

**CITY OF COVINGTON  
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 2, 2014**

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, Larry Rolling, Rick Smith, Lee Alexius  
and Sam O'Keefe

ABSENT: Mark Wright

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Covington Police Chief Tim Lentz.

APPEARERS-None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Councilman Alexius made a motion to adopt the consent calendar, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call – Yeas: 6; Absent: 1 (Wright) to adopt the consent calendar. The consent calendar was adopted.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

Unfinished Business-None.

New Business

Items to be voted on:

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 2014-28** – A Resolution of the Covington City Council in Support of the Application for a Grant Through the Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) to Assist in Funding the Renovation of the City of Covington Fire Department's Ladder Truck and to Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any and All Documents in Connection Therewith (O'Keefe)

Council President O'Keefe led a discussion on Resolution No. 2014-28.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-28, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call – Yeas: 6; Absent: 1 (Wright) to adopt Resolution No. 2014-28. Resolution No. 2014-28 was adopted.

**OPEN THE AGENDA**

Director of Administration Gina Hayes discussed the reason for opening the agenda was to add Resolution No. 2014-29 which authorizes the Mayor to execute the renewal of the tax administration agreement for occupational license tax services.

Council President O'Keefe mentioned that due to the Thanksgiving holidays, the deadline for agenda items was earlier than usual and the resolution had not been submitted by the early deadline.

**There were no comments from the public on opening the agenda.**

**Councilman Alexius made a motion to open the agenda to add Resolution No. 2014-29. Seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call – Yeas: 6; Absent: 1 (Wright) to open the agenda to add Resolution No. 2014-29.**

**2. RESOLUTION NO. 2014-29 – A Resolution of the Covington City Council Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Tax Administration Agreement for Occupational License Tax Services**

**Councilman Alexius made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-29, seconded by Councilman Callahan. Roll call – Yeas: 6; Absent: 1 (Wright) to adopt Resolution No. 2014-29. Resolution No. 2014-29 was adopted.**

#### **COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

##### **A. Council District and Committee Reports**

###### **1. District A –**

**Councilman Callahan** wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

###### **2. District B –**

**Councilman Coner** recognized the December birthdays for City employees. Also, he wished everyone a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year. Also, his quote for this evening was, “Do right, do your best, treat others as you want to be treated,” by Lou Holtz.

###### **3. District C – Absent.**

###### **4. District D --**

**Councilman Rolling** announced the next business resource workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 8:30 A.M. in the Bogue Falaya Hall and the title will be “Covington – Your Place for Business.” He mentioned that more information will be available after the holidays. Upcoming events: Covington Art Market on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 A.M. until 1 P.M. at the Trailhead; Deck the Rails children’s event on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 until 7 P.M. at the Trailhead; and the Farmer’s Market every Wednesday and Saturday. Also, he encouraged the public to shop local and support local businesses. Also, he thanked the Council and Administration for a great year and wished the citizens of Covington a happy and safe holiday season.

###### **5. District E --**

**Councilman Smith** announced that the City Engineer and contractor have confirmed that the East 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue project will be completed by Christmas. Also, he wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

###### **6. At Large (Vice President) --**

**Councilman Alexius** reminded everyone that on December 11<sup>th</sup>, the Covington Heritage Foundation will hold its annual membership drive meeting from 6 P.M. until 9 P.M. at the Southern Hotel. Also, he feels the Council and Administration have worked extremely hard this year and there has been a lot of progress in the City. He’s proud to be a member of the Council and associated with the Administration and looks forward to continued improvements in the City. Also, he wished everyone in the City of Covington a blessed holiday season.

###### **7. At Large (President) --**

**Council President O’Keefe** mentioned that a lot has been accomplished this year and it’s been great working with the Council and Administration. He commented about the fantastic job on the installation of the sidewalks along 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and

Columbia Street and would like to see sidewalks installed on either Pierce or Filmore streets. He stated we are blessed in the City of Covington with the great staff and Administration. Also, he wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

**B. Administrative Comments and Reports**

**1. Mayor Cooper's comments:**

- (a) He announced that the monthly CBA meeting will be held tomorrow, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, for dues-paying members, at the Southern Hotel.
- (b) He announced that the Toys for Tots toy giveaway will take place on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 9 A.M. until noon in the Bogue Falaya Hall. He thanked Police Chief Tim Lentz and the members of the Police Department for working on this program.
- (c) He plans to give a recap of 2014 projects and the highlights of the 2015 projects at the Council meetings in January 2015.
- (d) He commented that it's been a great year working with the Council and a pleasure and honor to serve the citizens of Covington. Also, he wished everybody in the City of Covington a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-**

Mrs. Hayes thanked Mayor Cooper, her fellow Directors, the Council and City employees for a great year. Also, she wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

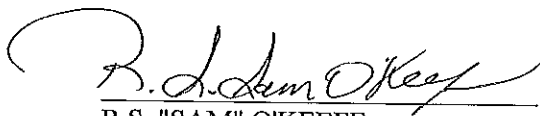
City Attorney Rod Rodrigue wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Covington Police Chief Tim Lentz wished everyone Happy Holidays. Also, he commented that for the second year in a row, some members of the Covington Police Department went out into the community on Thanksgiving Day and helped deliver meals to those less fortunate individuals. Also, they will help deliver meals on New Year's Day.

Also, Chief Lentz shared a story about an incident that happened on Thanksgiving Day. A call came in about a 17 year old female who shoplifted some leggings from a local store. Through investigation, the officers learned that she was basically homeless and shoplifted the leggings because she was cold and needed them for warmth. The officers approached the manager and asked if they could personally pay for the leggings to avoid criminal charges on the 17 year old, to which the manager agreed and the officers paid for the leggings with their own money. He could not be more proud of the efforts of the police officers and what they do on a daily basis. They showed caring, compassion and discretion.

Councilman Coner reminded everyone to vote in the election on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 P.M.

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

  
BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE  
Clerk to the Council