

February 7, 2023

**MINUTES  
WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 7, 2023**

A work session for the Council of the City of Covington was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 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; Councilman Fred F. Forbes; Council Raymond C. Hunter. Also present was City Manager Allen Dressler. Absent from the meeting was City Attorney Mark Popovich.

**Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the agenda, with a second from Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

**Citizen Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

**Report of City Manager**

Mr. Dressler started off by thanking Lisa Worley, Rebecca Nuckols, and Kyla Crosier for their help whenever needed.

He advised Council that he will be speaking with department heads soon to find out what is needed and will present a balanced budget to Council in a few months (July 1, 2023). He will be submitting a resolution to amend the budget at function level as opposed to fund level.

There is a new candidate for the Eagle Scouts that is promising.

The city is hoping to create a pocket park in the downtown area for people to use at events and just to enjoy sitting and camaraderie.

The Maple/Phase 3 Project is coming along nicely, and the weather has been conducive to construction.

City staff is identifying burnt out street lights throughout the community and notifying Dominion Power to have them replaced.

The stoplight at Arby's on Durant Road has been repaired and is functioning as it should be.

There have been crosswalks and handicap parking spaces painted in various areas, including in front of the Community Services Board, where employees have to cross the street coming to and from the building.

Winter sports are winding down, with the Queen of Courts coming up soon.

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There are several events coming up throughout the year. The events are as follows: April-Easter Bunny and parade; May-Rock the Block; June-Cork and Pork Festival; July-Down on Main Street Beach Party; August-Streetscene; September-Labor Day celebration and parade; October-Downtown Halloween event; November-tree lighting and Santa Claus; December-Christmas parade.

Mr. Paul Linkenhoker has submitted his resignation from Olde Town Covington.

Mr. Dressler is pleased with city staff for their work in patching the roads throughout Covington.

### **Casey Field/Boodie Albert Stadium**

The new school mascot for the Alleghany Cougars has been unveiled. Mr. Dressler is working with folks in regards to new signs. Football and baseball will be played at Casey Field. The current bleachers at Casey Field were built in 1962. The new bleachers will be metal with navy blue seats over them. The bleachers for the band will remain open so as not to impede room and to allow individuals who have their own seats to have a place to sit. Mr. Dressler hopes to have a solid engineering estimate by May. There will be a new locker room facility and new restrooms. Mr. Dressler showed concepts of the inside layout of the locker room. The new facility will be user friendly for kids. Mayor Sibold advised it was important for the city to maintain control of Casey Field and Boodie Albert Stadium. Kevin Pettitt, Mike Mines, Thomas Smals, and Kevin Catron were all commended for their work on Casey Field and Boodie Albert Stadium.

Mr. Hunter inquired about the road conditions at the bottom of Town Hill, stating the road was very bumpy as you start to go uphill. Mr. Dressler advised he was aware of the problem, and that the road was a state road.

Mayor Sibold spoke of Beth Macy and the opioid program, saying it was a good program. He encourage the other Council Members to contact their delegates to request financial assistance for our area.

The following items were approved by Mr. Crosier for the agenda for the regular meeting on February 14, 2023:

### **Special Presentation**

1. Special presentation by Colonel Almarode and Tony Bell from Moseley Architects regarding the Rockbridge and Alleghany Regional jails.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions**

1. Ordinance O-23-01-Transient Occupancy Tax (Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023).
2. Resolution R-23-04-Recovered costs-VRSA Insurance reimbursement received for property damage during lightning storm on June 17, 2022 (no city match).
3. Resolution R-23-05-Amending the city budget at fund level as opposed to function level
4. Resolution R-23-06-Resoluiton of respect for Geraldine Loretta Smith

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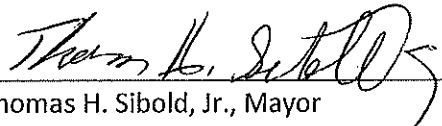
5. Resolution R-23-07-Maple Streetscape-Phase 3 Fund-VDOT grant

Appointments

1. Industrial Development Authority-Gene Wood's term expires on March 25, 2023. He is requesting reappointment.
2. Redevelopment and Housing Authority-Tammy Wilson will fill the unexpired term of Linda McCallister, and wishes to be reappointed once the term expires on March 31, 2023.
3. Redevelopment and Housing Authority-Marie Fitzpatrick's term expires on March 31, 2023. She is requesting reappointment.

A vacancy on the Economic Development Corporation was tabled until further notice.

With no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Crosier, seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

  
Thomas H. Sibold, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

  
Kyla D. Crosier, City Clerk