

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 19, 2013**

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

Council President Alexius read a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Fire Chief Richard Badon.

Council President Alexius read a quote by the 30th President of the United States, Calvin Coolidge.

APPEARER

Trey Blackall gave an update on the plans of the Recreation District #10 Board.

OPEN THE AGENDA

Councilman Wright made a motion to open the agenda to add Amanda McInnis as an appearer to discuss the YMCA's Home for the Holidays program, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call was unanimous to open the agenda to add Amanda McInnis as an appearer. The agenda was opened and Item B was added under Appearers.

Amanda McInnis discussed the YMCA's Home for the Holidays program.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilman Rolling made a motion to adopt the consent calendar, seconded by Councilman Smith. 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. 2013-09-02 --** An Ordinance of the City of Covington Setting the Compensation for the Mayor of the City of Covington for 2014 (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2013-09-02.

Councilman Smith 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 Wright made a motion to amend Item No. 2013-09-02 as follows:

Page 1, line 21, shall read, "Annual salary of \$79,000 representing a 5.3% increase..."; and

Page 1, line 34, to delete, "6) Unemployment insurance, the premium being paid by the City."

Seconded by Councilman Callahan. Roll call was unanimous to amend Item No. 2013-09-02 as set out above. Item No. 2013-09-02 was amended as set out above.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-09-02, as amended, seconded by Councilman Callahan. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-09-02, as amended. Item No. 2013-09-02 was adopted, as amended.

2. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2013-09-01 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Adopting the 2014 Operating Budget and the Five Year Capital Outlay Budget for the Years 2014-2018 for the City of Covington (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2013-09-01.

Councilman Rolling 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 Coner made a motion to amend the 2014 Proposed Budget dated September 3, 2013 to reflect the changes set out in the 2014 Proposed Revised Budget dated October 10, 2013, seconded by Councilman O'Keefe. Roll call was unanimous to amend Item No. 2013-09-01. Item No. 2013-09-01 was amended.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Item 2013-09-01, as amended, seconded by Councilman Rolling. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item 2013-09-01, as amended. Item 2013-09-01 was adopted, as amended.

New Business

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2013-29 -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council in Support of the Application for a Grant Through the Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) to Assist in Funding the Renovation of the City of Covington Fire Department's Ladder Truck and to Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any and All Documents in Connection Therewith (O'Keefe)

Councilman O'Keefe led a discussion concerning Resolution No. 2013-29.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2013-29, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2013-29. Resolution No. 2013-29 was adopted.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council District and Committee Reports

1. District A --

Councilman Callahan announced that the Boys and Girls Club is holding its annual raffle for a kids' playhouse. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased from Frances Dunn.

2. District B -- None.

3. District C -- None.

4. District D --

Councilman Rolling mentioned that the annual Caroline Darby Memorial Toys for Tots Fund is getting underway with the Covington Police Officer's Recreation Association. Upcoming events: The Covington Heritage Foundation will hold its kick-off celebration on Thursday, December 5th at 6 P.M. at the Center for Performing Arts; Covington Art Market will be held on Saturday, December 7th from 9 A.M. until 1 P.M.; Deck the Rails will be held on Saturday, December 14th at the Trailhead from 4 P.M. until dusk; and the Farmer's Market is held every Wednesday and Saturday. Also, he mentioned there will be a "Small Business Saturday" on November 30th and encouraged everyone to shop local. Also, there will be a District D meeting in January and the date will be announced at the next Council meeting.

5. District E --

Councilman Smith mentioned that he has received positive feedback on the new turn signal at 8th Avenue and Tyler Street. Also, he announced there will be a District E meeting on Wednesday, December 11th at 6:45 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

6. At Large (Vice President) --

Councilman O'Keefe commended the Fire Department for their work on the recent fire on Lee Road. Also, he mentioned that he has received positive feedback recently concerning the Police Department. Also, he commended Jan Butler and Lynne Moore for their work on the "Whisperings" event.

7. At Large (President) --

Council President Alexius gave a recap of the recent HDC, BOA and P&Z meetings.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports

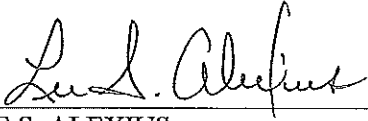
1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

- (a) He commented that we had a very successful Three Rivers Art Festival;
- (b) He wished the best of luck to the local football teams in their playoff games;
- (c) He mentioned that CLECO has put up the Christmas lights throughout the City;
- (d) He urged the public to stay on the north shore and shop local;
- (e) He committed the City's support for the Recreation District #10 Board and its plans to provide needed recreational facilities for the area residents;
- (f) He thanked Amanda McInnis with the YMCA for her work on the local Home for the Holidays program; and
- (g) He thanked the Council for its support in the budget process.

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

The Council, Mayor Cooper and the Administration wished the public a very Happy Thanksgiving!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 P.M.



LEE S. ALEXIUS
Council President



BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
Clerk to the Council