

MINUTES
WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 6, 2020

A work session of the Council for the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, at 5:30 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. with all members present as follows: Mayor Sibold, Vice Mayor David S. Crosier, Councilman Edmond J. (Eddie Joe) Entsminger (via telephone), Councilman Raymond C. Hunter and Councilman S. Allan Tucker.
City Manager: Krystal Onaitis
City Attorney: Mark Popovich

WORK SESSION

Mayor Sibold read a Proclamation for the 2020 Extra Mile Day to be held on November 1, 2020.

Council heard a presentation by Stevie Steele of CHA regarding the Peters Mountain Landfill. Steele informed Council of the projected life cycle and status of all cells in the landfill and asked them to consider increasing the ideal daily tonnage rate in fulfilling the twenty-year Solid Waste Management Plan. Mr. Steele recommended that the current average daily tonnage of 51 tons be increased, as well as to consider forming regional partnerships and continue making improvements to technology and equipment. After discussion, Council agreed by consensus to increase the average daily tonnage to 75 tons. City Manager Krystal Onaitis said she felt acknowledgements from the DEQ for additional tonnage, as well as special waivers, could be obtained in two weeks or less if necessary.

Council agreed to place on the agenda a proposal by Ms. Onaitis for a resolution amending appropriations from the Wastewater Disposal Utility Fund. A transfer of funds of \$75,692.80 will be applied to a Department of Environmental Quality Consent Order for a civil charge, the Dry Run stream bank restoration project, and an upcoming CMOM project.

Council also agreed to place on the agenda for October 13 the following items:

1. Two appointments to be made to the Planning Commission:
Councilman Tucker submitted Steve Wilson's name to add to the list of potential appointees and recommended him for the unexpired seat of the late Carolyn O'Conner.
2. A presentation from Covington Police Chief and Director of Public Safety C.J. Smith honoring Greg Burton upon his retirement from the Covington Rescue Squad after 31 years of service.
3. A presentation from Director of Finance David Bryant regarding the Quarterly Financial Review.
4. To consider adoption of three amended ordinances for buildings, utilities, and environment presented by City Attorney Popovich in the called meeting prior to this session.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hunter complimented Allan Dressler and his staff on the good job at the new Jeter-Watson Park. Vice Mayor Crosier reminded members of the ribbon-cutting at the Park on Friday, October 16, at 11:30 a.m. and another ribbon-cutting at the Jackson River Sport Complex Paper Trail, boat access, and fishing pier on Wednesday, October 14, at 11:30 a.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Joshua Haynes informed Council that he would like to withdraw his name from consideration for the Planning Commission openings that he requested during the September 1 work session. Haynes then addressed Council concerning the Economic Development Corporation. He expressed disappointment in the EDC, stating the purpose of its existence was to bring economic development to the area while several large industrial properties remained empty. While conceding that several small businesses had been added in the past few years, he criticized the

lack of work force development and the lack of pad-ready sites available anywhere in the Alleghany Highlands. Haynes concluded by asking Council to withdraw support from the EDC.

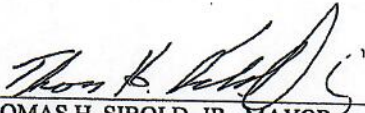
Former Mayor Stephanie Clark expressed her appreciation for the hard work completed at the Jeter-Watson Park at 515 Pine Street. Clark was particularly complimentary to Parks and Public Works Director Allan Dressler and the Parks and Recreation staff.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Mr. Crosier, seconded by Mr. Tucker, Council voted to move into closed session pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act Sec. 2.2-3711 (A)(3) and (A)(6) for the discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and the investment of public funds where discussion in opening meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 A(3) and A(6).

Following the closed session, Council reconvened and voted to certify that only the matter stated was discussed. Councilman Entsminger was present via phone for the closed session but was unable to sign the certification.

With 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, VIRGINIA

ATTEST:


REBECCA W. SCOTT, CITY CLERK