

November 23, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes
Approved: December 14, 2010

**City of Covington
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 23, 2010**

(This meeting was recorded and will be retained for a period of six years from the date of the meeting).

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Covington was called to order in the City Council Chambers, 16720 SE 271st Street, Suite 100, Covington, Washington, Tuesday, November 23, 2010, at 7:04 p.m., with Mayor Pro Tem Wagner presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Harto (via telephone due to illness), Mark Lanza, David Lucavish, Marlla Mhoon, Jim Scott, Wayne Snoey, and Jeff Wagner.

STAFF PRESENT:

Derek Matheson, City Manager; Rob Hendrickson, Finance Director; Sara Springer, City Attorney (via telephone due to snow conditions); and Victoria Throm, Personnel & Human Services Analyst; Richard Hart, Planning Manager; and Sharon Scott, City Clerk/Executive Assistant.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Council Action: Councilmember Mhoon moved and Councilmember Snoey seconded to approve the agenda as amended to remove the presentation of the Communitas awards (to be rescheduled). Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner called for public comments.

Leroy Stevenson, 26838 166th Place SE, Covington, suggested exemptions on setbacks for existing one story home remodels.

There being no further comments, Mayor Pro Tem Wagner closed the public comment period.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA:

C-1. Approval of Minutes: September 29, 2010 City Council Joint Meeting with Cities of Black Diamond and Maple Valley Minutes; October 26, 2010 City Council Joint Study Session and Planning Commission Minutes; October 26, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes; and November 9, 2010 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

C-2. Approval of Vouchers: Vouchers #24385-24460, in the Amount of \$433,568.58, Dated November 3, 2010; and Payroll Checks #8481-8488, Inclusive, Plus Employee Direct Deposits in the Amount of \$141,953.32, Dated November 12, 2010.

C-3. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Qwest SE 251st Street Easement.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING A HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENT/VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION ("HRA VEBA") PLAN

RESOLUTION NO. 10-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON; AMENDING THE CITY OF COVINGTON EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK APPROVED PER RESOLUTION NO. 07-12, AS A RESULT OF ADOPTING A HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENT/VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION ("HRA VEBA") PLAN

C-4. Approve Resolutions Adopting HRA VEBA Plan and Amending the Employee Handbook.

Council Action: Councilmember Lucavish moved and Councilmember Mhoon seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF COMMISSIONS:

Human Services Commission – Personnel & Human Services Analyst Victoria Throm reported on the November 4 site visit.

The Arts, Parks & Recreation, and Planning Commission reports were deferred until December due to the snow conditions.

Economic Development Council – Co-Chair Jeff Wagner reported on the November 4 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. To Receive Testimony from the Public Regarding Proposed Fiscal Year 2011 Budget and Revenue Sources and Set the Property Tax Levy.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner invited Finance Director Rob Hendrickson to give the staff report on this item.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner called for public comments for the public hearing.

There being no comments, Mayor Pro Tem Wagner closed the public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. Shoreline Master Program Update.

Planning Manager Richard Hart gave the staff report on this item.

3. Discuss Proposed Interlocal for a South End Regional Coalition for Housing (SEARCH).

Personnel & Human Services Analyst Victoria Throm gave the staff report on this item.

Councilmembers provided comments.

Council Action: There was Council consensus to request staff to bring this item back to Council for further discussion in June.

4. Consider Ordinance to Set the 2010 Property Tax Levy for Collection in 2011.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 16-10

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR 2010 FOR COLLECTION IN 2011.

Council Action: Mayor Harto moved and Councilmember Mhoon seconded to pass Ordinance No. 16-10 setting the 2010 property tax levy for collection in 2011 at \$2,358,000 exclusive of additional revenue resulting from new construction, improvements to property, newly constructed wind turbines, any increase in the value of state-assessed property, any annexations that have occurred, and refunds made.

Council Action: Councilmember Lanza moved and Councilmember Snoey seconded to amend the ordinance to change the increase to 4.5 percent (one percent plus the 3.5 percent, which is half of the banked capacity). Vote: 2-5 (voting yes: Lanza and Snoey; voting no: Harto, Lucavish, Mhoon, Scott, and Wagner). Motion failed.

Vote: 5-2 (voting yes: Harto, Lucavish, Mhoon, Scott, and Wagner; voting no: Lanza and Snoey). Motion carried.

5. Consider Ordinance Authorizing a Property Tax Increase in Terms of Both Dollars and Percentages as Required by RCW 84.55.120.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-10

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 AS REQUIRED BY RCW 84.55.120.

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Council Action: Councilmember Scott moved and Councilmember Lucavish seconded to pass Ordinance No. 17-10 authorizing a property tax increase of eight percent (8.0%) or \$167,255 as required by RCW 84.55.120. Vote: 5-2 (Voting yes: Harto, Lucavish, Mhoon, Scott, and Wagner; voting no: Lanza and Snoey). Motion carried.

COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS:

Councilmembers and staff discussed Future Agenda Topics and made comments.

Council Action: There was Council consensus that the Study Session tentatively scheduled for December 7 would not be needed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner called for public comments.

Leroy Stevenson, 26838 166th Place SE, Covington, spoke on the loss of federal and state grants and urged Council to continue modest increases in taxes and keep looking towards Covington's own sustainability.

There being no further comments, Mayor Pro Tem Wagner closed the public comment period.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Prepared by:

Submitted by:

Joan Michaud
Deputy City Clerk

Sharon Scott
City Clerk