

MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2020
REGULAR MEETING

0, 2020
gton,

The regular meeting of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 333 W. Locust Street, Covington, Virginia.

bers
id

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr. Invocation was given by Rev. Bill Gilliland followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ending
cil to

Roll Call of Council showed the following present: Mayor Sibold, Vice Mayor David S. Crosier, Councilman Raymond C. Hunter and Councilman S. Allan Tucker. Councilman Claiborne "C.J." Entsminger, Jr. was absent.

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

iew
eding
on.
ed
s

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to approve the following minutes as presented: Work Session of February 4, 2020 and Regular Meeting of February 11, 2020.

a time
er
taff did
yor

REQUESTS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

rt's
pril.

Lori Kroll of Draper-Aden, gave a presentation regarding Brownfields Grant Program. Draper-Aden is a multi-service engineering firm which includes fifty environmental professionals. The Brownfields Grant that has been awarded to the City of Covington, Alleghany County, Town of Clifton Forge and Town of Iron Gate is in the amount of \$600,000 with no match required. This grant reviews properties with possibilities for expansion, redevelopment and re-use. The Brownfields Grants assists with taking away the "stigma" of a property; development of properties; preparing a data base to showcase properties, community engagement, inventory and prioritization and renewal planning. A number of properties were shown in the presentation including properties in the City of Covington such as the former bank building on Main Street, Ritches' Cleaners and the old Rivermont School building. Some other properties in the area included the Iron Gate School property and Kountry Korner building on Potts Creek. Ms. Kroll also noted that there are additional sites being worked on. She also stated that these funds are leverage for renewal and additional funds. The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is planning a field trip on April 30, 2020 for elected officials to visit Pulaski and view their success which began with this program.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to reappoint Mr. Ralph Fitzpatrick to the IDA. Motion carried by aye vote of Council.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to appoint Karen Kessinger to the Redevelopment and Housing Authority. Motion carried by aye vote of Council.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Vice Mayor Crosier, Council voted to appoint Max Shawver to the Planning Commission. Mr. Shawver will fill the unexpired term of Josh Haynes beginning April 1, 2020 and ending October 31, 2022. Motion carried by aye vote of Council.

REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Onaitis is currently working with the task force regarding the COVID19 virus. This task force includes law enforcement, schools and local and regional health officials.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve Appropriation Resolution R-19-07 regarding a Bullet Proof Vest Grant in the amount of \$3,471.96. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Hunter, For; Mr. Tucker, For. Mr. Entsminger absent.

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted 4 to 0 to approve Resolution R-20-08 regarding authorizing the City Manager to enter into a participation agreement for the Next Generation 911. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Hunter, For; Mr. Tucker, For. Mr. Entsminger absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hunter inquired about the paving schedule. Mayor Sibold responded that VDOT is working to move forward with Alleghany Avenue.

At this time, Vice Mayor Crosier made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tucker, that Council add to the agenda, a closed session pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act Sec. 2.2-3711 A.1 for the purpose of discussion regarding the performance of a specific public appointee. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to move into closed session for the purpose as stated. Motion carried.

Following the closed session, Council reconvened and voted to certify that only the matter stated was discussed. Not action taken at this time.

No further business to come before Council, the meeting was recessed to Monday, March 16, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers of City Hall for the purpose of a joint public hearing with the Covington Planning Commission.


THOMAS H. SIBOLD, JR., MAYOR
PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND,
AS SUCH, EX-OFFICIO OFFICER OF THE
CITY OF COVINGTON, VIRGINIA

ATTEST:


EDITH S. WOOD, CITY CLERK

M
C/
M

A
12
Vi

Th
pr
C
C
M
Cl

Th
th
ap

U
ap
M

C
in
fr
w
re

A
fo
re
M

C
of
sq
re
A
w
se
S

F
aj
F

F
aj
C
N

M
d

N

N
n