

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON,
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, DESIGNATING THE SEATTLE TIMES AS
THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE CITY OF COVINGTON.

WHEREAS, the City of Covington ("City") is required to designate its official newspaper by resolution pursuant to RCW 35A.21.230, which meets the requirements of Chapter 65.16 RCW; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 08-07 designated the Covington/Maple Valley Newspaper, which is also known as the Covington Reporter, as the official City newspaper; and

WHEREAS, due to the current COVID-19 emergency, Sound Publishing suspended publication of many of its local papers, including the City's official newspaper, the Covington/Maple Valley Newspaper; and

WHEREAS, because it is no longer being published, the Covington/Maple Valley Newspaper no longer meets the requirements of RCW 35A.21.230 and Chapter 65.16 RCW; and

WHEREAS, the City must have an officially designated newspaper for publication of legal notices, such as ordinances and/or ordinance summaries, notices of public hearings and special council meetings, meeting cancellations, and other notices as required by law to be published; and

WHEREAS, in the normal course of business, the City would call for bids to select its official newspaper and the City of Covington City Council ("Council") would designate the winning bid by resolution; however, pursuant to the City of Covington Proclamation of Emergency (issued on March 12, 2020 and adopted, confirmed, and ratified by City Resolution No. 2020-06), and in light of the exigencies presented by the response to COVID-19 under the City's emergency power, the Council must designate an official newspaper as soon as possible to continue publishing required legal notices; and

WHEREAS, the bid process for securing a newspaper is time-consuming, and the standard formalities prescribed by law may prevent the City from securing an official newspaper in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the bid process for securing a newspaper may not provide the City with the range of bids that it may have received because some newspapers that serve the City have suspended publication; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to waive the standard bidding procedures for securing an official City newspaper; and

WHEREAS, The Seattle Times meets the requirements of RCW 35A.21.230 and Chapter 65.16 RCW; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to designate a temporary official newspaper to serve as the City's official newspaper; and

WHEREAS, Council will revisit this issue when the Covington/Maple Valley Newspaper resumes publishing;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Covington, King County, Washington, as follows:


Section 1. The Seattle Times is a qualified, legal newspaper pursuant to RCW 65.16, published in Kent, Washington, and having a general circulation within the City of Covington, is hereby designated as the City of Covington's official newspaper.

Section 2. This action is necessary and routine, and necessary to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak and current public health emergency.

Section 3. Under the emergency powers granted by RCW 38.52.070(2), and in light of the exigencies presented by the response to COVID-19, Council hereby waives the competitive bidding process for securing an official newspaper for the City.

Section 4. City of Covington Resolution No. 08-07 is hereby repealed.

PASSED at a regular open public meeting by the City Council of the City of Covington on this 14th day of April 2020.



Mayor Jeff Wagner

Attested:




Krista Bates, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mark Orthmann, City Attorney

Authenticated:



Joan Michaud, City Clerk