ORDINANCE # 2016-12(E)
INTRODUCED BY O'Keefe
DATE INTRODUCED 3/14/16
ITEM NUMBER 2016-03-03
PUBLIC HEARING 3/14/16
ADOPTED/TABLED 3/14/16
EFFECTIVE 3/11/16
BOOK # PAGE #
RECORDATION #
AMENDED BY ORDINANCE #
DATE AMENDED

ADOPTION INTRODUCTION

CITY OF COVINGTON
STATE OF LOUISIANA

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-12(E)

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON ADDRESSING THE FLOOD OF MARCH 2016

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Covington has made a Declaration of Public Emergency dated March 11, 2016, and effective March 11, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Flood of March 2016 and its aftermath have created a public emergency affecting life, health, property and public safety within the meaning of Covington Home Rule Charter Section 2-14(A); and

WHEREAS, the City Council has provided notice of this Emergency Public Meeting and holds this public hearing in accordance with the emergency provisions of La R.S. 42:19(A)(1)(b)(iv) et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Covington, at its Emergency session convened, that the City of Covington does pass this Emergency Ordinance which, absent the assignment of a specific time herein, shall be enforceable for only sixty (60) days from the effective date of the Declaration of Public Emergency or until revocation of the Declaration of Public Emergency, whichever occurs sooner:

(1) The City Council ratifies the Mayor's Declaration of Public Emergency; and

(2) To the extent the Mayor deems it to be in the best interest of the Citizens of Covington, the City of Covington shall follow the emergency plan as implemented by the Parish of St. Tammany; and

(3) To the extent the Mayor deems it to be in the best interest of the Citizens of Covington, the City of Covington shall follow its own emergency plan, deviate from the parish's emergency plan or deviate from its own emergency plan; and

(4) All fines for violations of City of Covington Ordinances which exacerbate the emergency situation, or prey upon citizens made more vulnerable by the emergency, shall be doubled unless greater fines are set forth herein; and

(5) The City will enforce the building permit requirement for flood-damaged properties; and

(6) The City temporarily waives building permit fees for the repairs of flood-damaged properties; and

(7) The City temporarily waives special use permit fees for PODS for flood-damaged properties; and

(8) All contractors charging a fee for providing emergency services to residents shall be required to possess a valid state contracting license. The City of Covington shall present an approval sticker to each contractor, upon verification of licensure. Any contractor who commences construction without verification of licensure shall be liable unto the City of Covington for a fee of $5000.00 per violation and shall be permanently barred from performing such services in the City of Covington; and

(9) In the Covington Historic District, no Certificate of Appropriateness shall be required to return the property to the same condition in which it existed prior to the storm; and

(10) The Mayor shall be authorized to engage in the following acts, and absent specific restrictions herein, the only requirement shall be that he report his actions to the Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting:

(A) Execute any and all contracts necessary for the emergency repairs of infrastructure;

(B) Transfer any unencumbered appropriation balance in the operating budget from one department, office or agency to another to meet budget shortfalls for emergency expenses other than capital improvements necessitated by the Flood of March 2016, with immediate notification thereafter to the chairman of the Finance Committee. Any reimbursement of these expenses shall be reallocated in the budget to the original department, office or agency line item; and

(C) Borrow money or incur other debt in order to secure supplies or services necessitated by the Flood of March 2016; and

(D) Take all steps reasonably calculated to lead to emergency relief, including the execution of contracts to carry out any of the of the matters authorized herein and to sign any documents necessary to seek reimbursement of City expenditures from the Federal Emergency Management Association or other Federal, state or local sources.

WHEREUPON, this ordinance having been submitted in writing, having been read by title and adopted at a public meeting of the City Council

of the City of Covington, State of Louisiana, was then submitted to an official vote as a whole, the vote thereon being as follows:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION by Rolling, seconded by Wright.

YEAS: 5 **ABSENT:** 2 (Callahan + Alexius)

NAYS: 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 2016.

R.S. "SAM" O'KEEFE
COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Bonnie D. Champagne
BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
COUNCIL CLERK

Presented to the Mayor this 14th day of March, 2016, at 3:21 o'clock P.M.

Bonnie D. Champagne
BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
COUNCIL CLERK

Approved ✓ or Vetoed ___ by the Mayor on this 14th day of March, 2016.

MICHAEL B. COOPER
MAYOR

Received from the Mayor on the 14th day of March, 2016, at 3:23 o'clock P.M.

Bonnie D. Champagne
BONNIE D. CHAMPAGNE
COUNCIL CLERK