

**CITY OF COVINGTON  
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 1, 2014**

**Council President Alexius** called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Roll call was as follows:

**PRESENT:** John Callahan, Mark Wright, Larry Rolling, Sam O'Keefe and Lee Alexius

**ABSENT:** Jerry Coner and Rick Smith

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kathy Alexius.

**Council President Alexius** read a quote by the 43<sup>rd</sup> President of the United States, George W. Bush.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Councilman Rolling** made a motion to appoint Councilman O'Keefe as President of the Council, seconded by Councilman Callahan. There was no discussion by the Council or the public concerning this nomination. Roll call: Yeas: 5; Absent: 2 (Coner and Smith). Councilman O'Keefe was appointed President of the Council.

**Councilman Wright** made a motion to appoint Councilman Alexius as Vice President of the Council, seconded by Councilman Callahan. There was no discussion by the Council or the public concerning this nomination. Roll call: Yeas: 5; Absent: 2 (Coner and Smith). Councilman Alexius was appointed Vice President of the Council.

**APPEARER**

Alice Couvillon - Tree memorials (Alexius)  
(Ms. Couvillon appeared later in the meeting.)

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Councilman Wright** made a motion to adopt the consent calendar, seconded by Councilman Callahan. Roll call: Yeas - 5; Absent - 2 (Coner and Smith) 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. 2014-06-04** -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Chapter 62 Law Enforcement, to Add Sec. 62-2. Deputy Chief of Police (O'Keefe)

Police Chief Tim Lentz led a discussion on Item No. 2014-06-04.

**Councilman Alexius 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 Alexius made a motion to adopt Item No. 2014-06-04, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call: Yeas - 5; Absent - 2 (Coner and Smith) to adopt Item No. 2014-06-04. Item No. 2014-06-04 was adopted.**

### New Business

#### **Items to be voted on:**

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 2014-16 -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council Accepting the 2013 Audit Report Issued by Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC (Alexius)**

Mr. Don Wheat from Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC led a discussion on Resolution No. 2014-16.

**Councilman Alexius made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-16, seconded by Councilman Rolling. Roll call: Yeas - 5; Absent - 2 (Coner and Smith) to adopt Resolution No. 2014-16. Resolution No. 2014-16 was adopted.**

2. **RESOLUTION NO. 2014-20 -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council Appointing Mike Gilly as an Alternate Member of the Covington Board of Adjustment for a Term of Three (3) Years (Alexius)**

**Councilman Alexius led a discussion on Resolution No. 2014-20.**

**Councilman Alexius made a motion to appoint Mike Gilly as an Alternate Member of the Covington Board of Adjustment for a Term of Three (3) Years, seconded by Councilman Callahan. Roll call: Yeas - 5; Absent - 2 (Coner and Smith) to appoint Mike Gilly as an Alternate Member of the Covington Board of Adjustment for a Term of Three (3) Years.**

**Mr. Gilly was sworn in by City Attorney Rod Rodrigue.**

### **COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

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

1. **District A -- None.**
2. **District B -- Absent.**
3. **District C --**

**Councilman Wright mentioned that he has received comments from the citizens in his district about the prompt response from the Public Works Department with regard to issues late at night and he commended them for their work.**

4. **District D --**

**Councilman Rolling mentioned there were seven new occupational licenses issued in June. Upcoming events: CBA meeting on Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at the St. Tammany Art Association at 5:30 P.M.; Farmer's Market every Wednesday and Saturday; and the Police Department will be offering a free Kids' Summer Camp from July 21<sup>st</sup> through July 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**5. District E -- Absent.**

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

**Councilman Alexius** thanked the Mayor for meeting with him and Council President O'Keefe this morning and giving them an update on the affairs of the City. Also, he gave a recap of the recent P&Z meeting. Also, he mentioned that the HDC approved signage for Heritage Bank at its recent meeting. Also, he mentioned that Council Committees are working on revising the ordinances dealing with smoking on City property, landlord requirements for rental housing, accessory use regulations, BOA meeting procedures and appeal process, and the removal of the requirement for the St. Tammany Parish Board of Health certificate on final plats. Also, he reminded the public about the HDC meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup> and the BOA meeting on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

**7. At Large (President) -- None.**

**APPEARER**

Alice Couvillon led a discussion on tree memorials.

**B. Administrative Comments and Reports**

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

- (a) He congratulated Councilman O'Keefe for being elected as Council President and Councilman Alexius for serving as President for the past year;
- (b) He thanked the Council for addressing the issues of smoking in public places and the landlord requirements for rental housing;
- (c) He mentioned that volunteers from World Changers were in town last week and helped rehabilitate 16 homes in the West 30s neighborhood;
- (d) He mentioned that he attended the 2014 Louisiana Lantern Awards ceremony at the Governor's Mansion and Mele Printing was selected as one of the eight state-wide winners;
- (e) He discussed the Hwy. 21/Tyler Street widening project;
- (f) He discussed Task Order No. 2 of the road improvement project;
- (g) He reminded the public about some upcoming events: Sparks in the Park on Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7 P.M. until 9 P.M.; Lagniappe Rockin' the Rails concert by Don Vappie and the Creole Jazz Serenaders on Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> from 5 P.M. until 8 P.M. at the Trailhead; also on July 12<sup>th</sup>, the Second Saturday Stroll hosted by the St. Tammany Art Association and there will be a restaurant tour to benefit St. Jude; and
- (h) He mentioned there is a St. Tammany Municipal Association quarterly dinner/meeting on Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. in Slidell.


**Councilman Rolling** commended the Mayor for his work on the road improvement project. Also, he expressed his concerns regarding the expected delays as a result of the Hwy. 21/Tyler Street widening project.

**2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-None.**

**Councilman Rolling** reminded the public about the Coffee with the Mayor on Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 A.M. at the Trailhead; Sunset at the Landing concert on Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> from 6 P.M. until 9 P.M.; and Columbia Street Block Party on Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 P.M. until 9:30 P.M.

**Council President O'Keefe** thanked the Administration and staff for their work on the budget.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

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

  
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BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE  
Clerk to the Council