

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 7, 2013**

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

ABSENT: None.

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ralph Menetre.

APPEARER:

Ralph Menetre announced that the Bicentennial Committee is hosting a reception on Memorial Day, May 27th, at 11 A.M. in the Bogue Falaya Hall to honor veterans and their families. Also, he encouraged residents and businesses to display an American flag on Memorial Day in honor of our veterans.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilman Alexius 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

Unfinished Business

Items to be voted on:

1. **PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2013-04-01 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Adopting the City of Covington Employee Handbook Dated April 2013 (Alexius)**

Councilman Alexius led a discussion concerning Item No. 2013-04-01.

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

Councilman Alexius made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-04-01, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-04-01. Item No. 2013-04-01 was adopted.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2013-04-02 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Chapter 18 Buildings and Building Regulations, Article II. Codes, Division 2. Uniform Construction Code, Sec. 18-52. Specific Code Elements (O'Keefe)**

Council President O'Keefe led a discussion concerning Item No. 2013-04-02.

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

Councilman Rolling made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-04-02, seconded by **Councilman Callahan**. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-04-02. Item No. 2013-04-02 was adopted.

New Business

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 2013-14** -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council Confirming the Mayoral Appointment of Will Smart to the Covington Historic District Commission (CHDC) for a Term of Four (4) Years (Alexius)

Councilman Alexius led a discussion concerning Resolution No. 2013-14.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2013-14, seconded by **Councilman Wright**. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2013-14. Resolution No. 2013-14 was adopted.

Items for discussion

1. Signs for lost pets (Smith)

Councilman Smith led a discussion regarding the present sign ordinance.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council District and Committee Reports

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

Councilman Coner acknowledged the May birthdays for City employees.

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

Councilman Rolling mentioned that the Social Media workshop was held this morning and 94 people attended the event. Also, he announced that eight businesses applied for occupational licenses in April. Also, he reminded everyone about the Bicentennial parade on Saturday, June 29th at noon.

5. **District E --**

Councilman Smith announced upcoming events: Saturday, May 11 -- the LPO Swing in the Pines concert at 4 P.M. in the Bogue Falaya Park; May 17 -- Sunset at the Landing from 6 P.M. - 9 P.M.; May 17 and 18 -- Taps on the Trace at the Trailhead; May 25 -- Jumpin' into Summer children's event at the Trailhead from 10 A.M. until noon; May 27 -- Veterans' Appreciation Reception at the Bogue Falaya Hall from 11 A.M. until 1 P.M.; and June 3 -- Covington Bicentennial Golf Tournament at Money Hill Golf and Country Club.

6. At Large (Vice President) --

Councilman Alexis thanked Mayor Cooper for meeting with him, Council President O'Keefe and Councilman Smith this morning and giving them an update on the affairs of the City.

7. At Large (President) -- None.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports

1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

- (a) He thanked Gina Hayes and Cheryl Andrus for their work in updating the City Employee Handbook.
- (b) He thanked the Bicentennial Committee and all of the volunteers for their hard work in planning events for the celebration.
- (c) He mentioned that the Southern Hotel project is moving forward and they hope to be finished by the end of the year.
- (d) He announced that the State competition for the Cleanest City Contest will take place this Friday, May 10th.
- (e) He congratulated the 2013 graduates from the local high schools.
- (f) He gave an update on City projects.
- (g) He thanked the Inside Northside magazine for publishing an insert on the history of Covington. Also, he mentioned that the St. Tammany Farmer is planning to publish an insert in June and WLAE is producing a 60 minute documentary -- both on the history of Covington.

Councilman Wright requested an update on the drainage issue in Barkley Parc. **Mayor Cooper** responded they have a proposed solution and are determining whether it will be done in-house or if they will accept bids.

Councilman Alexis mentioned there will be a Bicentennial Committee meeting on Thursday, May 9th at 6 P.M. in the library at William Pitcher School.

2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 P.M.



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



BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
Clerk to the Council