

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED YET.
REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON,
GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019, 6:30 PM.

Mayor Ronnie Johnston presided with Mayor Pro-Tem Kenneth Morgan, Council members: Hawnethia Williams, Josh McKelvey, and Anthony Henderson, City Manager Leigh Anne Knight, City Clerk Audra M. Gutierrez, and City Attorney Frank Turner, Jr. present. Council members Mike Whatley and Susie Keck were absent.

Deacon Archie Shepherd gave the invocation.

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

1. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on September 3, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the **final** 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 PROVISION OF TITLE 12 OF THE SAID CODE OF
ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **ADOPTING CHAPTER
12.05 (PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY UTILITY ACCOMODATION
POLICY)** THERETO, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to amend the agenda to remove item 6b, “Approval of request for filming in the downtown area September 20, 23-26, 2019.”

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Morgan to amend the agenda to remove item 7, “Discussion of Hwy 278 CID grant request.”

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Williams to amend the agenda to add, “Discussion of MOU Interim Service Plan for New Eastside High school.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Thelma Starr Nolley asked Council member McKelvey Council how can he vote to take people’s jobs so near Christmas.

Mayor Johnston asked Ms. Nolley to direct her questions to the council as a whole and not individual council members.

Council member McKelvey stated there are 15,000 residents in Covington and decisions have to be made for the good of the city as a whole.

- 6. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve a request for filming in the downtown area September 11-16, 2019, expost facto.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 7. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve a request for filming in the downtown area September 24-26, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 8. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve a request for an event permit for the screening of Legacies Season Premiere and Q&A with cast on October 10, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve a request for road closures in Clark’s Grove on Halloween night.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 10. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Williams to approve an APGA Mutual Aid Agreement.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 11. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the low bid from Electricom in the amount of \$231,047.80, for proposed bore on Highway 11 under I-20.

Electricom	\$231,047.80
DLSI	\$562,000.00
Southeast Connection	\$865,552.60

Motion carried unanimously.

- 12. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member McKelvey to approve the third amendment to the City of Covington’s Defined Benefit Plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 13. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve invoices from Newton County Tomorrow, Inc. in the amount of \$3,250.02, and to continue to pay monthly invoices for the rest of the fiscal year.

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

- 14. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the low bid from Pittman Construction in the amount of \$497,939.80, for the City’s 2019 Paving project

Pittman Construction	\$497,939.80
Stewart Brothers	\$620,473.75
East Coast Grading	\$570,147.41
Atlanta Paving & Concrete	\$754,919.14
ER Snell	\$689,575.36

Motion carried unanimously.

- 15. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Williams to approve a bid from Gresco in the amount of \$207,504.00 to purchase of 144 poles & arms for Covington Town Center and 32 poles & arms for Nisshinbo.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 16. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the bid from Anixter in the amount of \$73,568.00 to purchase 176 lighting heads for the afore-mentioned poles and arms.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 17. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member McKelvey to approve a MOU with the Newton County Water and Sewerage Authority for an Interim Service Plan for new Eastside High school.

Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from the City Manager:

- Court Services move update; first court date to be on 12/4
- Electric Review Committee to meet 9/17 at 6 PM in the conference room
- Electric infrastructure improvements on Flat Rock Road and City Pond
- Work being done on Hwy 278/Pace Street while awaiting revised

drawings

Council member Morgan stated there was a lot of discussion in recent work session regarding ordinance changes. Council member Morgan thanked staff for fixing the recent water main break so quickly.

Council member Williams stated at the Main Street meeting, merchants complained about parking issues and Main Street needs sponsors for the Downtown Christmas program.

Council member McKelvey stated the recent work session was very productive and he is looking forward to his birthday on Wednesday.

Council member Henderson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting tonight and mentioned issues with ATVs riding on property near Jefferson Village. Council member Henderson mentioned issues with ATVs racing.

CPD Chief Cotton stated the ATVs were trespassing on City property and are a risk to the City.

Council member Williams stated Legion Field was a great venue for the Fuzz Run and the Sandhill/Texas Alley reunion was a great event.

Mayor's comments:

- Chief Cotton was appointed to the Stated Board of Public Safety by Governor Kemp
- The City is working with Sanitation workers with training and other help
- Sanitation bids were gone over thoroughly and customer service and billing will still be through the City
- Ethylene Oxide testing update

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Ronnie Johnston, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk