

April 11, 2023

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 11, 2023**

The Council for the City of Covington held their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 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 William E. Carson, Jr.; Council Fred F. Forbes; Councilman Raymond C. Hunter. Also present were City Manager Allen Dressler and City Attorney Mark Popovich.

The invocation was given by Pastor Pete Moore followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Appointments to the Economic Development Corporation

Mr. Crosier motioned to appoint Gina Tingler and Tammy Duncan to the Economic Development Corporation, seconded by Mr. Carson. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the minutes from the work session held on March 7, 2023 and the regular meeting held on March 14, 2023. This was seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Report of City Manager

Mr. Dressler stated that opening day for youth fast pitch is this Saturday.

Boodie Albert Stadium

The seat project began today and will be ready in a couple of weeks.

Maple Avenue-Phase 3

The Maple Avenue-Phase 3 project is moving right along. They are working on the library end now and will move to the middle of Maple Avenue next.

Budget

Mr. Dressler, Mr. Bryant, and his staff have been meeting and will have a budget presentation ready by the first of May.

Paving Plans

Mr. Dressler met with the engineering firm regarding future paving plans.

April 11, 2023

ACOM/Boodie Albert/New Field House

The architectural drawings are close to being completed. There will be a public bid by the first of May.

Pocket Park

There will be a discussion with the engineering firm regarding a pocket park tomorrow or Thursday.

Bike Rodeo

There will be a bike rodeo held the first Saturday in May.

Mr. Dressler stated that he appreciates the dedication of the Covington Police Department, Sheriff's Office, and Alleghany County with this event.

Mr. Dressler praised the Covington Police Department for rising to the challenge in very difficult situations and for their communication with himself and other staff.

He reminded Council about the event at the former Gordman's building.

Mr. Dressler thanked everyone for being there tonight.

Resolutions

R-23-13-Personal Property Tax Relief Allocation

Mrs. Cathy Kimberlin, Commissioner of Revenue, advised Council that tax relief was allocated every year for qualifying vehicles due to an ordinance passed in 2006. The city receives a certain amount from the state. There is a 42 ½ percent tax relief in 2023. There is a 16 percent decrease on vehicles this year. This is strictly for qualifying vehicles. Mr. Crosier made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Resolution R-23-14-Emergency Services Grant from the Virginia Department of Health

Mr. Crosier motioned for approval, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Proclamation

Declaring April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Mr. Crosier motioned for approval, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

New Business

Mr. Crosier said it was good to see many cars on Main Street in the mornings now.

April 11, 2023

Mr. Carson advised there were no complaints from citizens regarding the work being done by Columbia Gas on Hillcrest Drive.

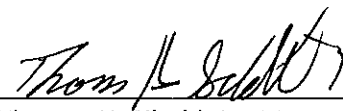
Mayor Sibold said he hopes to see a good bit of paving being completed this year.

Mr. Dressler thanked the refuse department and Public Works for cleaning up the city.

Mr. Crosier expressed his concern over dogs running loose at Cedar Hill Cemetery. He said it is disrespectful and needs to stop.

Pastor Pete Moore, Hawthorne Street, inquired as to what he should do regarding several dogs running loose that have been using the bathroom on his lawn. He inquired to Council as to what he should do since he has already spoken with his neighbor. Mr. Dressler advised that the city would make a presence up that way and do their best to educate. Chief Chris Smith told Mr. Moore that he could speak to the magistrate and take the individual to court. He went on to say that the Animal Control officer is aware of who the dogs belong to and where and what they are doing.

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



Thomas H. Sibold, Jr., Mayor

Attest:



Kyla D. Crosier, City Clerk