

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 12, 2018

The regular meeting of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 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 Elder Pete Moore 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

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 of May 1, 2018; Regular Meeting of May 8, 2018; Budget Work Session of May 15, 2018; Budget Work Session of May 17, 2018 and Called Meeting of May 22, 2018.

MONTHLY REPORT

David Bryant, Director of Finance and HR, presented the monthly financial report noting that revenues look good and the soft billing is close to projected revenue with the new company's process. Following the report, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve the monthly financial report. Motion carried 5 to 0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A Public Hearing was held regarding the proposed Real Estate and Mobile Home Tax increase; Changes to Tangible Personal Property and Machinery and Tools. An increase of \$0.04 per \$100 on real estate was included. The Public Hearing was opened. None of the citizens present spoke regarding this tax.

A Public Hearing was held regarding the proposed Solid Waste Collection Rate Increase and Landfill Charge Increase. The increase will add \$8.00 to the monthly utility bill. The Public Hearing was opened. None of the citizens present spoke regarding this tax. Mayor Sibold read a letter from Sue Crowder in opposition to this increase stating that this is a large increase at one time especially for those on fixed income and retirees.

A Public Hearing was held regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Budget. The Public Hearing was opened. There were no comments from the citizens present.

REQUESTS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve the Fixed Asset Policy presented. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted 5 to 0 to accept the easements regarding the Maple Ave. wastewater improvements project.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to reappoint Tad Robertson to the Covington Planning Commission.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted to reappoint Mr. Tucker to the Roanoke Valley/Alleghany Regional Commission.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Vice Mayor Crosier, Council voted to reappoint Mayor Sibold to the Social Services Board.

A roll call vote of Council was taken regarding the 2 appointments to the Covington City School Board. Mayor Sibold: Erika Hunter and Tonya Jones; Vice Mayor Crosier: Erika Hunter and Tonya Jones; Ms. Beirne: Erika Hunter and Ron Leichter; Mr. Hunter: Erika Hunter and Betty Graves; Mr. Tucker: Cindy Bennett and Tonya Jones.  
Council voted to appoint Erika Hunter and Tonya Jones to the Covington City School Board.

#### REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

1. Upcoming meetings: Monday, June 18, 4:30 p.m. joint public hearing with Planning Commission; Tuesday, June 19, 6:30 p.m. first reading of budget ordinances; Tuesday, June 26, 6:30 second reading of budget ordinances.
2. Requested a public hearing in July regarding partnership with TAP for a land bank
3. Pre-construction meeting held regarding wastewater pump station improvements project
4. Requested a vehicle towing advisory board be appointed to establish contracts with tow companies for removal of junk, immobile or other vehicles
5. Public Hearing in July regarding EMS licensure and establishing a city EMS department.
6. Requested that Delbert Smith be kept in our thoughts and prayers during this time.

#### ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve, on second reading, Ordinance O-18-01 regarding Amending the City Code Chapter 10 Article III Exempting Booths and Fairs from Certain Statutory Regulations. Mayor Sibold - FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier - FOR; Ms. Beirne - FOR; Mr. Hunter - FOR; Mr. Tucker - FOR.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-18-27 regarding the boiler repair at the Jeter-Watson Center in the amount of \$38,600. Mayor Sibold - FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier - FOR; Ms. Beirne - FOR; Mr. Hunter - FOR; Mr. Tucker - FOR.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Ms. Beirne, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-18-28 regarding Maple Ave. wastewater project in the amount of \$28,000. Mayor Sibold - FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier - FOR; Ms. Beirne - FOR; Mr. Hunter - FOR; Mr. Tucker - FOR.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Ms. Beirne, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Resolution R-18-29 regarding signature authority for the Maple Ave. Phase II Project. Mayor Sibold - FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier - FOR; Ms. Beirne - FOR; Mr. Hunter - FOR; Mr. Tucker - FOR.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-18-30 regarding the Maple Ave. Phase II Project local match in the amount of \$59,071. Mayor Sibold - FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier - FOR; Ms. Beirne - FOR; Mr. Hunter - FOR; Mr. Tucker - FOR.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-18-31 regarding the Drone Zone Project local match in the amount of \$100,000. Mayor Sibold - FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier - FOR; Ms. Beirne - FOR; Mr. Hunter - FOR; Mr. Tucker - FOR.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Vice Mayor Crosier, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-18-32 regarding Locust Street waterline/sidewalk project in the amount of \$45,000. Mayor Sibold – FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier – FOR; Ms. Beirne – FOR; Mr. Hunter – FOR; Mr. Tucker – FOR.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Ms. Beirne, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-18-32 regarding School Textbook Fund in the amount of \$35,185.58. Mayor Sibold – FOR; Vice Mayor Crosier – FOR; Ms. Beirne – FOR; Mr. Hunter – FOR; Mr. Tucker – FOR.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice Mayor Crosier: Expressed concerns regarding the cost to the City of holding the primary election. He felt this is a burden on the tax payers and inquired about possibly combining locations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Josh Haynes inquired about doing something to honor former Councilman Bill Zimmerman. Discussion was held by Council regarding various ideas including providing a plaque in Mr. Zimmerman's honor at the restored Train Depot. Attorney Susan Waddell stated that she would prepare the resolution and her law firm would purchase the plaque. By consensus, Council approved the plaque.

Ron Leichter expressed appreciation to Council for the opportunity to run for the Covington City School Board. He also expressed appreciation to Allen Dressler and David Bryant for all they do for the citizens.

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