

November 24, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes  
Approved: January 12, 2016

**City of Covington  
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, November 24, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Covington was called to order in the City Council Chambers, 16720 SE 271<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 100, Covington, Washington, Tuesday, November 24, 2015, at 7:10 p.m., with Mayor Harto presiding.

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:**

Margaret Harto, Joe Cimaomo, Marilla Mhoon, Jim Scott, and Jeff Wagner.

**COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mark Lanza and Sean Smith.

**Council Action: Councilmember Scott moved and Councilmember Mhoon seconded to excuse Councilmembers Lanza and Smith. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Regan Bolli, City Manager; Don Vondran, Public Works Director; Noreen Beaufrere, Personnel Manager; Rob Hendrickson, Finance Director; Andrew McCurdy, Covington Police Chief; Richard Hart, Community Development Director; Karla Slate, Communications & Marketing Manager; Rachel Bahl, Interim Parks & Recreation Director; Sara Springer, City Attorney; Bob Lindskov, City Engineer; and Sharon Scott, City Clerk/Executive Assistant.

Mayor Harto opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Council Action: Mayor Pro Tem Wagner moved and Councilmember Cimaomo seconded to approve the Agenda. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Harto called for public comments.

There being no comments, Mayor Harto closed the public comment period.

**APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA:**

C-1. Minutes: October 31, 2015 City Council Special Meeting - Budget Workshop Minutes.

C-2. Vouchers: Electronic fund transfer in the amount of \$293.43, dated November 2, 2015; Vouchers #33298-33341, including ACH payments, in the amount of \$362,240.74, dated November 13, 2015; and Paylocity Payroll Checks #1004493971-1004493985 inclusive, plus employee direct deposits in the amount of \$170,496.23, dated November 20, 2015.

C-3. Approve 2016 Tri-City Interlocal Agreement for Building Administration Services.

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**Council Action: Councilmember Mhoon moved and Mayor Pro Tem Wagner seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.**

**REPORTS OF COMMISSIONS:**

**Human Services Commission** – Chair Fran McGregor reported on the October 8 meeting. The November 12 meeting was canceled due to the State of the City Address.

**Parks & Recreation Commission** – Vice Chair Bryan Higgins reported on the subcommittee meeting in October and the November 18 regular meeting.

**Planning Commission** – Planning Chair Bill Judd reported on the November 5 and November 19 meetings.

**Arts Commission** – Member Jennifer Harjehausen reported on the November 19 special meeting. The November 12 regular meeting was canceled due to the State of the City Address.

**Parks & Recreation Priorities Advisory Committee** – Chair Jennifer Harjehausen reported on the October 28 meeting. The next meeting is December 9.

**Economic Development Council** – No report. The next meeting is December 3. The November 26 meeting was canceled.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. Receive Public Testimony Regarding Proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Budget.

Finance Director Rob Hendrickson gave the staff report on this item.

Mayor Harto called for public comments for the public hearing.

There being no comments, Mayor Harto closed the public comment period for the public hearing.

1a. Consider Resolution Making a Declaration of Substantial Need for Purposes of Setting the Limit Factor for the Property Tax Levy for 2015.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, MAKING A DECLARATION OF SUBSTANTIAL NEED FOR THE PURPOSE OF SETTING THE LIMIT FACTOR FOR THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR 2015.

**Council Action: Mayor Pro Tem Wagner moved and Councilmember Scott seconded to adopt Resolution No. 15-13, in substantial form as that included in the agenda packet,**

**making a declaration of substantial need for the purpose of setting the limit factor for the property tax levy at 101% for 2015. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.**

1b. Consider Ordinance Setting the 2015 Property Tax Levy for Collection in 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, PASSING THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR 2015 FOR COLLECTION IN 2016.

**Council Action: Mayor Pro Tem Wagner moved and Councilmember Scott seconded to pass Ordinance No. 14-15, in substantial form as that included in the agenda packet, setting the 2015 property tax levy for collection in 2016 at \$2,600,000. Vote: 4-1 (voting yes: Harto, Mhoon, Scott, and Wagner; voting no: Cimaomo). Motion carried.**

1c. Consider Ordinance Authorizing a Property Tax increase in Terms of Both Dollars and Percentages.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZING A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE IN TERMS OF BOTH DOLLARS AND PERCENTAGES, TO BE COLLECTED IN THE 2016 TAX YEAR, AS PURSUANT TO RCW 84.55.120.

**Council Action: Mayor Pro Tem Wagner moved and Councilmember Scott seconded to pass Ordinance No. 15-15, in substantial form as that included in the agenda packet, authorizing a property tax increase of four and one tenth percent (4.1%), or \$100,982, pursuant to RCW 84.55.120. Vote: 4-1 (voting yes: Harto, Mhoon, Scott, and Wagner; voting no: Cimaomo). Motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

2. Consider Ordinance Relating to Days and Hours of City Offices and Legal Holidays.

City Manager Regan Bolli gave the staff report on this item.

ORDINANCE NO. 16-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO THE DAYS AND HOURS OF CITY OFFICES AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS; ESTABLISHING A

NEW CHAPTER 2.80 OF THE COVINGTON MUNICIPAL  
CODE FOR THE SAME; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY;  
AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**Council Action:** After discussion and an amendment, Councilmember Scott moved and Councilmember Cimaomo seconded to pass Ordinance No. 16-15, in substantial form as that included in the agenda packet, relating to the days and hours of city offices and legal holidays and establishing a new Chapter 2.80 of the Covington Municipal Code for the same, to include amending the ordinance by adding a half day on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (Thanksgiving Eve). Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

3. Discuss Policy Considerations Regarding Permanent Marijuana Regulations.

Community Development Director Richard Hart gave the staff report on this item and asked for Council direction.

Councilmembers provided comments and asked questions, and Mr. Hart and City Attorney Sara Springer provided responses.

**Council Action:** There was Council consensus to direct staff to draft permanent regulations based on continuing with the current zoning designations and allowing a reduction to 500 feet in the buffers through the conditional use permit process.

4. Budget Discussion.

City Manager Regan Bolli gave the staff report on this item.

Councilmember provided comments and asked questions, and Mr. Hendrickson provided responses.

**Council Action:** There was Council consensus to add a three percent (3%) convenience fee for the use of credit cards.

**COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS:**

Councilmembers and staff discussed Future Agenda Topics and made comments.

Mayor Harto asked for the Council consensus regarding two items.

**Council Action:** There was Council consensus for the Mayor to sign: 1) a letter regarding preserving affordable housing and building a quality, equitable community; and 2) the Tree City USA application for certification.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mayor Harto called for public comments.

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There being no comments, Mayor Harto closed the public comment period.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

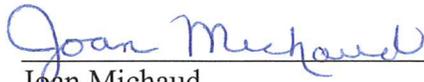
To discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) from 8:30 to 8:50 p.m.

Mayor Harto announced the City Council would move into Executive Session for twenty minutes after which no further action was anticipated.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

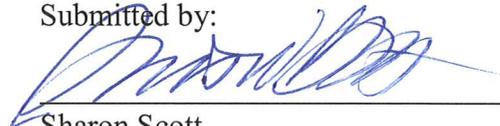
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Prepared by:



Joan Michaud  
Senior Deputy City Clerk

Submitted by:



Sharon Scott  
City Clerk