amount of \$100,000 will be introduced in the FY 2020 Budget.

2. Savings has been realized for chemical purchases with the new bid creating a savings of \$27,000.

3. Invitation was given to the members of Council to attend the employee picnic on Wednesday, June 25, 2019 between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

At this time, Mr. Goodman requested that Allen Dressler, Director of Parks and Public Works, present an update on the bluff project. Mr. Dressler noted that the previous date for opening the road was June 28<sup>th</sup> which has been extended to July 3rd. The total project is expected to be complete in August. VDOT has agreed to do a work extension from Willis to Byrd. The City will pay the cost of the underground pipe.

#### ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve, on second reading, Ordinance O-19-03 regarding Amending and Reenacting Appendix B, Zoning, Article XIII, Conservation District CN. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR, Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to approve, on second reading, Ordinance O-19-04 regarding rezoning of the Jackson River Sports Complex from R-2, C-2 and M-2 to CN. Motion carried 4 to 0. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve the Special Exception request for the City of Covington for the Jackson River Sports Complex to allow camping, upon passage of Ordinance O-19-03 and O-19-04. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve, on second reading, Ordinance O-19-07 regarding Real Estate Tax Rate for FY 2019/2020. (No Change). Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve, on second reading, Ordinance O-19-08 regarding Personal Property and Machinery and Tools Tax Rate for FY 2019/2020 (No Change). Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Mr. Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve, on second reading, Ordinance O-19-06 regarding the FY 2019/2020 Budget. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve, on first reading, Ordinance O-19-05 regarding the City's Utility Deposit Program. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-19-42 regarding appropriation of Water and Waste Water Funds.

Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-19-43 regarding CSA in the amount of \$570,379. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-19-44 regarding backstop fencing at the Jackson River Sports Complex to address safety issues in the amount of \$71,134. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to approve Appropriation Resolution R-19-45 regarding necessary purchases at the Waste Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$8,000. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve Resolution R-19-46 authorizing the City Manager to purchase NO FAULT Insurance via the Virginia Municipal League Insurance Program. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve Resolution R-19-47 establishing City of Covington Handicapped Parking Sign Procedure. Mayor Sibold, FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier, FOR; Mr. Hunter, FOR; Mr. Tucker, FOR. Mr. Entsminger Absent.

#### NEW BUSINESS

No new business at this time.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS

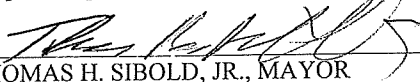
Mr. Brown expressed his concerns regarding drainage issues on Carlton Drive. Mr. Goodman will check into this issue.

Ms. Hunter expressed concerns regarding demolition of a house and safety concerns with motorists going the wrong way at Hunter's Hill and Lincoln Ave.

Ms. Jeffries expressed concerns regarding the old house on Court Ave. near the building that collapsed. Mr. Goodman responded that he has met with the owner and he wishes to make improvements.

Mr. Wickline stated that he is pleased with the committee to work with the Sheriff on joint services. He expressed concerns regarding revenue sources and hoped the local governments would work together for economic development.

No further business to come before Council, the meeting was recessed until Monday, June 17th for a closed session regarding Council appointed personnel/City Manager recruitment.

  
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