

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
December 10, 2024**

Council for the City of Covington held a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 333 W. Locust Street, Covington, Virginia. Preceded by a reception for outgoing Mayor, Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr. and Vice Mayor David S. Crosier.

Mayor Thomas H. Sibold, Jr. called the meeting to order with the following members present: Mayor Sibold; Vice Mayor David S. Crosier; Councilman William (Lance) Carson, Jr.; Councilman 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 Steve Noel followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the agenda with the exception to add Resolution R-24-37, "Respect in Memory of James Robert "Cheeze" Smith", seconded by Mr. Hunter. All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

There were no citizen comments.

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Sibold opened the Public Hearing to amend and reenact Section 10-262, Alcoholic Beverages and Beer, by revising the license tax for certain types of alcohol in conformity with state law. There were no comments for or against this amendment. The public hearing was closed.

**Minutes**

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the following minutes, seconded by Mr. Carson:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1) Work session Meeting                          | November 5, 2024  |
| 2) Regular Meeting                               | November 12, 2024 |
| 3) Joint Public Hearing with Planning Commission | November 19, 2024 |

All members were in favor with "aye" votes.

**Report of City Manager**

Mr. Dressler thanked Council and everyone for attending the preceding reception and the Council meeting. He also thanked staff at the Water Treatment Plant for all their work; he thanked Police Chief Smith and his department; he thanked Mayor Sibold and Vice Mayor Crosier for their work for 12 years on City Council and all their accomplishments. Mr. Dressler wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

**Appointment**

- 1) The term for the League of Older Americans (LOA) Advisory Council is expiring on December 31, 2024. Mr. Hunter is on the board and does not desire to be reappointed. This can be a citizen or council appointment. There are approximately 5 meetings per year. This is a 2-year term. Council will be looking for someone interested in being appointed to this Advisory Board.

**Ordinances and Resolutions**

There was discussion that R-24-35 for Opioid Settlement Recoveries can be used for different things. David Bryant, Finance Director, stated that he would review how it can be used. There is \$80,000 in an account that has been collected and no funds have been spent.

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the following resolutions, seconded by Mr. Hunter.

- 1) Resolution R-24-35 Opioid Settlement Recoveries, \$2,154.84
- 2) Resolution R-24-36 Donation to Police Dept. "Shop with a Cop" program, \$100.00
- 3) Resolution R-24-37 Respect in Memory of James Robert "Cheeze" Smith

The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Carson, for; Mr. Forbes, for; Mr. Hunter, for; Vice Mayor Crosier, for; Mayor Sibold, for.

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Vice Mayor Crosier read resolution R-24-37 stating all the accomplishments and work that James Robert "Cheeze" Smith did during his lifetime and for the community. Mr. Crosier presented the resolution to his family.

There was discussion about the lack of numbering on the Ordinance to amend and reenact Section 10-262, Alcoholic Beverages and Beer, by revising the license tax for certain types of alcohol in conformity with state law. Rebecca Nuckols, Acting City Clerk, stated that she forgot to number the ordinance and that it should be O-24-10.

Mr. Crosier motioned to approve the following Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Hunter.

- 4) Ordinance O-24-10 to amend and reenact Section 10-262, Alcoholic Beverages and Beer, by revising the license tax for certain types of alcohol in conformity with state law

The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Carson, for; Mr. Forbes, for; Mr. Hunter, for; Vice Mayor Crosier, for; Mayor Sibold, for.

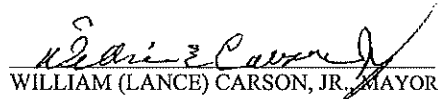
**New Business**

Vice Mayor Crosier stated that it has been a good ride on City Council. That he learned in the last 12 years that City staff should be celebrated and that is were the work is being done. He thanked the residents that put him on Council. He mentioned that the three remaining Council members are leading. Mr. Forbes stated he hated to see him and Mayor Sibold leave. Mr. Crosier stated that he appreciated working with Mr. Sibold for all the years.

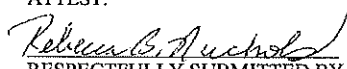
Mayor Sibold thanked the citizens for their support. He thanked his wife, Debby and family for their support. He went on to speak about honest journalism with the Alleghany Journal and opinions are read in the Review. He is an honest man and everyone should be honest in life. He mentioned that newly elected members of Council, Susan Wolfe and Susan Crowder will work out fine. He mentioned for everyone to be careful of deceitful people.

There will be a called meeting of City Council on December 20, 2024, 11:00 a.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers to discuss the City's annual financial report for fiscal year July 2023-June 2024.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned by consensus.

  
WILLIAM (LANCE) CARSON, JR., MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY  
REBECCA BRATTON NUCKOLS, ACTING CITY CLERK