

**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON,
GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021, 6:30 PM.**

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

Mayor Horton gave the invocation.

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

1. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on August 16, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Henderson entered the meeting at 6:35 PM.

2. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the minutes from the Called Meeting held on August 24, 2021, as amended:

Mayor Horton stated Council member Floyd is absent due to being in the hospital.

Motion 1, change to "Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve a resolution and letter for SR12/US278 Safety and Operation Improvements (ARC's LCI Solicitation Phase II (Emory Street-Hospital Drive) for PE of Phase II of the Hwy 278 CID Master Plan (Project:CID-278a) including letter wording changes as discussed."

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Baggett to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of purchase of 124 transformers for the Electric Department through approved vender Anixter in the amount \$385,724.00."

Motion carried unanimously.

Chamber President Debbie Harper discussed the Chamber's *Save Small Business* program.

A public hearing was held at 6:52 PM for a SUP in the Corridor Mixed-use (CM) zone to allow for a multi-family development over 5 acres. Property owner Sam Hay and Kyle Brock with Crescent Communities spoke in favor of the SUP.

4. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve a SUP for a multi-family development over 5 acres in the Corridor Mixed-use (CM) zone.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Henderson left the meeting at 7:13 PM.

Council member Henderson returned to the meeting at 7:14 PM.

5. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a budget amendment in the amount up to \$92,722.62, to add a Building Inspector I to the P & Z Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson 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 3 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTIONS 03.16.010, 03.16.030, 03.16.050, 03.16.060 OF CHAPTER 3.16 (LODGING TAX)** THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve an easement for site parcel: C035-0005-018 located on Washington Street.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the low bid from Terex in the amount of \$109,034.00, to purchase a bucket truck for the Telecommunications Department.

Terex Utilities, Inc.	\$109,034.00
Versalift East	\$151,014.00

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the sole RFP from Friends of Covington Fireworks in the amount of \$20,000/year to provide the City with \$50,000.00/year fireworks display.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve a RFP from Cardno, Inc. in the amount of \$20,500.00 for a hazardous materials assessment of the Conyers Street Gym in preparation for applying for the Brownfield Cleanup grant.

GLE Associates. Inc.	Hourly rates ranging from \$135 per hour to \$165 per hour for the principle participants
United Consulting	\$17,500 plus hourly fees ranging from \$120 per hour to \$250 per hour
Terracon Consultants Inc.	\$19,500 - \$32,000
Riverbend Environmental	No Estimates
Cardno Inc.	\$20,500

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the RFP and bid from Carter & Sloope in the amount of \$62,700.00 for engineering and design of a waterline for the company Process Equipment and Controls, including wording that makes Process Equipment and Controls a party to the contract and directly responsible for paying Carter and Sloope direct for their engineering services and City approval to apply for the \$500,000 One Georgia Grant to install the desired waterline.

Carter & Sloope	\$6,000/42,500/14,200 = 62,700.00 (Prelim report + Eng. design + Const. admin)
Thomas + Hutton	\$2,900.00
Rindt-McDuff Associates	\$11,850.00
Hayes, James, and Associates	\$2,900.00
Croy Engineering	\$10,300.00
Engineering Design Technologies, Inc.	No specified fee shown for PER Development. Services are categorized in percentage phases: first 30% of Design Development is \$11,380.00

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

12. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve the best bid from Mason Tractor Co in the amount of \$54,400.00, to purchase a Mini Excavator for the Water and Sewer Department.

Mason Tractor Co	\$54,400.00
Veritus Phoenix Group	\$86,515.00
Central Atlanta Tractor	\$53,160.00 (Tractor not to bid specification)

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve payment to GWES, LLC in the amount of \$21,200.00, for Amendment I to the City's Sidewalk Improvement Project which provides additional design services, to include an additional 900 LF of 5 FT sidewalk connecting to the City's existing trail system.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams approve payment to GWES, LLC in the amount of \$46,900.00, for Amendment II to the City's Sidewalk Improvement Project which will provide right of way acquisition services.

Motion carried unanimously.

15. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the low bid from Stewart Brothers Inc. in the amount of \$1,963,100.12, for the 2021 LMIG and annual City paving project.

CONTRACTOR TOTAL BID

Stewart Brothers Inc.	\$1,963,100.12
Pittman Construction	\$2,248,502.39
Garrett Paving	\$2,442,978.56

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the best RFP from GWES, LLC in the amount of \$448,315.00 plus \$51,420.00 for six months of construction inspection, for a total of \$499,335.00, for engineering and administrative costs for the Downtown Square Utility Relocation & Improvements.

GWES, LLC	\$448,315.00
Keck & Wood	\$224,000.00
Thomas & Hutton	\$640,100.00

Assistant City Manager John King left the meeting at 8:29 PM.

Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant City Manager John King returned to the meeting at 8:32 PM.

17. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the low RFP from Carter and Sloope in the amount of \$24,500.00, for a Water & Sewer Standards and Specifications Update.

Carter & Sloope	\$24,500.00
Thomas & Hutton	\$42,300.00
GWES, LLC	\$64,130.00

Motion carried unanimously.

18. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve a resolution authorizing the acceptance of GDOT contract for ARPA Act Funding associated with the Covington Municipal Airport in the amount of \$32,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

19. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the purchase of 124 transformers for the Electric Department through approved vender Anixter in the amount \$385,724.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from the Assistant City Manager:

-The City has a phenomenal staff

Council member Williams stated city employee Dexter Scott is not doing well and to keep him and his family in your prayers.

Council member Keck stated the City is addressing the short-term rental issue. Council member Keck further stated she has received several regarding trash issues. Council member Keck informed everyone former Council member Mike Whatley is still in the hospital and to pray for him.

Mayor's comments:

-Garbage trucks squeezing cans too tight and not all of the garbage is able to be dumped from can

Mayor Horton gave an update of COVID numbers as of September 3rd:

Georgia
1.4 million cases
Over 22, 000 deaths

Newton Co.
14, 188 cases
253 deaths

Newton's 14-day case rate is 1080 cases per 100,000.
Last week was 964 cases per 100,000

36% of Newton's population is fully vaccinated

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Steve Horton, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk