City of Covington
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 27, 2012

(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 27, 2012, at 7:05 p.m., with Mayor Harto presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:
Margaret Harto, Mark Lanza, David Lucavish, Jim Scott, and Jeff Wagner.

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT:
Marlla Mhoon and Wayne Snoey.

STAFF PRESENT:
Derek Matheson, City Manager; Glenn Akramoff, Public Works Director; Noreen Beaufreere, Personnel Manager; Richard Hart, Community Development Director; Rob Hendrickson, Finance Director; Kevin Klason, Covington Police Chief; Karla Slate, Community Relations Coordinator; Sara Springer, City Attorney; and Sharon Scott, City Clerk/Executive Assistant.

Council Action: Councilmember Scott moved and Councilmember Wagner seconded to excuse Councilmember Mhoon who was recuperating from an injury and Councilmember Snoey who was ill. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Mayor Harto opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Council Action: Councilmember Lucavish moved and Councilmember Lanza seconded to approve the Agenda. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:
Executive Director Deanna Dawson gave a presentation on Sound Cities Association, providing background information on the recent name change from Suburban Cities Association to Sound Cities Association. Ms. Dawson also provided three handouts regarding SCA to Council.

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: November 13, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes.

C-3. Accept Department of Commerce Aquatics Renovation Grant.

C-4. Accept King Conservation District Parks Grant.

Council Action: Councilmember Wagner moved and Councilmember Lucavish seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF COMMISSIONS:
Human Services Commission – Chair Haris Ahmad reported on the November 8 meeting.

Arts Commission – Chair Sandy Bisordi reported on the November 8 meeting.

Budget Priorities Advisory Committee – Finance Director Rob Hendrickson reported on the November 7 meeting. The November 21 meeting was rescheduled to November 28.

Parks & Recreation Commission – Chair Steven Pand reported on the November 7 special meeting.

Planning Commission – Community Development Director Richard Hart reported on the November 1 and November 15 meetings.

Economic Development Council – Co-Chair Jeff Wagner reported on the October 25 meeting. The November 22 meeting was canceled.

PUBLIC HEARING:
1. Receive Testimony Regarding Proposed Fiscal Year 2013 Budget.

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.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:
2. Continue 2013 Budget Deliberations.

Public Works Director Glenn Akramoff provided follow-up on information technology related issues, plotter replacement options, and parks maintenance options.

NEW BUSINESS:
ORDINANCE NO. 16-12


Council Action: Councilmember Wagner moved and Councilmember Lanza seconded to pass Ordinance No 16-12 setting the 2012 property tax levy for collection in 2013 at $2,380,000. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

4. Consider Ordinance Authorizing a Property Tax Increase.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-12

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.

Council Action: Councilmember Scott moved and Councilmember Wagner seconded to pass Ordinance No 17-12 authorizing a property tax increase of one percent (1.0%) or $23,033 as required by RCW 84.55.120. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

5. Report on Proposed Scope of Work on Northern Gateway Area Study Phase II.

Community Development Director Richard Hart gave the staff report on this item.

Councilmembers provided comments and asked questions, and Mr. Hart and Mr. Colin Lund with Oakpoint Holdings provided responses.

6. Write-Off of Uncollectible Federal and County Surface Water Management Drainage Fees.

Council Action: Councilmember Wagner moved and Councilmember Scott seconded to write-off $900,066.93 in uncollectible accounts receivable. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS:
Councilmembers and staff discussed Future Agenda Topics and made comments.

Public Works Director Glenn Akramoff reminded Council of the grant the city received from Washington State Department of Transportation in the amount of $250,000 for intersection safety. Mr. Akramoff reported that as part of that grant process to begin receiving the funds and start design, the city manager’s and mayor’s signatures are required.
Council Action: There was Council consensus to have the city manager and mayor sign the intersection safety grant received from Washington State Department of Transportation to begin receiving funds and start the project.

Councilmember Scott suggested that a fund be created to send flowers to councilmembers for certain life events such as illnesses and celebrations by deducting $2 from each councilmember’s paycheck each pay period.

Council Action: There was Council consensus to direct staff to create a flower fund from voluntary contributions out of councilmembers’ paychecks.

Mayor Harto announced two Sound Cities Association events occurring in December. Mayor Harto indicated she would attend the Public Issues Committee on December 12 as the alternate for Councilmember Mhoon. Mayor Harto further indicated that both Councilmember Wagner and she were already committed to other events on the evening of the South Caucus on December 5 at 7 p.m. at the Kent Senior Center to elect members to the board of SCA. Mayor Harto asked Councilmember Scott to represent the city, and he agreed pending a check of his schedule.

Mayor Harto announced the date of the Kent School District Technology Expo as January 24, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at ShoWare Center in Kent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:
Mayor Harto called for public comments.

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

ADJOURNMENT:
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Prepared by: ___________________________ Submitted by: ___________________________
Joan Michaud                      Sharon Scott
Senior Deputy City Clerk          City Clerk