

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2012**

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, Rick Smith, Sam O'Keefe
and Lee Alexius

ABSENT: Larry Rolling

A Moment of Silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Alexius read a quote by the 12th President of the United States, Zachary Taylor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

APPEARER

Major Larry Hingle from the LA Office of Alcohol & Tobacco Control announced that the Covington Police Department has been selected to receive a sub-grant in the amount of \$3,159.00 to fund officer overtime to enforce compliance of underage drinking laws.

REGULAR AGENDA

Unfinished Business

A. Items to be voted on:

- 1. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-12-01 –**
An Ordinance of the City of Covington Establishing and Adopting Chapter 83, Fees, Article II. Subdivision Fees, Sec. 83-2.
Schedule of Subdivision Fees (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item 2011-12-01.

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

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt Item 2011-12-01, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item 2011-12-01. Absent: Rolling. Item 2011-12-01 was adopted.

- 2. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-12-03 –**
An Ordinance of the City of Covington Enlarging the Boundaries of the City of Covington, Louisiana, Describing the Area to be

Annexed and Added Thereto and Also Classifying This Property as Regional Commercial District (CR) Under the Zoning Laws of the City of Covington - Zoning Case 11-11-04ANNEX (Smith)

Councilman O'Keefe led a discussion concerning Item 2011-12-03.

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

Councilman Wright made a motion to adopt Item 2011-12-03, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item 2011-12-03. Absent: Rolling. Item 2011-12-03 was adopted.

New Business

Council President Alexius led a discussion concerning the request by Administration to open the agenda under New Business, Items to be voted on, to add Resolution No. 2012-04, A Resolution Supporting the City of Covington Applying for Community Water Enrichment Funds.

There were no comments or objections by the public concerning the request to open the agenda under New Business.

Councilman Coner made a motion to open the agenda under New Business to add Resolution No. 2012-04, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to open the agenda under New Business to add Resolution No. 2012-04. Absent: Rolling. The agenda was opened to add Resolution No. 2012-04, A Resolution Supporting the City of Covington Applying for Community Water Enrichment Funds.

Items to be voted on:

- 1. RESOLUTION NO. 2012-02 – A Resolution Renaming Styra Drive in The Groves at Mile Branch Creek Development to Emily Diamond Way (Alexius)**

Council President Alexius led a discussion concerning Resolution No. 2012-02.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2012-02, seconded by Councilman O'Keefe. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2012-02. Absent: Rolling. Resolution No. 2012-02 was adopted.

David Diamond, son of Emily Diamond, and Habitat for Humanity personnel and volunteers acknowledged their support for the Resolution.

- 2. RESOLUTION NO. 2012-03 – A Resolution Authorizing the Expansion of the Covington Cultural District into Designated Areas of Covington and Unincorporated St. Tammany Parish (Callahan)**

Mayor Cooper led a discussion concerning Resolution No. 2012-03.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2012-03, seconded by Councilman Callahan. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2012-03. Absent: Rolling. Resolution No. 2012-03 was adopted.

3. **RESOLUTION NO. 2012-04** – A Resolution Supporting the City of Covington Applying for Community Water Enrichment Funds (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion concerning Resolution No. 2012-04.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2012-04, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2012-04. Absent: Rolling. Resolution No. 2012-04 was adopted.

Items for discussion:

1. Bogue Falaya Dog Park (Smith)

Councilman Smith led a discussion concerning the proposed dog park.

Council President Alexius requested that the Council submit any other proposed sites for the dog park by the end of January.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council Committee Comments and Reports

1. Administrative Liaison-

Council President Alexius stated that the Council's Finance Committee met with members of Administration to discuss the problems with the utility bills. Also, he gave an update on the 2011 Budget figures.

(a) Historic Committee Update-None.

2. Community Development/Housing-

Councilman Callahan announced that the Martin Luther King ceremony was a huge success. He thanked Mayor Cooper, the City of Covington and all who participated in this event.

3. Economic Development-None.

4. Planning & Zoning, Annexation-None.

5. Public Safety/Governmental Services-

Councilman O'Keefe stated that he, along with Councilmen Alexius and Coner, met with the Mayor and representatives of the Covington Fire Department to discuss the Fire Protection Services Agreement. Also, he thanked the Public Works Department for its work in repairing water breaks caused by contractors. Also, he announced that the St. Tammany Parish Junior Livestock Show and Auction will be held on January 27, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. at the St. Tammany Parish Fairgrounds. This event is free to the public and the proceeds from the auction support the St. Tammany FFA and 4H members.

6. Recreation/CPOC-

Councilman Smith announced that Pam Bordelon, the Chairperson of CPOC, has resigned due to work obligations and her replacement will be selected from residents of District D. Also, he received an email from a constituent who commended the Public Works Department for the fine job they do, in particular Robbie and Todd.

7. Traffic and Transportation-None.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports

1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

Mayor Cooper stated that the Livestock event at the Fairgrounds also includes an auction for livestock.

Also, he has requested that Chief Badon, Chief Palmisano, Al Courouleau and Wayne Mayberry provide him with a year-end report based on their respective departments. Also, he has further requested that these individuals appear at the next Council meeting to give their reports to the Council and the public.

Council President Alexius requested an update from Mayor Cooper concerning the new website.

Mayor Cooper stated the new website is ready to go with the exception of some cosmetic and aesthetic problems. The launch date has been pushed back until the problems have been resolved.

- 2. Gina Hayes, Director of Administration-None.**
- 3. Julian J. Rodrigue, Jr., City Attorney-None.**

Councilman Coner requested that the Administration consider recycling paper at City Hall. Also, he requested that information be printed on both sides of the paper when possible.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ _____
LEE S. ALEXIUS
Council President

/s/ _____
BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
Clerk to the Council