

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2015**

Council President O'Keefe called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Roll call was as follows:

PRESENT: John Callahan, Jerry Coner, Mark Wright, Larry Rolling, Rick Smith,
Lee Alexius and Sam O'Keefe

ABSENT: None

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Betty Cronin.

APPEARERS

1. Ms. Betty Cronin presented information concerning the Cleanest City Contest to be held on March 17, 2015.
2. Mrs. Pam Keller discussed the City-wide cleanup to be held from March 7 through March 15, 2015.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilman Alexius made a motion to adopt the consent calendar, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt the consent calendar. The consent calendar was adopted.

REGULAR AGENDA

Unfinished Business

Items to be voted on:

1. **PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2015-01-02** – An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Appendix A Subdivisions, Article 5. Performance and Design Standards, Sec. 5.2. Stormwater Drainage Requirements (Planning Case No. 14-12-09TXT) (O'Keefe)

Council President O'Keefe led a discussion on Item No. 2015-01-02.

Councilman Alexius made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Coner. There were no objections to closing the public hearing. The public hearing was closed.

Councilman Wright made a motion to adopt Item No. 2015-01-02, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2015-01-02. Item No. 2015-01-02 was adopted.

2. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2015-01-05 An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Covington, Louisiana, to Reclassify Lots 6, 7 and 8, Square 2506, Division of New Covington (located in the Southeast Quadrant of 26th Avenue and Tyler Street), Covington, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, From RS-3 (Two-Family Residential) to a Planned Industrial Use Overlay District With a Base Zoning of CO (Commercial Office/Professional) and to Reclassify Lots 9 and 10, Square 2506, Division of New Covington (located in the Southeast Quadrant of 26th Avenue and Tyler Street), Covington, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, From ML (Light Industrial/Manufacturing) to a Planned Industrial Use Overlay District With a Base Zoning of ML (Light Industrial/Manufacturing) (Zoning Case No. 15-01-01Rezoning) (Alexius)

Councilman Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2015-01-05.

Councilman Callahan made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Wright. There were no objections to closing the public hearing. The public hearing was closed.

Councilman Alexius made a motion to adopt Item No. 2015-01-05, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2015-01-05. Item No. 2015-01-05 was adopted.

3. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2015-02-01 – An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the 2015 Budget for Additional Funds for Rescue/Service Company Truck (Alexius)

Councilman Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2015-02-01.

Councilman Rolling made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Smith. There were no objections to closing the public hearing. The public hearing was closed.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Item No. 2015-02-01, seconded by Councilman Alexius. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2015-02-01. Item No. 2015-02-01 was adopted.

New Business

Items to be voted on:

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01 – A Resolution of the Covington City Council Authorizing the Use of a Portion of the Unconstructed East 34th Avenue, Between Hosmer Street and Lee Road (LA Hwy. 437), as a Driveway (Coner)

Councilman Coner led a discussion on Resolution No. 2015-01.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2015-01, seconded by Councilman Alexius. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2015-01. Resolution No. 2015-01 was adopted.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 2015-02 – A Resolution of the Covington City Council Supporting the City of Covington Applying for Community Water Enrichment Funds (O’Keefe)

Councilman O’Keefe led a discussion on Resolution No. 2015-02.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2015-02, seconded by Councilman Rolling. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2015-02. Resolution No. 2015-02 was adopted.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 2015-03 – A Resolution of the Covington City Council in Support of the Modification of the Louisiana Conservation Servitude and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute Said Modification With Regard to Lot 11, Jahncke Landing Subdivision, Section 45, Township 6 South, Range 11 East, City of Covington, St. Tammany Parish, LA (Alexius)

Councilman Alexius led a discussion on Resolution No. 2015-03.

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2015-03, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2015-03. Resolution No. 2015-03 was adopted.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council District and Committee Reports

1. District A –

Councilman Callahan announced that the Volunteers of America-Greater New Orleans and the Alpha Omega Tau Fraternity will be in town this weekend helping with the City-wide cleanup in the West 30s. Also, he mentioned there will be fish fry on Friday, March 6th beginning at 11 A.M. at the VFW Hall on Ronald Reagan Highway.

2. District B –

Councilman Coner recognized the March birthdays for City employees. Also, he complimented Anne Marie Giovingo for the beautiful City calendar that she prepared. Also, he reminded the public that early voting starts on March 14th through March 21st. Also, he commented that the Council seats for Districts B and E will be on the ballot. Also, his quote for this evening was, “If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.” by President Nelson Mandela.

3. District C –

Councilman Wright mentioned that he is very grateful for the opportunity to serve another term as Councilman for District C. Also, he congratulated the St. Paul’s and SSA communities for both winning their respective state soccer championships. Also, he announced that the Covington Rotary has created a new fundraiser called the Quack-a-Falaya Rubber Duck Rally, which will be a rubber duck race on the Bogue Falaya River on Saturday, May 9th at 11 A.M.

4. District D --

Councilman Rolling mentioned that the recent Covington Business Workshop was very successful and thanked all of the speakers and participants. Also, he thanked the City staff who helped with the event and the press for publicizing the event. Also, he announced that seven new businesses applied for occupational licenses in January. Upcoming events: Saturday, March 7th – City-wide cleanup day; Sunday, March 15th – Chef Soiree; Friday, March 20 – Sunset at the Landing

concert series; Friday, March 27 – Columbia Street Block Party; Saturday, March 28th – Lagniappe at the Landing; and the Farmer’s Market every Wednesday and Saturday. Also, he mentioned that the dumpster in District D for the City-wide cleanup will be on West 20th Street behind Tyler Square. Also, he mentioned that he is grateful for the opportunity to serve another four years as Councilman for District D.

5. District E –

Councilman Smith mentioned that he has some reservations about the placement of the dumpster on Jahncke Avenue near 11th Avenue for the City-wide cleanup. He plans to check with the neighbors to see if there are any objections to the placement of the dumpster in that location. Also, he congratulated Cody Ludwig and her husband on the birth of their son, Reese. Also, he reminded everyone about the CBA meeting tomorrow night, Wednesday, March 4th, at Beck-N-Call, reception at 5:30 and meeting at 6 P.M.

6. At Large (Vice President) --

Councilman Alexius gave a recap of the recent BOA meeting: (1) denial of a request for a variance to allow the owner of the lot at the corner of West 21st and Polk to resubdivide the lot into two lots, which would have resulted in non-standard lot sizes. Also, he gave a recap of the recent P&Z meeting: (1) approval of the amended concept plan for Faubourg St. John; and (2) tabled two Oak Alley Subdivision items (tentative and final subdivision approval). Also, he announced that an advertisement was published in the St. Tammany Farmer seeking two candidates to serve on the Covington Tree Board. Also, he reminded everyone of some upcoming events: (1) Dr. Arsenault will give a presentation on the “History of Porches in the South” on March 4th at 6 P.M. at the Center for Performing Arts; (2) the Rockin’ the Rails concert series will be held at the Trailhead every Thursday in April; and (3) the first Antiques Festival will be held on April 18-19 at the Trailhead. Also, he mentioned that work continues on the horse and carriage ordinance and it should be introduced in April.

7. At Large (President) –

Council President O’Keefe mentioned that tomorrow, March 4th, is City Attorney Rod Rodrigue’s birthday. Also, he asked Tim Lentz to discuss an upcoming fundraiser.

Covington Police Chief Tim Lentz reminded everyone that Daylight Savings Time starts this weekend. Also, he introduced Rory Roniger with the Krewe of Olympia who discussed the upcoming fundraiser, Blue Jeans Ball and Battle of the Bands, which will be held on Saturday, March 21st at the Trailhead. Mr. Roniger mentioned that the beneficiaries of the fundraiser for this year will be the Covington Police Department, Covington Fire Department, Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center at St. Tammany Parish Hospital and Danielle Inn.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports


1. Mayor Cooper’s comments:

- (a) He thanked the Krewe of Olympia for bringing the fundraising event to Covington.
- (b) He commented that the City had an incredible Mardi Gras season and thanked all of the parade presenters. Also, he commended the Public Works Department for doing a great job in cleaning the streets after the parades.
- (c) He mentioned that the City is seeking two members to serve on the Covington Tree Board and encouraged any City resident who might be interested to submit his or her name.

- (d) He mentioned that Keep Covington Beautiful is having an informational meeting on March 4th at 6 P.M. in the Greater Covington Center Conference Room to discuss a tree planting grant they recently received.
- (e) He reminded the public about the Rockin' the Rails concert series that will be held every Thursday in April.
- (f) He congratulated St. Paul's and SSA for each winning their respective state soccer championships.
- (g) He encouraged the public to help with the City-wide cleanup event in preparation for the Cleanest City Contest.

2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-
Mrs. Hayes mentioned that the City received \$31,528.87 from the recent surplus sale.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 P.M.



R.S. "SAM" O'KEEFE
Council President



BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
Clerk to the Council