

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 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 Diane Weiss.

Council President Alexius read a quote by the 25th President of the United States, William McKinley.

APPEARER

Diane Weiss, on behalf of the 15th Street Flyers, presented a \$500 donation to Mayor Cooper for the City of Covington's Recreation Department. Also, she presented a \$500 donation to Amanda McGinnis for the YMCA.

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

Council President Alexius announced that Councilman Coner withdrew Resolution No. 2013-24 from tonight's agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-23 -- A Resolution of the Covington City Council Confirming the Re-Appointment of Robert S. Hewitt as an Alternate Member of the Covington Board of Adjustment (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Resolution No. 2013-23.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2013-23, seconded by **Councilman Coner**. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2013-23. Resolution No. 2013-23 was adopted.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council District and Committee Reports

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

Councilman Coner recognized the September birthdays for City employees. Also, his scripture reading was Romans Chapter 10, Verse 9, "That if thou shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God has raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

3. District C --

Councilman Wright mentioned that the second phase of the drainage work in River Forest has begun. Also, he announced there will be a meeting of the St. Tammany Parish Inspector General Task Force on Monday, September 9th at 6 P.M. in the Parish Council Chambers and the guest speaker will be Ed Quatrevaux, New Orleans Inspector General.

4. District D --

Councilman Rolling announced that eight businesses applied for occupational licenses in August. Also, he encouraged the public to shop local and support the local business owners. Also, he mentioned that a press release should go out next week concerning the business workshop scheduled for October.

5. District E -- Councilman Smith mentioned there will be a CBA meeting tomorrow, September 4th, at Mattina Bella Restaurant on Gibson Street at 5:30 P.M. Upcoming events: "Les Miserables" will be presented September 6-8 and 13-15 at the Fuhrmann Auditorium; Sunset at the Landing concert on Friday, September 20th from 6 P.M. until 9 P.M.; the Columbia Street Block Party and Car Show on September 27th; and the Rockin' the Rails concert series begins in October.

Council President Alexius mentioned the final bicentennial committee meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept 5th at the Trailhead and the final bicentennial event will be held on September 26th at the Trailhead when the time capsule will be closed.

6. At Large (Vice President) --None.

7. At Large (President) --

Council President Alexius thanked Mayor Cooper for meeting with him and Councilman O'Keefe this morning and giving them an update on the affairs of the City. Also, he mentioned there will be a P&Z Committee meeting on Thursday to discuss a zoning issue. Also, he announced that the schedule for the budget work sessions is being finalized.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports

1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

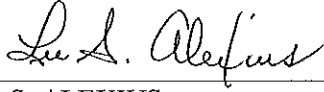
- (a) He provided dates for the budget work sessions to Mrs. Hayes;
- (b) He gave an update on the Community Disaster Loan (FEMA);
- (c) He announced that beginning January 2014, the City will no longer pay the employees' contributions to their retirement plans; and
- (d) He announced that DOTD will fund the construction of a roundabout at Jefferson Avenue, Hwy 190 Business (Boston Street) and 21st Avenue.

Councilman Wright asked if the 2014 budget contained funds for the repayment of the Community Disaster Loan. The Mayor responded that it would be discussed at the budget hearings.

2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-

Mrs. Hayes commented there will be a public meeting in the next few weeks to discuss the Biggert-Waters Act and how the changes will affect Covington residents.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P.M.



LEE S. ALEXIUS
Council President



BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
Clerk to the Council