

**CITY OF COVINGTON
COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 1, 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 William Henry Harrison, the ninth President of the United States.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilman O'Keefe made a motion to adopt the consent calendar, seconded by **Councilman Rolling**. 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 2011-09-02 –**
An Ordinance Setting the Compensation for the Mayor of Covington for the Year 2012 (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item 2011-09-02.

Councilman Coner 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 Rolling made a motion to amend Item 2011-09-02, Page 1, lines 20 through 23, to state "Annual salary of \$70,700 representing an approximate 3% increase over the 2011 rate of compensation," seconded by **Councilman Wright**. Roll call – Yeas: 2 (Rolling and Wright); Nays: 5 (Smith, O'Keefe, Alexius, Callahan and Coner). The motion failed.

Councilman Smith made a motion to amend Item 2011-09-02, Page 1, lines 20 through 23, to state "Annual salary of \$75,000 representing an approximate 9.266% increase over the 2011 rate of compensation," seconded by **Councilman O'Keefe**. Roll call – Yeas: 5 (Smith, O'Keefe, Alexius, Callahan

and Coner); Nays: 2 (Rolling and Wright). The motion passed by a 5 to 2 vote. Item 2011-09-02 was amended.

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt Item 2011-09-02, as amended, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call – Yeas: 5 (Smith, O’Keefe, Alexius, Callahan and Coner); Nays: 2 (Rolling and Wright). Item 2011-09-02 was adopted, as amended.

- 2. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-09-01 – An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Operating and Capital Outlay Budget for the City of Covington for the Year 2012 and the Five Year Capital Outlay Plan for Years 2012-2016 (Alexius)**

Council President Alexius led a discussion Item 2011-09-01.

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 Smith made a motion to amend Item 2011-09-01 as follows:

In the Budget:

Page 22, Administration – Mayor, change line item 410110, Salary Straight Fulltime, from \$76,569 to \$75,000;

Page 22, Administration – Mayor, change line item 420500, FICA, from \$4800 to \$4650;

Page 22, Administration – Mayor, change line item 420600, Medicare, from \$1200 to \$1100;

In the Budget ordinance:

Lines 19 and 20, change the wording “...prior to the onset of the year 2012 and by the first council meeting in December of each year; and...”

Seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to amend Item 2011-09-01. Item 2011-09-01 was amended.

Councilman Coner made a motion to adopt Item 2011-09-01, as amended, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item 2011-09-01, as amended. Item 2011-09-01 was adopted, as amended.

- 3. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-09-04 – 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 this Property as Planned Residential District (PRD) Under the Zoning Laws of the City of Covington - Zoning Case 11-10-02ANNEX (Alexius)**

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item 2011-09-04.

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 2011-09-04, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call: Yeas – 6; Nays – 1 (Rolling). Item 2011-09-04 was adopted.

- 4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ITEM 2011-10-01 – An Ordinance of the City of Covington Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Developmental Agreement with Rainbow Northshore Buick GMC, L.L.C. (Alexius)**

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Item 2011-10-01.

Councilman Rolling 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 2011-10-01, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Item 2011-10-01. Item 2011-10-01 was adopted.

New Business

A. Items removed from consent calendar: None.

B. Items to be voted on:

- 1. RESOLUTION NO. 2011-20 – A Resolution of the Covington City Council Authorizing the Commencement of a Reapportionment of the Election District Boundaries of the City of Covington, Louisiana (Alexius)**

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Resolution No. 2011-20.

Mr. Mike Hefner from Geographic Planning and Demographic Services, LLC discussed the reapportionment process.

Councilman Wright made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-20, seconded by Councilman Smith. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2011-20. Resolution No. 2011-20 was adopted.

- 2. RESOLUTION NO. 2011-21 – A Resolution Confirming the Mayoral Appointment of Jan Butler to the Covington Tree Board for a Term of Three (3) Years (O’Keefe)**

Councilman O’Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-21, seconded by Councilman Rolling. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2011-21. Resolution No. 2011-21 was adopted.

- 3. RESOLUTION NO. 2011-22 – A Resolution Confirming the Mayoral Appointment of Ray Jenkins, Jr. to the Covington Tree Board for a Term of Three (3) Years (O’Keefe)**

Councilman O’Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-22, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2011-22. Resolution No. 2011-22 was adopted.

4. **RESOLUTION NO. 2011-23** – A Resolution Confirming the Mayoral Appointment of Sam Pizzitola to the Covington Tree Board for a Term of Three (3) Years (O’Keefe)

Councilman O’Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-23, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2011-23. Resolution No. 2011-23 was adopted.

Jan Butler, Ray Jenkins, Jr. and Sam Pizzitola were sworn in by City Attorney, Julian J. Rodrigue, Jr.

5. **RESOLUTION NO. 2011-24** – A Resolution Appointing Trustees of the St. Tammany Public Trust Financing Authority and Designating Their Terms of Office (Alexius)

Council President Alexius led a discussion on Resolution No. 2011-24.

Councilman O’Keefe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-24, seconded by Councilman Coner. Roll call was unanimous to adopt Resolution No. 2011-24. Resolution No. 2011-24 was adopted.

C. Items for discussion:

1. Cancellation of Council meeting on December 20, 2011 (Alexius)

Council President Alexius stated that the second Council meeting in December, scheduled for December 20, 2011, has been cancelled due to there being no items to be voted on or considered at this meeting.

2. 2012 Council meeting schedule (Alexius)

Council President Alexius stated that the second meeting in February 2012 will be cancelled due to the third Tuesday is February 21st, which is Mardi Gras Day.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

A. Council Committee Comments and Reports

1. Administrative Liaison-

Council President Alexius stated the bond closing on the two bond issues is tomorrow in New Orleans. Also, next Wednesday, November 9th at 5:00 P.M. is the Work Session on the Subdivision Regulations in the Conference Room in the Council Chambers. Also, he thanked the Mayor for keeping the Council updated on items affecting the City.

(a) **Historic Committee Update-None.**

2. Community Development/Housing-None.

3. Economic Development-

Councilman Rolling reported: the Rockin’ the Rails was a great success; the Three Rivers Art Festival is November 12th and 13th; and the next CBA meeting is tomorrow, November 2nd, at 5:30 P.M. at Tugenhaut’s on Boston Street. Also, he

reported there were eight (8) new occupational licenses approved in October 2011 and so far this year, there have been 88 new occupational licenses approved.

4. Planning & Zoning, Annexation-

Council President Alexius stated that the Planning & Zoning Commission has an important meeting on November 14th dealing with the Wal-Mart annexation.

5. Public Safety/Governmental Services-

Councilman O'Keefe stated that the grease trap and backflow preventer ordinances have been introduced and will be adopted next month.

6. Recreation/CPOC-

Councilman Smith reported that the Menetre boat launch cement docks are completed and recognized Public Works employees, Barry Powell and Kim Lange, for their work on the docks. Also, he plans to schedule a public meeting to discuss the potential site for the dog park.

7. Traffic and Transportation-None.

B. Administrative Comments and Reports

1. Mayor Cooper's comments:

- (a) The Mayor commended his staff and the Council for their work on the 2012 budget.
- (b) There will be a Work Session on Tuesday, November 15th at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers for a presentation of the Police and Fire Efficiency Study. Hard copies will be available by Thursday and by early next week, it will be posted on the City's website.
- (c) The Mayor updated the public on the 8th Avenue/Jefferson road work.

Councilman O'Keefe commended the Public Works crews for their work repairing water leaks. Also, he led a discussion on the condition of the streets in River Forest.

Councilman Rolling led a discussion on the recurring leaks on Boston Street near the Southern Hotel.

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

Covington resident Betty Pogue led a discussion regarding stop signs located in the City.

Covington resident Bill Leach led a discussion regarding the annexation of Barkley Parc, Phase 3.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ _____
LEE S. ALEXIUS
Council President

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