

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 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.

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Judge Scott Gardner.

Council President Alexius read a quote by the 26th President of the United States, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt.

APPEARERS

The Honorable Scott Gardner, Judge, 22nd Judicial District Court, addressed the Council concerning his position as district judge.

Mayor Cooper presented a Proclamation to Lou Gavin on behalf of the National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilman O'Keefe 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. 2013-08-06** -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Chapter 22 Businesses, Article I. In General (Wright)

Councilman Wright led a discussion on Item No. 2013-08-06.

Councilman O'Keefe 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 O'Keefe made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-08-06, seconded by Councilman Rolling. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-08-06. Item No. 2013-08-06 was adopted.

2. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2013-08-01 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Declaring a Portion of the Alley in Square 1505, Division of New Covington, City of Covington, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, Abandoned, Vacated, Closed and Not Needed for Public Purposes (Planning Case No. 13-07-01Street/Alley Revocation) (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2013-08-01.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Callahan. There were no objections to closing the public hearing. The public hearing was closed.

Councilman Rolling made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-08-01, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-08-01. Item No. 2013-08-01 was adopted.

3. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2013-08-02 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Appendix B, Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance of 2010, Part 3. Use Districts (Zoning Case No. 13-07-03TXT) (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2013-08-02.

Councilman O'Keefe 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 Wright made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-08-02, seconded by Councilman Callahan. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-08-02. Item No. 2013-08-02 was adopted.

4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2013-08-03 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Appendix B, Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance of 2010, Part 6. Covington Sign Regulations (Zoning Case No. 13-07-04TXT) (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2013-08-03.

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 Smith made a motion to amend Item No. 2013-08-03 as follows:

Page 13, line 43, to change "14" to "30".

Seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call: Yeas - 4; Nays - 3 (O'Keefe, Alexius and Callahan) to amend Item No. 2013-08-03. Item No. 2013-08-03 was amended.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to amend Item No. 2013-08-03 as follows:

- (1) Page 13, line 17, to delete "in any 60 day period" and insert "in conjunction with the yard or garage sale. (See Sec. 22-6. Garage sales.)"**
- (2) Page 13, line 42, to read "Lost/found pet signs..."**
- (3) Page 21, line 27, to read "...Each advertisement will be motionless for a minimum of eight seconds."**
- (4) Page 21, lines 42 and 43, to insert "(6) Any billboard exceeding 160 square feet in size located in an area involved in a future annexation into the City of Covington."**

Seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to amend Item No. 2013-08-03. Item No. 2013-08-03 was amended.

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-08-03, as amended, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-08-03, as amended. Item No. 2013-08-03 was adopted, as amended.

5. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2013-08-04 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Chapter 10 Amusements and Entertainments, Article II. Entertainment District, Division 2. Permit (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2013-08-04.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Callahan. There were no objections to closing the public hearing. The public hearing was closed.

Councilman Rolling made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-08-04, seconded by Councilman O'Keefe. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-08-04. Item No. 2013-08-04 was adopted.

6. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM NO. 2013-08-05 -- An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the Following Provisions of the Covington Code of Ordinances: Chapter 42 Environment, Article V. Advertising Signs on Rights-of-way (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item No. 2013-08-05.

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

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt Item No. 2013-08-05, seconded by Councilman Rolling. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item No. 2013-08-05. Item No. 2013-08-05 was adopted.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council District and Committee Reports

1. District A --

Councilman Callahan announced that the VFW is hosting its annual fish fry on October 4th beginning at 11 A.M. and tickets are \$7 each.

2. District B --

Councilman Coner's scripture reading was Romans 10:10, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

3. District C --

Councilman Wright gave a recap of the recent meeting of the St. Tammany Parish Inspector General Task Force.

4. District D --

Councilman Rolling announced that the next business workshop entitled "Tis the Season for Your Business" will be held on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 in the Bogue Falaya Hall from 8:30 until noon. Upcoming events: Thursday, September 26th - Time capsule closing and concert from 5 P.M. until 8 P.M. at the Trailhead; Rockin' the Rails concerts begin on Thursday, October 3rd from 5 P.M. until 7:30 P.M. at the Trailhead.; and the Covington Art Market on Saturday, October 5th from 9 A.M. until 1 P.M. at the Trailhead.

5. District E --

Councilman Smith reminded everyone that on Saturday, September 21st, Keep Covington Beautiful is sponsoring the Bogue Falaya River Sweep to clean up the litter in the river.

6. At Large (Vice President) --

Councilman O'Keefe commented that a picture of Councilman Rolling appears in the latest issue of Sports Illustrated. Also, he mentioned that during the flushing of the hydrants in River Forest, he noticed the water was bronze in color. Also, he requested that the Police Department patrol all areas in the City as there are basketball goals in the streets causing traffic hazards.

7. At Large (President) --

Council President Alexius reminded everyone that the budget work sessions begin tomorrow night. Also, he mentioned that a Finance Committee meeting was held last week in preparation for the budget work sessions. Also, he announced there will be only one meeting in December, on December 10th, and the meetings on December 3rd and 17th will be cancelled.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports

1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

- (a) He commended the Council for its work in addressing and clarifying ordinances in the Code;
- (b) He recognized Randy Perkins and his wife, Lynn, along with Dione Yager for their work in presenting "Les Miserables"; and
- (c) He gave an update on the 2013/2014 road improvement project.

Daniel Hill, City Engineer, gave an update on City projects.

2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Wright made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilman O'Keefe. Roll call was unanimous to go into Executive Session.


Council went into Executive Session at 7:28 P.M.

Councilman Coner made a motion to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call was unanimous to come out of Executive Session.

Council came out of Executive Session at 7:45 P.M.

Council President Alexius stated the Executive Session was to discuss pending litigation and no votes were taken during the Executive Session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 P.M.



LEE S. ALEXIUS
Council President



BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
Clerk to the Council