

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2011**

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 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Alexius read a quote by Coach Vince Lombardi.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt the consent calendar, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt the consent calendar. The consent calendar was adopted.

APPEARERS-None.

REGULAR AGENDA

Unfinished Business

A. Items to be voted on:

- 1. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-07-01 – An Ordinance Enlarging The Boundaries Of The City Of Covington, Louisiana, Describing The Area To Be Annexed And Added Thereto, And Describing The New Boundaries Of Said Municipality And Also Classifying The Property As PRD (Planned Residential District) Under The Zoning Laws Of The City Of Covington (Zoning Case No. 11-5-01 ANNEX) (Alexius) (TABLED AUGUST 16 AND OCTOBER 4, 2011)**

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item 2011-07-01.

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 Rolling made a motion to table Item 2011-07-01. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to amend Item 2011-07-01, Page 2, line 48, to add, "WHEREAS, Renaissance Neighborhood Development Corporation agrees to post a two year warranty bond equal to 25% of the cost

of the infrastructure.” Seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to amend Item 2011-07-01. Item 2011-07-01 was amended.

Councilman O’Keefe made a motion to adopt Item 2011-07-01, as amended, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call – Yeas: 6, Abstain: 1 (Callahan). Item 2011-07-01 was adopted, as amended.

- 2. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-10-02 –**
An Ordinance of the City of Covington Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Developmental Agreement with Wal-Mart Louisiana, LLC (Smith)

Councilman Smith led a discussion on Item 2011-10-02.

Councilman Wright 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 Coner made a motion to adopt Item 2011-10-02, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item 2011-10-02. Item 2011-10-02 was adopted.

- 3. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-10-06 –**
An Ordinance of the City of Covington Amending the 2011 Budget to Appropriate Funds for the Purchase of Property Adjacent to Menetre Park, Specifically Being Square 300, Division of New Covington, City of Covington, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana (Alexius)

Mayor Cooper led a discussion on Item 2011-10-06.

Councilman Rolling 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 Coner made a motion to adopt Item 2011-10-06, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item 2011-10-06. Item 2011-10-06 was adopted.

- 4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-10-07 –**
An Ordinance of the City of Covington Authorizing the Mayor to Execute All Legal Documents Necessary to Acquire Property Adjacent to Menetre Park, Specifically Being Square 300, Division of New Covington, City of Covington, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item 2011-10-07.

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 Coner made a motion to adopt Item 2011-10-07, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item 2011-10-07. Item 2011-10-07 was adopted.

New Business

A. Items removed from consent calendar: None.

B. Items to be voted on:

- 1. RESOLUTION NO. 2011-25 – A Resolution Proposing the Acceptance of Ownership From the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to the City of Covington of Portions of State Highways Including LA Hwy 437 and LA Hwy 437 Spur (Wright)**

Councilman Wright led a discussion on Resolution No. 2011-25.

Councilman O’Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-25, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2011-25. Resolution No. 2011-25 was adopted.

- 2. RESOLUTION NO. 2011-26 –A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Amendment to Contract for Hurricane and Other Disaster Debris Removal, Reduction and Disposal (Alexius)**

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Resolution No. 2011-26.

Council President Alexius stated that Resolution No. 2011-26 should be amended to include an additional “WHEREAS” paragraph on Page 1, line 30, as follows: “WHEREAS, any notice, demand, communication or request required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and delivered in person or sent by certified mail, postage prepaid, to the City of Covington, Director of Administration, 317 N. Jefferson Avenue, Covington, LA 70433.”

Councilman Wright made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-26, as amended, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2011-26, as amended. Resolution 2011-26 was adopted, as amended.

- 3. RESOLUTION NO. 2011-27 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Tax Administration Agreement for Occupational License Tax Services (Alexius)**

Director of Administration Gina Hayes led a discussion on Resolution No. 2011-27.

Councilman Rolling made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-27, seconded by Councilman O’Keefe. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2011-27. Resolution 2011-27 was adopted.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council Committee Comments and Reports

1. Administrative Liaison-

Council President Alexius stated that he and Councilman O'Keefe met with Mayor Cooper and thanked the Mayor for keeping the Council informed on items affecting the City.

(a) Historic Committee Update-

Council President Alexius mentioned that the Historic Commission had a meeting last week and a signage issue involving the Cupcake Connection on Boston Street was approved.

2. Community Development/Housing-None.

3. Economic Development-

Councilman Rolling mentioned that the Three Rivers Art Festival was a huge success. Upcoming events: November 26th at the Trailhead – the Blue Christmas Fest starting at 1 P.M. and at 4:45 P.M. there will be the Lighting of the Oaks and a concert at the Emergency Operations Center on Boston Street. Also, with the Holiday Season, he encouraged everyone to buy and support local businesses.

4. Planning & Zoning, Annexation-

Council President Alexius stated that the Planning & Zoning Commission held a meeting last night and every item on the agendas was tabled.

5. Public Safety/Governmental Services-

Councilman O'Keefe thanked Captain Jack West for the great job he has done while Chief Palmisano has been out. Also, he thanked the Fire Department for the good job they do.

6. Recreation/CPOC-

Councilman Smith reported that a public meeting will be scheduled to discuss the potential dog park. He has been notified that the City will experience a shortage of baseball fields due to the upcoming sale of the Burns' fields. Also, he thanked the Mayor and the Public Works Department for posting Walker Alley as a one-way alley.

Mayor Cooper stated that St. Tammany Parish Government may be purchasing the Burns' property and he has instructed the City's Recreation Director to plan to move all City property and to prepare a plan for practice fields.

7. Traffic and Transportation-None.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports

1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

(a) The Mayor mentioned there was a Presentation by Municipal Consulting Services for the Police and Fire Efficiency Report earlier today. He will request that Chief Badon and Captain West review the recommendations and submit their recommendations for immediate, short term and long term implementation. The report is on the City's website for public review.

2. Julian J. Rodrigue, Jr., City Attorney-None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ _____
LEE S. ALEXIUS
Council President

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