

June 6, 2023

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION
JUNE 6, 2023**

The Council for the City of Covington held a public hearing followed by a work session on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 333 W. Locust Street, Covington, Virginia.

Vice Mayor David S. Crosier called the meeting to order with the following members present: Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr.; Vice Mayor Crosier; Councilman William E. Carson, Jr.; Councilman Fred F. Forbes; Also present were City Manager Allen Dressler and City Attorney Mark Popovich. Absent from the meeting was Councilman Raymond C. Forbes, who was ill.

Mr. Carson motioned to approve the agenda with a second from Mr. Forbes. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

Public Hearing

Mr. Crosier closed the Public Hearing due to there being no one who wished to speak.

Citizen Comments

Mr. Michael Griffith, 631 North Beverly Street, expressed concerns regarding an incident involving some members of the police department and a young man experiencing a mental health crisis. He advised Council there needed to be funding set aside for additional training for police, fire, and rescue.

Mr. Steven Walton, 1127 North Rockbridge Avenue, spoke on behalf of his son. He advised that more training was needed for the police in dealing with autistic individuals. His son was involved in an incident with the police that broke his heart due to the way it was handled.

Mr. Greg Rice, 352 East Oak Street, expressed concern over an officer and an incident involving his son. He doesn't think the situation was handled correctly and wanted Council to know what happened.

Report of City Manager

Mr. Dressler thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Maple Avenue/Phase 3

He met with VDOT and the contractor. Everything is going well.

The paving projects in the City of Covington are moving along. The Jeter Watson Center parking lot has been paved.

Hillcrest should be completed by June 30, 2023.

Casey Field/Boodie Albert Stadium will be ready by football season.

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Overgrown vegetation on individuals' properties is being addressed. Mr. Dressler asked citizens to please keep up their lawns and property.

The Covington City Municipal Pool is officially open.

Mr. Dressler expressed his deepest appreciation to Columbia Gas for their communication regarding the work on Hillcrest Drive, which should be completed in about a week.

Edgemont Drive has been subcontracted to a local contractor to mill up and repair the area worked on by the gas company.

Columbia Gas will be working in the City of Covington for a good while, maybe until 2030.

Lumberjack baseball season is well underway.

Mr. Dressler thanked B.B. and Cindy Bryant for putting on a fabulous Cork and Pork Festival.

Items for Regular Agenda, June 13, 2023

Mr. Forbes motioned to add the following items to the agenda for the regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

- 1) Mr. Dressler's Recognition of City Employees
- 2) Resolution R-23-19-Consider approval of a police K9 vest
- 3) Appointments
 - 1) Economic Development Corporation
To consider reappointment of Tambria (Tammy) Scruggs-Duncan

To vote for two perspective individuals, Eunice Clark and Kathy Cucci, who wish to be considered for the Economic Development Corporation
 - 2) Ninth District Development Financing Board of Directors
To consider reappointment of Stephanie Clark
 - 3) TAP Board of Directors
To consider reappointment of Mayor Thomas Sibold
 - 4) Board of Equalization
To consider recommending the following three individuals per Commissioner of Revenue Cathy Kimberlin's recommendation:
 - 1) Katherine "Kathy" Lytle
 - 2) Robert K. Bennett, II
 - 3) Richard W. Fuhrman


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New Business

Mayor Sibold said that this year's Cork and Pork festival was the biggest we have ever had. He expressed his appreciation to Public Works and Parks and Recreation for their work during the event. He stated that it was a good weekend and event in Covington.

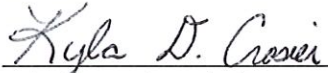
Mr. Carson advised he had met Grasswackers, and that they do a good job and are nice to the people they are working around.

With no further business to come before Council, Mr. Crosier motioned to adjourn, with a second from Mr. Forbes. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.



Thomas H. Sibold, Jr., Mayor

Attest:



Kyla D. Crosier, Clerk