

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 4, 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, Mark Wright, Larry Rolling, Rick Smith,
Sam O'Keefe and Lee Alexius

ABSENT: None

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Wayne Scheyd.

Council President Alexius read a quote by the 34th President of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower.

APPEARERS

Councilman Smith introduced Ms. Robin Pringle, a teacher from Covington High School, and some of the members of the Covington High School Chapter of the St. Tammany Teenage Republications, who were in the audience to observe a City Council meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt the consent calendar, seconded by **Councilman Rolling**. Roll call was unanimous to adopt the consent calendar. The consent calendar was adopted.

REGULAR AGENDA

New Business

Items to be voted on:

- 1. RESOLUTION NO. 2014-01** -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council in Support of the Call for a Special Bond and Tax Election by St. Tammany Recreation District No. 10 in Order to Fund Capital Improvements, Operations, and Maintenance of Facilities to Enhance Recreation for its Citizens (Alexius)

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

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-01, seconded by **Councilman Callahan**. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2014-01. Resolution No. 2014-01 was adopted.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 2014-04 -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council Acknowledging Receipt and Compliance With the Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire From the Legislative Auditor's Office (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Resolution No. 2014-04.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-04, seconded by Councilman Rolling. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2014-04. Resolution No. 2014-04 was adopted.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 2014-05 -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council Requesting the Members of Louisiana's Congressional Delegation to Co-Sponsor and Support the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Resolution No. 2014-05.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-05, seconded by Councilman Callahan. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2014-05. Resolution No. 2014-05 was adopted.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 2014-06 -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council Regarding the Recommendation to the St. Tammany Parish Inspector General Task Force (Wright)

Councilman Wright led a discussion on Resolution No. 2014-06.

Councilman Wright made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-06 with the following revisions:

Page 2, lines 10-12, delete the language, "...to abstain from voting for any of the proposed three options due to the financial burden they would cause and the lack of need for the additional oversight in the City of Covington" and add the language, "...to vote for Option 1 which allows for public opinion and decision in the final outcome of establishing an Inspector General position in St. Tammany Parish."

Seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call: Yeas - 6; Nays - 1 (Coner) to adopt Resolution No. 2014-06 with the above revisions. Resolution No. 2014-06 was adopted with the above revisions.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 2014-07 -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council in Support of Removing the Position of Chief of Police for the City of Covington from the Classified Municipal Civil Service System (O'Keefe)

Mayor Cooper led a discussion on Resolution No. 2014-07.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-07, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2014-07. Resolution No. 2014-07 was adopted.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council District and Committee Reports

1. District A -- None.
2. District B --

Councilman Coner's quote was, "What people think in their heart, so are they." Also, he recognized the February birthdays for City employees.

3. District C --

Councilman Wright discussed the progress of the paving project.

4. District D --

Councilman Rolling announced there will be a District D meeting on Wednesday, February 12th at 6 P.M. in the Council Chambers. Also, he mentioned there were 12 new occupational licenses issued in January. Upcoming events: Coffee with the Mayor will be held tomorrow at 9 A.M. at the Trailhead; Fuhrmann Performing Arts will present "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" on February 7-9 and 14-16 in the Fuhrmann Auditorium; the Krewe of Olympia parade on Saturday, February 22nd; ribbon cuttings for new businesses on February 27th; the Art Market on March 1st from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. at the Trailhead; the Covington Lions Club, Krewe of Covington and the Krewe of Lyra parades on Tuesday, March 4th (Mardi Gras Day); and the Farmer's Market every Wednesday and Saturday.

5. District E --

Councilman Smith reminded everyone about the CBA meeting tomorrow, Wednesday, February 5th, at 5:30 P.M. at St. Tammany Homestead.

6. At Large (Vice President) --

Councilman O'Keefe mentioned that the City is waiting on paperwork from the State to begin the Safe Routes to School sidewalk project. Also, he mentioned that sidewalks have been constructed around Peter Atkins' Park. Also, he discussed some of the newly-paved streets.

7. At Large (President) --

Council President Alexius reminded everyone that the next BOA/P&Z meetings will be held on Monday, February 10th and the next CHDC meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11th. Also, he thanked Robin Pringle and the two Covington High STTARs for attending tonight's meeting.

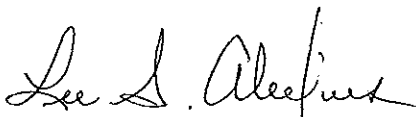
B. Administrative Comments and Reports

1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

- (a) He thanked Robin Pringle and the students from CHS as well as the rest of the audience for attending tonight's meeting;
- (b) He thanked Councilman Wright for his work on the St. Tammany Parish Task Force and commended the Council for the handling of the resolution on tonight's agenda; and
- (c) He gave an update on City projects.

2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-Absent.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.



LEE S. ALEXIUS
Council President



BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
Clerk to the Council