MINUTES CALLED MEETING MARCH 14, 2019

A called meeting of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Alleghany County Government Complex in Low Moor, Virginia.

The meeting was called to order by Alleghany County Board of Supervisors Vice Chairman Cletus Nicely with the following members present: Vice Chairman Nicely, Mr. James Griffith, Mrs. Joan Vannorsdall and Ms. Shannon Cox. County Administrator John Lanford was also present.

The Council for the City of Covington was called to order by Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr. with the following members present: Mayor Sibold, Vice Mayor David S. Crosier, Councilman Raymond C. Hunter and Councilman S. Allan Tucker. Councilman C. J. Entsminger was delayed. Interim City Manager Clay Goodman was also present.

The purpose of the meeting was to hold a joint meeting between the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors and the Covington City Council for presentation of budget requests and information.

Debra Byer, Clerk of the Circuit Court, presented a request for an additional full-time employee. She noted the work load of this office has increased and the current staff provides additional services to the citizen such as passports.

Lisa Hicks, Librarian of the Alleghany Regional Library, expressed appreciation for the support of the governing bodies which allowed the Library to have a new roof. She also requested funding for additional staff to assist with the many programs offered. Ms. Hicks noted that there is a minimum level of employees determined by the State of Virginia. She included her funding request for the 2019/2020 FY Budget.

Ingrid Barber, Executive Director of the Community Services Board, provided information and a brief update on services and funding. She noted a 10% increase in services offered and an explanation regarding her funding request.

Ed Stein, Commonwealth Attorney, expressed appreciation for all the support the localities have provided over the years. He also expressed appreciation of the implementation of the mental health services being provided to citizens of the area. He had a request for a part-time and full-time employee. Mr. Stein has been appointed as a judge for the 25th Judicial District Court. He introduced Ann Gardiner as his successor as Commonwealth Attorney.

Major Terry Cronk, Administrator of the Alleghany Regional Jail, presented information regarding the increase in population at the Jail which also creates increased costs. When the population exceeds what is allowable, individuals must be transported and housed at another facility at a cost of \$30 per day. He noted that the cost of operation of the Jail and the care of the individuals, including medical, meals, library, etc. is also increasing. He requested a 9.3% increase in budget to cover the increase in costs. Major Cronk advised that there is a need for a long term solution to provide additional space in the jail.

Spokesman for the Sheriff's Department, made a request for \$20,000 in supplies and equipment and \$5,000 for mileage, training, etc.

Dawn Riddle, Administrator of the Social Services Department, noted needs for the Department including vehicles. She also addressed the cost of services provided to children which has increased significantly.

No further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

THOMAS H. SIBOLD, JR., MAYOF

EDITH S. WOOD, CITY CLERK