

REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, TELECONFERENCE, JANUARY 19, 2021, 6:30 PM.

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

Mayor Horton gave the invocation.

Council member Williams gave an update on 26th Federal Anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Piedmont Newton Hospital's CEO David Kent and COO Dr. Norris Little gave an update on COVID-19 and how it is affecting Covington and Newton County.

1. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on January 4, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the minutes from the Called Meeting held on January 7, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve the **final** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington with change of name from *College Street Park* to *Welcome Center Park*:

“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 **AMENDING SECTION 12.20.010 (DEFINITIONS) AND SECTION 12.20.020 (ESTABLISHMENT OF PARK HOURS AND DESIGNATED**

PARKING AREAS) OF CHAPTER 12.20 (PARKS) THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion made by Council member Keck, 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 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, **TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 3 (SCHEDULES) OF CHAPTER 13.08 (ELECTRIC SYSTEM) OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."**

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of filling three vacant positions on the Historic Preservation Commission."

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve initiating a text amendment to add two positions and to eliminate term limits for the Historic Preservation Commission.

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

7. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve setting qualifying fees for Council Posts to be filled by the election on November 2, 2021 at 3% of annual salary of the office or \$270.00.

Post 1 East
Post 2 West
Post 3 West

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion made by Council member Keck seconded by Council member Floyd to approve appointing Heather Birkhead King to the Historic Preservation Commission.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve appointing John Conklin to the Historic Preservation Commission.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve appointing Jessica Bauer to the Historic Preservation Commission.

Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant City Manager Freddy Morgan comments:

-January 21st at 10 AM at Nelson Heights Community Center there will be an informational meeting to discuss the Puckett Street waterline project

-Clean-up this past Saturday included 15 City workers; future clean-ups next three Saturdays

Transportation Manager John King gave an update on clean-up from Saturday.

Council member Keck asked everyone to pray for tomorrow, inauguration day.

Council member Morgan asked for a pre-pay metering update.

Assistant City Manager Freddy Morgan stated we are still coordinating with the City's utility billing system.

Council member Henderson stated he is proud of City staff for their efforts during the clean-up this past Saturday.

Council member Floyd asked everyone to pray for former Council member Rodger Tingler due to the passing of his brother.

Comments from the Mayor:

-Please wear masks and follow CDC guidelines with regards to COVID-19

-Discussed some solutions for the Homeless Shelter with the City of Porterdale

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Steve Horton, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk