

November 26, 2019 City Council Special (Interviews) & Regular Meeting Minutes  
Approved: January 14, 2020

**City of Covington  
Special & Regular City Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, November 26, 2019**

**INTERVIEW:** The Council conducted interviews for the Youth Council from 6:20 to 7:00 p.m. Applicants interviewed: Mia Stewart and Jack Harjehausen.

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 26, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., with Mayor Wagner presiding.

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeff Wagner, Joe Cimaomo, Jennifer Harjehausen, Margaret Harto, Fran Hollums, Marlla Mhoon, and Sean Smith.

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Regan Bolli, City Manager; Ethan Newton, Parks & Recreation Director; Bob Lindskov, City Engineer, Gina Estep, Community Development Director; Casey Parker, Finance Director; Kathy Hardy, City Attorney; and Sharon Scott, Executive Assistant/City Clerk.

Mayor Wagner performed the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilmember Jennifer Harjehausen for her short term until January 1, 2020.

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 the expanded Property Tax Reduction Program.
- Kevin Grossman gave a presentation on the Green River Small Business Administration Grant.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Wagner called for public comments.

**Nancy Behm and Beth Porter, Covington residents, and Patrick Nelson, Black Diamond resident,** spoke on the fireworks advisory vote.

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

**APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA:**

C-1. Minutes: October 22, 2019 City Council Special Meeting – Joint Study Session with Arts Commission Minutes and October 22, 2019 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

- C-2. Vouchers: Vouchers #39912 - #39974, including ACH payments in the amount of \$1,481,983.80, dated November 8, 2019; Paylocity Payroll Vouchers #1011245396 - #1011245411 inclusive and #1011245413, plus employee direct deposits and wire transfers, in the amount of \$259,197.99, dated November 1, 2019; and Paylocity Payroll Vouchers #1011322304 - #1011322319 inclusive and #1011322324, plus employee direct deposits and wire transfers, in the amount of \$228,891.09, dated November 15, 2019.
- C-3. Authorize City Manager to Execute Agreement with Transpo Group, Inc for Design of SR 516 and Covington Way Intersection Improvements (CIP 1063) and Submit Local Agency Agreement Supplement to Washington State Department of Transportation for Design Funding.
- C-4. Authorize City Manager to Execute a King County Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN Radio End User Service Level Agreement.

The consent agenda was approved as presented.

**REPORTS OF COMMISSIONS:**

**Economic Development Council** – No report.

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

**Planning Commission** – Chair David Caudle gave the report.

**Youth Council** – No report.

**Human Services Commission** – No report.

**Arts Commission** – Chair Marita Ledesma gave the report.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. To Receive Public Testimony on Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Operating and Capital Budget.

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

Mayor Wagner called for public comments for the public hearing.

**Laura Morrissey, Covington resident**, spoke in favor of the budget cutbacks the Council had chosen.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Consider Appointments to Youth Council.

Councilmember Jennifer Harjehausen recused herself from this item as an applicant is her son and left the Council Chambers.

**Council Action: Councilmember Harto moved and Councilmember Cimaomo seconded to appoint Jack Harjehausen to fill Position No. 3 on the Youth Council with a term expiring December 31, 2020. Vote: 6-0. Motion carried.**

**Council Action: Mayor Pro Tem Smith moved and Councilmember Mhoon seconded to appoint Mia Stewart to fill Position No. 4 on the Youth Council with a term expiring December 31, 2020. Vote: 6-0. Motion carried.**

Councilmember Harjehausen returned to the Council Chambers.

3. Consider Ordinance to Set the 2019 Property Tax Levy for Collection in 2020.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 15-2019

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, PASSING THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR 2019 FOR COLLECTION IN 2020.

Councilmembers asked questions, and Ms. Parker provided responses.

**Council Action: Councilmember Mhoon moved and Councilmember Harto seconded to pass Ordinance No. 15-2019, in substantial form as that provided in the agenda packet, setting the 2019 property tax levy for collection in 2020 at \$2,975,000. Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.**

4. Consider Ordinance Authorizing a Property Tax Increase in Terms of Both Dollars and Percentages to be Collected in the 2020 Tax Year as Required by RCW 84.55.120.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 16-2019

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 2020 TAX YEAR, AS PURSUANT TO RCW 84.55.120.

**Council Action: Councilmember Harto moved and Councilmember Hollums seconded to pass Ordinance No. 16-2019, in substantial form as that provided in the agenda packet, authorizing the 2019 property tax levy for taxes to be collected in 2020, to increase by 0.89 percent (0.89%), or \$25,045, pursuant to RCW 84.55.120. Vote: 7-0. Motion carried.**

5. Discuss Outcome of November 2019 Fireworks Advisory Vote.

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

There was Council consensus to add an agenda item to the December 10 meeting to discuss an ordinance banning fireworks.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Councilmembers reviewed future agenda items.

There was Council consensus to cancel the December 24 Regular Meeting.

**COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS:**

Councilmembers and staff made comments.

There was Council consensus for Mayor Wagner to sign a letter from the Washington Office of Refugee & Immigrant Assistance regarding Local Consent for Refugees pursuant to the President's Executive Order 13888 that requires state and local consent.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Wagner called for public comments.

**Patrick Nelson, Black Diamond resident**, recognized Councilmember Harto and spoke on local food banks.

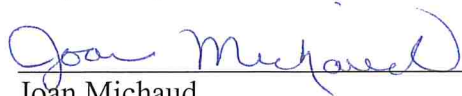
**Rick Holland, Mary Pritchard, and George Pearson, Covington residents**, spoke on the fireworks advisory vote.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**


There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Prepared by:



Joan Michaud  
Senior Deputy City Clerk

Submitted by:



Sharon Scott  
City Clerk