

MINUTES  
CALLED MEETING  
MAY 5, 2020

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A called meeting of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 333 W. Locust Street, Covington, Virginia.

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The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr. with all members present as follows: Mayor Sibold, Vice Mayor David S. Crosier, Councilman Edmond J. "Eddie Joe" Entsminger, Councilman Raymond C. Hunter and Councilman S. Allen Tucker.  
City Manager: Krystal Onaitis

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The purpose of the meeting was a presentation of the proposed FY 2020/2021 Budget by the City Manager.

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Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Entsminger, Council voted to add to the agenda, Resolution R-20-13 regarding request to Governor Ralph Northam to reopen Virginia by regions. Discussion was held regarding this request. Mr. Tucker expressed concerns regarding people moving into the area and making it a "hot spot" for the COVID-19 virus. Mayor Sibold expressed concerns regarding the current unemployment status in the City of 22% at this time and that small businesses are suffering. He also noted that businesses can reopen under the safety guidelines in place. Mr. Hunter expressed concerns regarding the death rate going up and felt we are not quite ready to reopen with citizens traveling across county and state lines. Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Crosier, seconded by Mr. Entsminger, to adopt Resolution R-20-13 regarding reopening Virginia by regions. Motion carried 4 to 1. Mayor Sibold, For; Vice Mayor Crosier, For; Mr. Entsminger, For; Mr. Hunter, Against; Mr. Tucker, For.

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Ms. Onaitis presented the Proposed Budget for FY 2020/2021. She stated that there were no proposed tax or rate increases and no use of reserve funds from Fund Balance. Proposed revenues and expenditures in this balanced budget are \$17,657,502.00. This is \$923,048.00 less than FY20 original budget. It also reflects \$1,971,3916.00 difference from Department Requests for FY21 in the General Fund. She referenced funding requests for schools and other agencies and what the current budget process will allow. Also included was a 2.5% cost of living adjustment.

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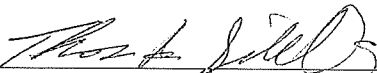
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Council expressed appreciation to Ms. Onaitis for the presentation. A work session on the budget was scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

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No further business to come before Council, the meeting was recessed until Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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

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ATTEST:

  
EDITH S. WOOD, CITY CLERK

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