

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 8, 2018

The regular meeting of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 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. Steve Noel followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Council showed all members present as follows: Mayor Sibold, Vice Mayor David S. Crosier, Councilwoman Mary Ann Beirne, Councilman Raymond C. Hunter and Councilman S. Allan Tucker.

City Manager: Richard Douglas  
City Attorney: Susan Waddell

At this time, upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to add to the agenda, Resolutions R-18-25 regarding CSA supplemental allocation and R-18-26 regarding signature authorization for the VDOT Durant Road construction project.

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: Work Session April 3, 2018, Regular Meeting April 10, 2018 and Called Meeting April 13, 2018.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

David Bryant, Director of Finance and HR, gave his monthly report and presented information regarding the soft billing. Following the report, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve the monthly financial report.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A Public Hearing was held to receive nominations for two (2) appointments to the Covington City School Board. Mayor Sibold opened the meeting. There were three (3) nominations submitted at this time: Mrs. Cindy Bennett, Mrs. Betty Graves, and Ms. Tonya Jones. Interviews will be conducted prior to the June 5, 2018 work session.

A Public Hearing was held regarding Smart Scale Projects. Mr. Bryan Hill presented information regarding the six (6) projects suggested for submission to VDOT. They included the following: (1) Craig Street Extension to Main; (2) Chestnut Street Underpass Improvements; (3) Jackson Street Improvements; (4) Edgemont Drive Improvements; (5) Paper Trail Pedestrian Bridge; and (5) East Madison Sidewalk Improvements. There were no comments from the citizens present.

REQUESTS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

City Manager Richard Douglas presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Budget. He expressed appreciation to David Bryant, Director of Finance and HR and his staff for the many hours spent on budget preparation and to all of the city departments. He stated that this was a very difficult budget with increases to employee health insurance and child services. His proposed budget included an \$0.08 per \$100 increase in real estate tax and an \$8.00 increase in the monthly utility bill for the Peter's Mountain Landfill costs. Mr. Douglas had included his written message for all members of Council to review. Mayor Sibold expressed appreciation for all of the effort on the budget, stating that it was a very difficult job.

Mr. Douglas presented information regarding the LUMOS Fiber Contract. This is a 10 year agreement for fiber improvements at City Hall regarding the joint radio system project that is being developed with Alleghany County. He stated that he is confident everything is moving in

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the right direction. Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve the LUMOS Fiber Contract. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted to appoint Mr. Bryan Thompson to the Industrial Development Authority (IDA).

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Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to appoint Police Chief/Public Safety Director Anthony Morgan to the Western Virginia EMS Council.

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#### REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

1. A schedule of dates were given regarding upcoming budget work sessions, public hearing and adoptions of the budget ordinances.
2. A meeting with VDOT regarding the bluff project will be held Thursday, May 24, 2018 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m, in City Hall
3. A Memorial Day parade and Durant Road Bridge dedication will be held on Monday May 28<sup>th</sup> with parade at 11:00 a.m. and the dedication of the bridge for Lt. Gary Lee Miller at 1:00 p.m.
4. DEQ inspection at the landfill had no significant compliance issues and received complements on litter control.
5. Cleanup of the "community gardens" is completed with formal agreements being developed for current users of the property.
6. Compliments to Keith Lipes and his staff at the Water Plant for an outstanding state water inspection report. Water tanks will have a planned inspection this year.
7. Wastewater flow issues on Maple Ave. are being addressed.
8. Sidewalk repair, paving work and replacement of an aged water line are being addressed on Locust Street.
9. Long term options regarding EMS care for residents are being explored. Duane Paxton will assume EMS Coordinator position on a part-time basis and Tim Yancey will transition to the Fire Coordinator.
10. Minor boiler repair project at the Jeter-Watson Center.
11. Congratulations to Eric Tyree, Director of Developmental Services, for passing the Virginia Storm Water Management Program Plan Review exam.

#### ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

City Attorney Susan Waddell explained the changes to Ordinance O-18-01 to make it more correct. Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve, on first reading, Ordinance O-18-01 regarding Amending the City Code Exempting Booths and Fairs from Certain Statutory Regulations. Motion carried 5 to 0. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Councilwoman Beirne, For; Councilman Hunter, For; and Councilman Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 5 to 0, to approve Resolution R-18-20 regarding Primary Extension Paving for Rt. 60 E. Madison and Rt. 154 E. Riverside St. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Councilwoman Beirne, For; Councilman Hunter, For; and Councilman Tucker, For.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve Resolution R-18-21 a resolution of support for Smart Scale Projects. Motion carried 5

to 0. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Councilwoman Beirne, For; Councilman Hunter, For; and Councilman Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Resolution R-18-22 regarding Social Services bonus to all employees in the amount of \$1,000. This requires no additional city funds. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Councilwoman Beirne, For; Councilman Hunter, For; and Councilman Tucker, For.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, to approve Appropriation Resolution R-18-23 regarding EMS funding for 90 days in the amount of \$85,000. Motion carried 5 to 0. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Councilwoman Beirne, For; Councilman Hunter, For; and Councilman Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Resolution R-18-24 regarding budget amendment for safety equipment for the Police Dept.(Data terminals and in-car cameras). Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Councilwoman Beirne, For; Councilman Hunter, For; and Councilman Tucker, For.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve Appropriation Resolution R-18-25 regarding CSA supplemental allocation request in the amount of \$918,244.94. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Councilwoman Beirne, For; Councilman Hunter, For; and Councilman Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to approve Resolution R-18-26 regarding signature authorization for the VDOT Durant Road construction project. Motion carried 5 to 0. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Councilwoman Beirne, For; Councilman Hunter, For; and Councilman Tucker, For.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Tucker: Inquired about patching and addressing potholes.

Vice Mayor Crosier: Inquired about the length of the Durant Road construction project. Allen Dressler, Director of Parks and Public Works, responded that this work is due to begin the first of June and completion about August of 2019.

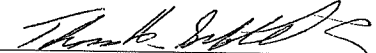
Mr. Hunter: Inquired about an alley.

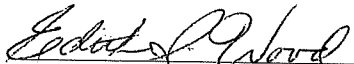
Mayor Sibold: Noted the flyers displayed in Council Chambers with a list of activities at the Jackson River Sports Complex for the year.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Roberts expressed concerns regarding drainage concerns and large potholes that are a safety concern.

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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