

**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON,
GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, PUBLIC BY TELECONFERENCE,
SEPTEMBER 9, 2020, 6:30 PM.**

Mayor Steve Horton presided with Mayor Pro-Tem Susie Keck, Council members: Hawnethia Williams, Kenneth Morgan, Anthony Henderson, and Don T. Floyd, Electric Director Freddy Morgan, City Clerk Audra M. Gutierrez, and City Attorney Frank Turner, Jr. present. Council member Fleeta Baggett and City Manager Scott Andrews were absent.

Mayor Horton gave the invocation.

Mayor Horton stated Electric Director Freddy Morgan was in attendance on behalf of City Manager Scott Andrews, who is absent.

Mayor Horton led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Mayor Horton called for a moment of silence honoring those who recently passed away who were near and dear to Covington: Sam Ramsey, Bobby Moody, and Ms. Irene Smith.

1. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on August 17, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of road closure request for filming on Dearing Street on September 9th, ex post facto."

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of road closure on Floyd Street from Dearing to Martin Streets on September 10th from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM for water/sewer work."

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of amending City ordinance to allow the City Manager or designee to approve road closure requests."

Motion carried with Council members Keck, Williams, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council member Morgan voting against.

A public hearing was held at 6:40 PM concerning a text amendment creating a Food Truck Ordinance.

5. Motion made by Council member Keck to approve the first reading of an ordinance creating a Food Truck Ordinance.

Motion **died** for the lack of a second.

A public hearing was held at 6:51 PM concerning a text amendment to delete Section 16.20.440 (Livestock, Quarters, and Enclosures, including poultry).

6. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the **first** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington:

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE COVINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE, ENACTED AND ADOPTED ON THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TITLE 16 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **DELETING SECTION 16.20.440 (LIVESTOCK, QUARTERS AND ENCLOSURES (INCLUDES POULTRY))**; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Motion carried with Council members Morgan, Keck, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council member Williams voting against.

7. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) for the Land Application Facility, at no cost to the city.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 8. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve a mosquito management plan as recommended by the University of Georgia Extension.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve changing the City’s phone system to a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) system with Momentum Telecom at a monthly cost of \$1,089.42.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 10. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the low bid from 5 Fields Lawncare in the amount of \$167,468.00 per year, for the City’s Lawn, Landscape, and Ornamental Maintenance Contract.

Contractor	Annual Bid Price
5 Fields Lawncare	\$167,468.00
Great Estates	\$274,764.00
Spartan Management	\$339,792.00
Yellowstone	\$379,915.00
ArtScape	\$702,228.27

Motion carried with Council members Morgan, Williams, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council member Keck voting against.

- 11. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the low bid from Pittman Construction in the amount of \$531,771.17, for the 2020 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG).

CONTRACTOR	TOTAL BID
Pittman Construction	\$531,771.17
MHB	\$551,121.11
ECG	\$576,904.84
Stewart Bros. MHB	\$619,881.68
ShepCo	\$623,699.58
Atlanta Paving	\$749,486.13

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a GDOT contract for the Atlanta - CVC - Contract 27, Construct SE Apron - Phase II (Site Preparation and Utilities).

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the low bids from three bidders: ERMCO, GE, and Howard, three-phase pad mount transformers.

Bidders:

ABB
ERMCO
GE
Howard
WEG

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve changes to an emergency order of the City of Covington, Georgia, requiring face coverings to be worn in public during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

Motion carried with Council members Morgan, Keck, Williams, and Floyd voting for. Council member Henderson voting against.

A discussion ensued regarding creating a Police Department/Citizen's Review Committee.

15. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a road closure request for filming on Dearing Street on September 9th, ex post facto.

Motion carried with Council members Morgan, Keck, and Henderson voting for. Council members Williams and Floyd voting against.

16. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a road closure on Floyd Street from Dearing to Martin Streets on September 10th from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM, for water/sewer work.

Motion carried unanimously.

17. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the first reading of ordinance of the City of Covington allowing the Mayor, City Manager, or designee to approve road closure requests.

Motion carried with Council members Keck, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council members Morgan and Williams voting against.

Council member Keck stated the City has lost several icons and their legacies will live on.

Council member Morgan expressed condolences to those who lost loved ones recently. Council member Morgan thanked Mary Darby for her service to the City. Council member Morgan stated boards and committees do not have enough structure and some individuals want the City to grow and some do not. Council member Morgan further stated the last appointments/re-appointments were not done correctly and external/internal changes need to be addressed.

Mayor's comments:

- Look for updated fee schedule
- Looking at development guidelines for housing at Covington Town Center regarding Townhomes
- Need to make decisions regarding Halloween
- Lawsuits against Sterigenics and BD

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Steve Horton, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk