

**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON,
GEORGIA, TELECONFERENCE, FEBRUARY 15, 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 discussed the history of Black History Month and notable citizens of Newton County.

1. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on February 1, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Williams to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of budget amendment resolution to ensure proper funding for agenda items 13, Discussion of proposals for Downtown District Traffic and Parking study & 15, Discussion of RFPs for a Central Park Master Plan."

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve budget amendment resolution to transfer \$185,589.00 out of Hotel/Motel Fund acct# 275-7541-61.1000 into General Fund acct# 100.1510.39.1201 to ensure proper funding for agenda items 13 & 15.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jared Rutberg asked the City to look into putting a median and bike lanes on Jackson Highway, and bike lanes on Floyd, Conyers, and Legion.

A public hearing was held at 6:46 PM to discuss a rezoning from NR2 to NR3.

4. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approved an application to rezone 9155 Jackson Hwy from NR2 (Neighborhood Residential District 2) to NR3 (Neighborhood Residential District 3) for proposed future development with conditions: that an automatically renewing non-amenable restrictive covenant, enforceable by the HOA or any unit owner, be recorded prior to issuance of first certificate of occupancy providing that no leases or rentals of less than twelve months shall be allowed.

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

A public hearing was held at 7:41 PM for a text amendment to Section [16.24.040](#) **Covington Town Center Overlay**.

5. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the **first** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington with the proposed changes: to allow townhome standards within the Covington Town Center Overlay that are different than townhome standards generally applicable city wide found at [16.28.025](#), as recommended by planning commission but with requirement that townhome component comply with existing guidelines for sidewalks and require the use of architectural shingles:

“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 **AMENDING SECTION 16.24.040 (COVINGTON TOWN CENTER OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICT) OF CHAPTER 16.24 (OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICTS)**, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

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

6. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter requesting Northeast Georgia Regional Commission's assistance with the review of and amendments to the City's zoning ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve an encroachment agreement with Jared Rutberg to place a dumpster on old Robinson Street.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Horton read the new Industrial Wastewater Surcharge rates for the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP):

MEASURED COMPONENTS	CURRENT RATES	NEW RATES
BOD	\$0.62 per pound	\$0.25 - \$0.75 per pound
TSS	\$0.62 per pound	\$0.25 - \$0.75 per pound
COD	\$0.37 per pound	\$0.25 - \$0.75 per pound

8. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Keck to approve an exception to the purchasing policy to allow Carter & Sloope to provide engineering services for the Eastside sewer capacity improvement project in the total cost of \$1,098,100.00.

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

9. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a resolution for commercial roll-off solid waste increase.

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

10. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the best bid from Keck & Wood, Inc. in the amount of \$85,240.00, for a Downtown District Traffic and Parking study.

Consultant	Estimated Cost
Atlas	\$161,580.00
CPL	\$49,700.00
GWES	\$43,512.00
Keck & Wood	\$85,240.00
Croy Engineering	\$98,250.00
Toole Design	\$116,940.00
Walker Consultants	\$72,382.00
THA Consultants	\$59,610.00
WGI	\$85,000.00

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Williams to appoint Megan Hulan to the Downtown Development Authority.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Morgan to appoint Jeffrey Johnson to the Downtown Development Authority.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Horton appointed Monique Snow to the Covington Re-development Authority.

13. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the best RFP from Perkins+Will in the amount of \$50,028.00, to develop a Central Park Master Plan.

RFP	Total Project	Expenses/Reimbursables
DTJ Design	\$86,750.00	\$2,000.00
Thomas & Hutton	\$48,125.00	
TSW	\$58,500.00	
MKSK Long Engineering	\$51,600.00	\$900.00 est.
Breedlove Land Planning	\$78,785.00	\$7,500.00
Perez Planning + Design, LLC	\$56,390.00	
Foresite Group	\$86,960.00	
CPL	\$77,100.00	\$4,500.00

Goodwyn Mills Cawood	\$184,200.00
Lose Design	\$46,805.00
Keck & Wood	\$109,995.00
CHA Consulting	\$82,700.00
Smith Planning Group	\$63,000.00
Perkins+Will	\$50,028.00

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the low bid from Lewallen Construction in the amount of \$393,418.00, for construction of the Dried Indian Creek Trestle Bridge on the Cricket Frog Trail.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lewallen Construction	\$393,418.00
Massana	\$586,007.00
JHC Corporation	\$698,000.00
Scott Bridge Company	\$549,000.00

Motion carried unanimously.

The Assistant City Manager asked Transportation Manager John King to discuss the recent Community Clean-up.

The Transportation Manager gave a brief update on the Community Clean-up.

The City Manager thanked the Council for helping move multiple projects forward.

Council member Keck stated Council member Williams did a great job discussing the history of Black History Month. Council member Keck praised Transportation Manager John King for helping her neighbor.

Council member Baggett stated she is pleased that the COVID-19 numbers are dropping.

Mayor's comments:

- Thanks to Council and staff for what they do for the community
- Thanks to the community, for everyone matters

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Steve Horton, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk