

**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, PUBLIC BY TELECONFERENCE, OCTOBER 5, 2020, 6:30 PM.**

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

Council member Williams gave the invocation.

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

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1. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

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2. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson 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 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISION OF TITLE 13 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTION 13.24.020 (GENERAL SEWER USE REQUIREMENTS) OF CHAPTER 13.24 (INDUSTRIAL WASTE CONTROL)** THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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3. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Williams 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 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TITLE 2 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES BY **AMENDING SECTION 2.60.040 (CEMETERY REGULATIONS) OF CHAPTER 2.60 (CEMETERIES)** THEREOF AS, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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4. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Floyd 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 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISION OF TITLE 13 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING SECTION 13.08.295 (LARGE INDUSTRIAL RATE SERVICE), **AMENDING SECTION 13.08.300 (CURRENTLY: LARGE INDUSTRIAL RATE SERVICE; IF AMENDED: EXTRA LARGE INDUSTRIAL RATE SERVICE), AMENDING SECTION 13.08.320 (LARGE INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMER CONTRACTS), AND AMENDING SECTION 13.08.380 (RIDERS AND ADJUSTMENTS) OF CHAPTER 13.08 (ELECTRIC SYSTEM)** THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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Mayor Horton informed the Council the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued new guidelines on Halloween. No formal action was taken.

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5. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to amend the agenda to add, “Discussion of letter of agreement with EDG-CTC, LLC for incentives at Covington Town Center.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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6. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of installation of approximately 4,000 feet of 3"- 4" sanitary sewer force main within the ROW."

Motion carried unanimously.

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7. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Morgan to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of rescinding mask order."

Motion carried unanimously.

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8. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Baggett to amend the agenda to add, "Enter into Executive Session to discuss property."

Motion carried unanimously.

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9. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **on-premises and off-premises consumption** for:

**Bread & Butter Bakery, LLC  
1124 Monticello St.**

Motion carried unanimously.

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10. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the adoption of a resolution to extend a moratorium on the acceptance of applications for multifamily dwellings until November 3, 2020.

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

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11. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to discuss action items 1-5 from the called meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at a 5 PM work session before the October 19<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting:

1. *Prospective board and committee members must submit an updated bio\resume`.*
2. *Staff shall not ask board or committee members if they are willing serve a subsequent term unless directed to do so by the City Council.*
3. *Related annual training will be required for all board and committee members including sexual harassment and diversity training held at prescribed intervals.*
4. *Attendance and performance guidelines or guidelines that detail behavior for which board and committee members may be removed from office will be prescribed by City Council members along with the assistance of the City Attorney.*
5. *Guidelines for monitoring the behavior of board and committee members when interacting with each other, citizens, and City staff will be defined and implemented by the City Council.*

Motion carried unanimously.

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Mayor Horton stated several terms from City boards and committees are set to expire at the end of this year. Mayor Horton further stated currently we have four nominees: Sherika Davis, Eric Threets, Kim Carter, and Janet Goodman.

12. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to remove one or more members from the Planning Commission.

Council members Morgan and Williams voting for. Motion **denied** with Council members Keck, Baggett, Henderson, and Floyd voting against.

13. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to add up to four members to the Planning Commission.

Council members Morgan and Williams voting for. Motion **denied** with Council members Keck, Baggett, Henderson, and Floyd voting against.

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14. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a sole proposal from Exceleron, for implementing pre-pay meters.

Motion carried unanimously.

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15. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the low bid from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government in the amount of \$12,500.00, for an Annexation Fiscal Impact Study.

Carl Vinson Institute of Government	\$12,500.00
Croy Engineering, LLC	\$75,510.00
GA State University	\$35,000.00

Motion carried unanimously.

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16. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to add 4-way stop signs at 6 intersections as identified by the City Manager as well as rumble strips and other safety measures/signage on Dearing Street at tunnel and at all trail/street crossings across the City:

Floyd/East  
 Conyers/Brown  
 Hendricks/Clark  
 Hendricks/Washington  
 Washington/Lee  
 Clark/Lee

Motion carried unanimously.

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17. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the best proposal from Development Planning & Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$3,813,642.71, for the Industrial Blvd Improvement Project.

**Review Summary**

Consultant	Ranking
Development Planning & Engineering, Inc.	23.35
Thomas & Hutton	21.2
Atlas / American Consulting	19.7
Georgia Water & Environmental Services, LLC	19
Lowe Engineers, LLC	18
Croy	17.3
Keck & Wood, Inc.	17.2
Heath & Lineback Engineers, Inc.	17.1
Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc.	15.35
Precision Planning, Inc.	15.25

Motion carried unanimously.

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18. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a letter of agreement with EDG-CTC, LLC for incentives at Covington Town Center.

Motion carried unanimously.

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19. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve a request from Ashley Capital for the installation of approximately 4,000 feet of 3" - 4" sanitary sewer force main within the ROW.

Motion carried unanimously.

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20. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Floyd to rescind the mask order due to the COVID-19 numbers per 100,000 dropping below the threshold set by the Governor.

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

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Comments from the City Manager:

-Welcome Center Open House for Council and staff on 11/16 at noon

Council member Floyd discussed issues with traffic backing up into Emory Street through the drive-thru.

Council member Williams informed everyone it is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Council member Baggett mentioned noise in the downtown area from vehicles.

It was the consensus of the Council to let the City Manager, Police Chief, and City Attorney to work on an ordinance addressing noise.

Council member Keck stated early voting starts next week.

Council member Morgan asked the City Attorney to provide the definition of "current council cannot bind another council." Council member Morgan asked any business of Boards and Committees be included in the Weekly Report. Council member Morgan stated he would like to see a part of Legion Field used for an indoor walking track with membership. Council member Morgan asked the City Manager to reach out to those who want to serve on boards. Council member Morgan also asked that the public be notified of any new policy changes. Council member Morgan mentioned concerns regarding social distancing in local restaurants.

Mayor's comments:

- Early voting and a call with concerns about possible harassment at the polls
- Changes at the state level regarding alcohol

The City Attorney stated the changes are:

- The City can allow liquor stores to begin selling at 11 AM on Sundays
- Beer and wine can be delivered

It was the consensus of the Council to do nothing at this time.

21. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to enter into Executive Session at 8:41 PM for the purpose of discussing property.

Motion carried unanimously.

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22. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Baggett to enter back into Regular Session.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Being no further business meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

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Steve Horton, Mayor

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Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk