MINUTES REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 14, 2023

The Council for the City of Covington held their regular meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 333 W. Locust Street, Covington, Virginia.

Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr. called the meeting to order with the following members present: Mayor Sibold; Vice Mayor David S. Crosier; Councilman Fred F. Forbes; Councilman Raymond C. Hunter. Also present was City Attorney Mark Popovich. Absent were Councilman William (Lance) Carson, Jr. and City Manager Allen Dressler.

The invocation was given by Pastor Steve Noel, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of October 3, 2023, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Report of City Manager

There was no report of the City Manager, as he was on vacation.

Ms. Kim Halterman, Superintendent of Alleghany Highlands Public Schools requested approval of a Roof Replacement Project and Supplemental Appropriation. Council roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Forbes, for; Mr. Hunter, for; Vice Mayor Crosier, for; Mayor Sibold, for.

Emergency Operations Plan

Chief Chris Smith spoke with regards to the amended Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Mr. Forbes stated his concern over two shelters with no generators. Chief Smith advised they were contacted by the American Red Cross and have agreements between the school system and the American Red Cross. It is an issue that needs to be readdressed. He said that their main focus was relocating people to a safe location for short periods of time. Chief Smith advised that they work with the county as well, and that there may be other localities requesting shelter. Fire Station One may be designated as an American Red Cross Shelter.

Council votes for the amended Emergency Operations Plan are as follows: Mr. Forbes, for; Mr. Hunter, for; Vice Mayor Crosier, for; Mayor Sibold, for.

Appointments

Mr. Crosier motioned for Mayor Sibold to be appointed as the elected official on the CEDS Committee, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Council is still searching for an individual to fill a vacant seat on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Crosier motioned for Stephanie Clark to be reappointed to the Community Services Board, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Peter's Mountain Landfill

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve Option A (to build a transfer station), seconded by Mr. Hunter. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Forbes, for; Mr. Hunter, for; Vice Mayor Crosier, for; Mayor Sibold, for.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the following resolutions, seconded by Mr. Hunter. The roll call votes for the following resolutions were as follows: Mr. Forbes, for; Mr. Hunter, for; Vice Mayor Crosier, for; Mayor Sibold, for.

1) R-23-30-Water Distribution Grant-No City Match

2) R-23-31-Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF)-Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Grant-No City Match

3) R-23-32-Virginia 9-1-1 Services Board Grant (FY 24 Dispatch Staffing Recognition) (No City Match)

4) R-23-33-Community Business Launch Grant Fund-Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Grant-General Fund-Unappropriated Surplus (City Match)

5) R-23-34-General Fund-VA 9-1-1 Grant Data Maintenance and Data Transfer (No City Match)

6) R-23-35-Community Based Policing Contributions-Walmart

New Business

Mr. Crosier stated that the Twinkling Trail at Jackson River Sports Complex starts this Sunday.

Mr. Sibold advised there was a Christmas Bazaar at 410 Main Street on the second floor of the building.

With no further business to come before Council, Mr. Crosier motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

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Thomas H. Sibold, Jr., Mayor

Kyla D. Crosier, City Clerk