

**CITY OF COVINGTON  
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 20, 2014  
(MEETING HELD IN ST. TAMMANY PARISH  
SCHOOL BOARD ROOM)**

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.

The Invocation was led by Msgr. Frank Giroir.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Mark Wright.

Council President Alexius read a quote by the 40<sup>th</sup> President of the United States,  
Ronald Reagan.

**APPEARER**

Ralph Menetre discussed the Veterans' Reception to be held on Memorial Day,  
May 26, 2014.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**New Business**

Items to be voted on:

- (a) Motion to Limit or Extend Limits of Debate (Alexius)

Councilman O'Keefe made the following motion:

"I move that the appellant, Preserve Historic Covington, be allowed 15 minutes for its presentation to set out its reasons for appeal followed by 15 minutes for those speakers countering the appeal. Any member of the audience who wishes to speak will then be given 2 minutes each for their comments. Council members may question the appellant and/or the speakers. In any event, the public participation will end no later than 7:45 P.M. At that time, the appellant will be given 5 minutes for closing remarks followed by 5 minutes for those individuals countering the appeal. Council will then present its comments and may question any speaker relating to the scale, texture, rhythm or material concerning the Certificate of Appropriateness granted to Saint Scholastica Academy by the Covington Historic District Commission on April 8, 2014."

**Seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call was unanimous to adopt the above motion. The above motion was adopted.**

(b) Appeal of Certificate of Appropriateness - Historic District Commission No. 14-04-09 regarding Proposal by Saint Scholastica Academy (Alexius)

**Council President Alexius** discussed the appeal process and stated that the Council will be addressing the four items involved with the project which are materials, rhythm, texture and scale, during tonight's meeting.

The Appellant, Preserve Historic Covington, presented its reasons for appeal followed by representatives of Saint Scholastica Academy who discussed their proposed expansion plans.

Approximately 23 individuals from the audience offered their comments on this matter.

The Appellant presented its closing remarks followed by closing remarks on behalf of Saint Scholastica Academy.

**Council President Alexius** led a discussion on the proposed expansion plans.

**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 Smith** made a motion that the decision of the Covington Historic District Commission be reversed and the issuance of the Certificate of Appropriateness be denied, seconded by **Councilman O'Keefe**. Roll call: Yeas -- 3; Nays - 4 to overturn and deny the Certificate of Appropriateness issued by the Covington Historic District Commission. The issuance of the Certificate of Appropriateness was upheld.

#### COMMENTS AND REPORTS

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

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

**Councilman Coner** reminded everyone to pick up litter in an attempt to keep our city, parish and state litter-free. Also, his quote for the night was, "What comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart."

3. District C -- None.
4. District D --

**Councilman Rolling** mentioned that there will be a Tyler Street Business Meeting in mid-August and he plans to announce the date at the next Council meeting. Upcoming events: Memorial Day celebration for veterans and their families on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 11 A.M. until 1 P.M. at the Bogue Falaya Hall; Columbia Street Block Party on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 P.M. until 9:30 P.M.; Southern Hotel opening events will be held the weekend of May 30-June 1<sup>st</sup>; Tour de Louisiane Bike Race on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30 A.M.; the Covington Heritage Foundation will hold a Crawfish Boil on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> for existing

and new members; and Sunset at the Landing concert on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> from 6 P.M. until 9 P.M.

5. **District E** -- None.
6. **At Large (Vice President)** -- None.
7. **At Large (President)** --

**Council President Alexius** gave a recap of the recent P&Z meeting. Also, he announced that during the Council meeting on Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at 6 P.M. at the Council Chambers located at 222 East Kirkland Street, Covington, Louisiana, the Council intends to levy, impose and adopt the current millage rates on all property subject to taxation in the City of Covington for the Year 2014.

**B. Administrative Comments and Reports**

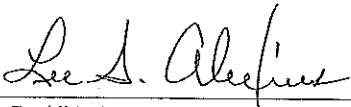
**1. Mayor Cooper's comments:**

- (a) He acknowledged that it was a difficult decision for the Council with regard to the appeal of the Historic District Commission's approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness granted to Saint Scholastica Academy;
- (b) He reminded everyone that the Kiwanis of the Greater Covington area and Life Resources will sponsor a Community Prayer Breakfast on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 A.M. in the Briggs' Assembly Center on St. Paul's campus; and
- (c) He reminded everyone that the re-dedication of the Southern Hotel will be held on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 11 A.M.

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

**Mrs. Hayes** announced that a few items left over from the recent surplus sale sold for the amount of \$139.80. Also, per Councilman Rolling's request, she will provide the Council with an electronic version of the Green Waste brochure.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

  
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LEE S. ALEXIUS  
Council President

  
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BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE  
Clerk to the Council