

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 15, 2014**

Council President Alexius 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, Sam O'Keefe and Lee Alexius

ABSENT: Mark Wright

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Larry Rolling.

Council President Alexius read a quote by the 38th President of the United States, Gerald Ford.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Councilman Wright arrived at the meeting at 6:12 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA

Unfinished Business

Items to be voted on:

1. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2014-03-01 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Chapter 66 Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article V. Offenses Affecting Public Safety, to Add Sec. 66-146. Skateboards (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2014-03-01.

The Council, Mayor Cooper and approximately 15 members of the public commented on this item.

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

Councilman Rolling made a motion to withdraw Item No. 2014-03-01, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call: Yeas - 5; Nays - 2 (O'Keefe and Alexius) to withdraw Item No. 2014-03-01. Item No. 2014-03-01 was withdrawn.

New Business

Items to be voted on:

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 2014-11** -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council in Support of the City of Covington's Pursuit of Funding Through the Federal Highway Administration's Recreational Trails Program (Smith)

Mayor Cooper led a discussion on Resolution No. 2014-11.

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-11, seconded by Councilman O'Keefe. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2014-11. Resolution No. 2014-11 was adopted.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council District and Committee Reports

1. District A --

Councilman Callahan mentioned that VFW Post 7286 on Ronald Reagan Hwy. will offer a fish fry/BBQ chicken dinner on Friday, May 2nd, tickets are \$8 each.

2. District B --

Councilman Coner reminded everyone to pick up litter in an attempt to keep our city, parish and state litter-free.

3. District C --

Councilman Wright commented that the recent KCB River Sweep was a great event. Also, he complimented the Public Works Department for its quick response to a new resident who had a plumbing backup after recent rainfall.

4. District D --

Councilman Rolling spoke to the chairman of "A Taste of Covington" who said the event was very successful and it doubled in size since last year. Upcoming events: Egg Rollin' Kids Event on Saturday, April 19th from 10 A.M. until Noon at the Trailhead; Rockin' the Rails concerts on April 17th and 24th from 5 P.M. until 7:30 P.M. at the Trailhead; and Coffee with the Mayor on Wednesday, April 30th at 9 A.M. at the Trailhead.

5. District E --

Councilman Smith complimented the Public Works Department for completing drainage projects in his district and mentioned that the repairs/ improvements work perfectly. Also, he wished everyone a Happy and blessed Easter.

6. At Large (Vice President) --

Councilman O'Keefe thanked Councilman Callahan and others for participating in the litter pickup and cleanup held on Saturday, April 12th in the West 30s. Also, he reminded everyone that the Recreation District #10 proposition will be on the ballot on May 3rd and early voting starts this Saturday, April 19th.

7. At Large (President) --

Council President Alexius thanked the Mayor for meeting with him and Councilmen O'Keefe and Wright this morning and giving them an update on the affairs of the City. Also, he gave a recap of the recent Recreation District #10 meeting. Also, he gave a recap of the recent CHDC meeting and mentioned that an appeal to the decision on the SSA expansion is expected. Also, he reminded everyone about the P&Z meeting scheduled for Monday, April 21st.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports


1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

(a) He thanked Council President Alexius for all of his work in drafting the ordinance dealing with skateboards;

- (b) He reported that the additional street lights on East Boston Street between Acquistapace's and Courthouse Alley have been installed by CLECO;
- (c) He reminded the Council about the St. Tammany Municipal Association dinner/meeting scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, April 16th, at the Madisonville Town Hall;
- (d) He commended the Covington Business Association, Cliff Bergeron and others for their work on the "A Taste of Covington" event;
- (e) He mentioned that the Southern Hotel is holding a job fair, particularly for the housekeeping and front office duties, on April 16th from 9 A.M. until 4 P.M. at the Bogue Falaya Hall;
- (f) He reminded the public that the Recreation District #10 proposition will appear on the May 3rd ballot as well as the runoff for St. Tammany Parish Coroner and that early voting will take place from April 19th through April 26th with the exception of Sunday, April 20th; and
- (g) He wished everyone a very Happy Easter.

2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 P.M.



LEE S. ALEXIUS
Council President



BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
Clerk to the Council