

# 2020

## COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL SUMMIT

Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
City Hall Council Chambers, 16720 SE 271<sup>st</sup> Street

# AGENDA

(Revised 01.03.20, Edition #5)

## MEETING GOALS:

1. Identify the strategic path that advances the City's vision, mission, and goals.
2. Take steps to build the team that will lead Covington into the future.

### NOTE:

*Refreshments will be served at 7:30, so come early to enjoy them and be prepared to convene the meeting promptly at 8:00. Thank you!*

8:00 **REVIEW PURPOSE AND GOALS**  
Mayor Jeff Wagner

8:05 **REVIEW AGENDA AND GROUND RULES**  
Facilitator Jim Reid

8:10 **WHO'D YOU LIKE TO DINE WITH?**  
Council / Leadership Team

As one way to get to know each other better, tell us this: If you could invite three historical figures to join you for dinner, who would you invite? Why? *(They can come from any field or profession, and they must not be living.)*

8:45 **IDENTIFY MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2019**  
Council / Leadership Team

- What were the major accomplishments of the City in 2019 that you think were of particular importance?
- What factors or conditions contributed to them?

9:10 **TRACKING PROGRESS; STRATEGIC PLANNING**  
Council / City Manager Regan Bolli

- What has the City accomplished from the action items of the January 2019 Summit?
- Regan is contemplating updating the existing plan. How does staff use the current plan? How might it be refined?
- What are the Council's reactions and ideas?

9:40 **REVIEW VISION, MISSION, AND GOALS**

Council / Leadership Team

In previous years the Council has reviewed the vision, mission, and goals to determine if they are leading the City in the right direction.

With three new members since the 2019 Summit and anticipating that next year Council may want to hold a deeper discussion of the vision, mission, and goals, this year the discussion is intended to provide background and context. The questions, therefore, are a little different.

- What do the vision, mission, and goals mean to those of us who've been on the Council for a while? How have we used them?
- How does the Leadership Team use them?
- Do the new members have questions, reactions or suggestions?
- Pivoting to the future, what does the Council anticipate Covington will be like in ten years?

10:05 **BREAK**

10:15 **OPTIONS TO FUND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Council / Regan / Police Chief Andy McCurdy / Finance Director Casey Parker

- What are the public safety needs of the City today? What are they projected to be in the next ten years?
- If Council is interested in a consistent and sustainable funding source for public safety, what are the options?
- What are the pros and cons of each option?
- What are the Council's reactions and thoughts?

11:15 **COUNCIL AND COMMISSION INTERACTIONS**

Council / Regan / City Clerk Sharon Scott

Each discussion below is intended to result in a Council consensus and direction to the staff.

- **Council Liaison:** Should a Councilor serve as the liaison to each Commission? What would that look like? What are the arguments for and against?
- **Commissioners' Residency:** One may serve on a City Commission if one lives or works in Covington or within three miles of the City's boundary. Why have non-residents been historically allowed to serve? Has the time come to change this rule? Why?
- **Commissioner Appointments:** A feature of the appointment process is that the Council interviews applicants prior to Council meetings. Most Council meetings are preceded by such interviews. Should this role be expected of Council Members or is it too burdensome and time-consuming? What are the interests at stake? Should we continue with the status quo or implement an alternative method for interviewing Commission applicants?
- **Youth on Commissions:** A few years ago, the City Council established the Youth Council. Even earlier than that the Council had designated a seat on some Commissions for a representative of youth. There is some concern the system is not achieving its original goals. What were they? How is this system working? Should the City consider no longer having a youth representative on the Commissions because there is a Youth Council to achieve the goals?

- **Youth Council Appointments:** Appointments to the Youth Council are for one year. A suggestion has been made that the appointments should last until the members graduate from high school. What interests is this idea intended to achieve? What are the pros and cons?

12:15 **LUNCH AND QUIZ**

Everyone

1:00 **QUIZ ANSWERS REVEALED, CHAMPION CROWNED**

Everyone

1:15 **INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Council / Regan / Sharon / Communications and Marketing Manager Karla Slate

- **Social Media:** How do Council Members envision using social media platforms, both as individuals and as a body? What are the City's and Council's interests? Is an informal understanding sufficient or is something more formal, such as protocols, necessary?
- **Public Comments at Council Meetings:** It is a "best practice" that public comments should not be included in the Council's meeting minutes. Why? But might there be a downside to discontinuing this practice? Is there Council consensus on the issue?
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- **Communications Plan:** Under the leadership of Karla Slate and Regan, the staff has developed a strategic communications plan. Karla and Regan will present it to the Council. What are the Council's reactions and suggestions?
- **Public Education and Outreach Plan:** Karla and Regan will also update the Council on the development of a Public Education and Outreach Plan. How is it going to be accomplished? What is the timeline? What do they need from the Council?
- **Council Going to the Community:** Some Council Members have suggested doorbelling the neighborhoods to provide information about what the City is doing and to hear from citizens. Another idea is for the Council to brief Homeowners' Association and similar meetings. And the Mayor is considering inviting our residents to "Coffee with the Mayor." What are the expectations behind these ideas? Are there other suggestions? Is there consensus for any or all of them?
- **Communications Styles:** Very briefly, how do each of us on the Council describe our communications style? How should your fellow members and the staff communicate with you in order to help you make decisions or influence your thinking?

2:20 **BREAK**

2:30 **COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES**

Council / Public Works Director Don Vondran / Chief McCurdy

- **Community Tree:** Given that the last three Community Trees have died, are there alternatives to a living tree that Council would consider?
- **Parking:** Council Members have heard concerns about parking impacts on public safety. If a street is less than 28 feet wide, and parking is allowed on both sides, Fire Department

vehicles may not be able to get through during an emergency. Should the City address this? If so, what are the options? What are pros and cons? Is there consensus among the Council?

- **Red Light Cameras:** Should the City use them? Under what circumstances? Are there protocols to be followed? Are there related issues to consider? What is the sentiment of Council?
- **Street Lights:** Some Council Members expressed concern about whether or not streets are sufficiently lit. What standards does the City follow? Where are the biggest concerns? What might the City do to address the concerns?
- **Homelessness and Mental Health Services:** A couple Council Members have expressed interest in the City addressing the issues of homelessness and mental health. What is the City doing today to address these issues? Is there a larger role for the City to play in addressing either or both?
- **Neighborhood Disparities:** On the campaign trail last year, some Council Members noticed striking disparities between neighborhoods. What were they? Is it primarily a matter of differences between older and newer neighborhoods? Are other factors at play? Should the City strategically address this? How?

3:20 **ISSUES ON THE HORIZON**  
Council

- What are other issues of interest for possible future Council discussions?
- We won't discuss them today, just list them to highlight potential interest in addressing these issues in the future.

3:25 **WHAT ARE WE TAKING AWAY FROM THE 2020 SUMMIT?**  
Council / Leadership Team

- Looking back on the day, what is most important or meaningful to you about this year's summit?

3:30 **ADJOURN**