

City of Covington
Special and Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 25, 2021

NOTE: *These City Council meetings were held telephonically and virtually in compliance with state executive and legislative actions responding to the COVID-19 emergency.*

INTERVIEW: The Council conducted interviews for the Arts Commission from 5:40 to 7:00 p.m. Applicants interviewed: Lilianna Fernandez, Jonathan Ingram, Jessica Breeden, and Patti Melton.

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Covington was called to order Tuesday, May 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., with Mayor Wagner presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Wagner, Joe Cimaomo, Jennifer Harjehausen, Jared Koukal, Elizabeth Porter, Kristina Soltys, and Sean Smith.

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Regan Bolli, Covington Police Chief Andrew McCurdy, Parks and Recreation Director Ethan Newton, Public Works Director Don Vondran, Community Development Director Gina Estep, Finance Director Casey Parker, City Attorney Mark Orthmann, City Engineer Bob Lindskov, Parks Planning and Development Manager Matthew Keough, Information Technology Manager Mayson Morrissey, (in person), Desktop Support Technician Keith Drury (in person), and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Krista Bates.

All attendees present via Zoom except as noted.

Mayor Wagner opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

- King County Assessor John Wilson gave a presentation on property taxes.
- Briahna Murray and Holly Cocci with Gordon Thomas Honeywell provided an End of Session Legislative Report.
- Parks Planning and Development Manager Matthew Keough introduced Tom Beckwith and Ferdouse Oneza from Beckwith Consulting. Mr. Beckwith and Ms. Oneza gave the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan Kickoff Presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Wagner called for public comments from the public attending via Zoom.

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

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA:

- C-1. Minutes: City Council April 27, 2021 City Council Special Meeting – Open House Minutes and April 27, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.
- C-2. Vouchers: Vouchers #42263 - #42302, including ACH payments and electronic funds transfers in the amount of \$682,295.79, dated May 7, 2021; and Paylocity Payroll Voucher #1013777807 - #1013777814 inclusive, plus employee direct deposits and wire transfers, in the amount of \$224,954.91, dated May 14, 2021.
- C-3. Authorize City Manager to Execute Amendment #5 to Purchased Services Agreement 031-2020 with Long Bay Enterprises, Inc. for Real Estate Services.
- C-4. Authorize City Manager to Execute Local Agency Agreement Supplement Number 15 with Washington State Department of Transportation for Construction Authorization (CIP 1127).
- C-5. Authorize City Manager to Execute a Lease Extension with Modern Building Systems, Inc. for the City Maintenance Facility for an Additional 12 Months.

The consent agenda was approved as presented.

REPORTS OF COMMISSIONS:

Arts Commission – Vice Chair Patti Melton gave the report.

Economic Development Council – No report.

Equity, Cultural, and Social Justice Commission – Member Mani Dhami gave the report.

Human Services Commission – Chair Debbie Jacobson gave the report.

Parks & Recreation Commission – Chair Laura Morrissey gave the report.

Planning Commission – Member David Caudle gave the report.

Youth Council – Member Joshua Nielsen gave the report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Presentation on the Art/Design Element of the WA-516 Bridge Over Jenkins Creek.

City Engineer Bob Lindskov introduced this item and introduced Karen Kiest of Karen Kiest Landscape Architects who gave the presentation.

Councilmembers provided comments and asked questions, and Mr. Lindskov and Ms. Kiest provided responses.

- 2. Consider Appointments to Openings on the Arts Commission.

Council Action: Councilmember Harjehausen moved and Councilmember Porter seconded to appoint Patti Melton to fill Position No. 7 on the Arts Commission with a term expiring May 31, 2024. Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.

Council Action: Councilmember Harjehausen moved and Councilmember Soltys seconded to appoint Jessica Breedon to fill Position No. 6 on the Arts Commission with a term expiring May 31, 2024. Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.

Council Action: Councilmember Harjehausen moved and Mayor Pro Tem Smith seconded to appoint Lilianna Fernandez to fill Position No. 5 on the Arts Commission with a term expiring May 31, 2024. Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.

3. Appoint Voting Delegates to Association of Washington Cities 2021 Annual Business Meeting.

Council Action: Councilmember Koukal moved and Mayor Pro Tem Smith seconded to appoint Mayor Wagner, Councilmember Porter, and City Manager Regan Bolli as the voting delegates to represent the City of Covington at the Association of Washington Cities 2021 Annual Business Meeting. Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.

4. 2021 First Quarter Financial Report.

Finance Director Casey Parker provided the staff report on this item.

Council Action: Councilmember Cimaomo moved and Mayor Pro Tem Smith seconded to extend the meeting to 10:45 p.m. Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.

5. Discuss Options for Posting City Council Meeting Recordings Online for Increased Accessibility to the Public.

Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Krista Bates gave the staff report on this item.

Councilmembers provided comments and asked questions, and Ms. Bates, Mr. Orthmann, and Mr. Bolli provided responses.

There was Council consensus to follow the staff proposal to post recordings online beginning with the May 25, 2021 regular meeting.

6. Discussion Regarding City Nepotism Policy and Whether to Amend the Code of Ethics to Allow Relatives of Councilmembers to Serve on the Covington Youth Council.

City Attorney Mark Orthmann gave the staff report on this item.

Councilmembers provided comments and asked questions, and Mr. Orthmann provided responses.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Councilmembers reviewed future agenda items.

There was council consensus to add to future business items to discuss the retention policy and doing public business on private devices along with issuing councilmembers cell phones.

COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS:

Councilmembers and staff made comments.

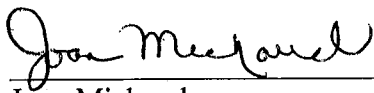
PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Wagner called for public comments from the public attending via Zoom.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 p.m.



Joan Michaud
City Clerk