MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 8, 2019

The regular meeting of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 333 W. Locust Street, Covington, Virginia.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr. A moment of silence was held followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Council showed all members present as follows: Mayor Sibold, Vice Mayor David S. Crosier, Councilman Claiborne "C.J." Entsminger, Jr., Councilman Raymond C. Hunter and Councilman S. Allan Tucker.

City Manager: Krystal Onaitis City Attorney: Mark Popovich

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter, Council voted to approve the following minutes as presented: Work Session of September 3, 2019; Regular Meeting of September 10, 2019 and Called Meeting of September 24, 2019.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL OF CHECKS

David Bryant, Director of Finance and HR, presented a brief report and noted items that were time-sensitive. Council had also been given information regarding the financial report and list of checks for September prior to the meeting. Following the report, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve the monthly financial report and the list of checks for September. Motion carried 5 to 0.

REQUESTS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Attorney Mark Popovich presented information regarding the Retainer Agreement for legal counsel to represent the City in the Opioid Class Action Suit. Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve the Retainer Agreement for legal counsel to represent the City in the Opioid Class Action Suit. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve the changes to the Bylaws of the Alleghany Highlands Economic Development Corporation. Motion carried 5 to 0. The three appointments for the City will be made at the regular meeting of Council in November.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to reappoint Dwaine Paxton to the Western Virginia EMS Board.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve the Certificate of Refunding of Local School Bond. Motion carried 5 to 0. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, For; and Mr. Tucker, For.

REPORT OF CITY MANAGER

- 1. Noted that the Drone Zone Project will create 25 new jobs.
- 2. A survey is available on the City's Facebook Account through October 18, 2019, regarding the position of Chief of Police and Public Safety Director.

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ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to approve Resolution R-19-57 in support of the Community Heart and Soul Project. Mayor Sibold, For, Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, For; and Mr. Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve Resolution R-19-59 regarding Water System Revenue Refunding Bond of the City of Covington. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, For; and Mr. Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to approve Resolution R-19-60 regarding signature authority for the City Manager to sign VDOT agreements on behalf of the City. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, For; and Mr. Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 5 to 0 to add to the agenda, approval of the lease agreement with Aerondyne regarding the Drone Zone and a closed session regarding Council appointed personnel. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, For; and Mr. Tucker, For.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve the lease agreement with Aerondyne. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, For; and Mr. Tucker, For.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no new items from Council at this time.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Sara Zeeke, a teacher in the Covington City School System, presented information stating concerns regarding the current school consolidation talks being held between the City of Covington and Alleghany County. Ms. Zeeke felt that this process was moving too fast and that there are many issues that need to be addressed and a plan in place before any consolidation action takes place.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to move into closed session pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Sec. 2.2-3711 A.1 regarding Council appointed personnel.

Following the closed session, Council reconvened and voted to certify that only the item stated was discussed. No action taken at this time.

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

THOMAS H. SIBOLD, JR., MAYOR

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND, AS SUCH, EX-OFFICIO OFFICER OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON,

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EDITH S. WOOD, CITY CLERK