

**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON,  
GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, OCTOBER 18, 2021, 6:30 PM.**

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

CPD Lt. Mike Tinsley presented certificates to the graduating class of the Citizen's Police Academy

Mr. Grayson Moore was in attendance to apologize to Mayor and Council for vandalizing a porta-john at Academy Springs Park on August 20, 2021.

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1. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on October 4, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

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2. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to table the **final** reading of an annexation ordinance for the City of Covington until the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting due to advertising requirements.

Motion carried unanimously.

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3. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Baggett to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of authorizing the City Engineer to approve a change order with regards to traffic studies."

Motion carried unanimously.

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4. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **on-premises consumption** only for:

**Longhorn Steakhouse # 5244  
Tubby Tom's**

**6112 Pavilion Way  
9148 Hwy 278**

Motion carried unanimously.

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5. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **off-premises consumption** only for:

**Ingles Markets #439  
Ingles Markets #452**

**9176 Hwy 278 NE  
7173 Turner Lake Rd**

Motion carried unanimously.

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6. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve a license for a **Beer and/or Wine Retail Amenity** only for:

**Southern Heartland Art Gallery**

**1132 Monticello Street, SW**

Motion carried unanimously.

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A public hearing was held at 7:07 PM concerning the **first** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington adding 16.20.615- Recreational Goods Rental. Sheri Joyner was in attendance to speak in favor of the text amendment and to answer any questions the Council may have.

7. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck 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 16<sup>TH</sup> 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 16.16.020 (PERMITTED USES) AND ADOPTING SECTION 16.20.615 (RECREATIONAL GOODS RENTAL)**; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

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

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8. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the final plat for Westbridge Subdivision, contingent upon covenants submitted to Planning & Zoning staff before recording.

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

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9. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Floyd to table the discussion of sole source provider to purchase a gunshot detection, location, and forensic analysis service until the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to allow CPD to evaluate another possible provider.

Motion carried unanimously.

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10. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Williams to approve a sole source bid from Principle Environmental in the amount of \$26,649.00, to purchase a 12 inch valve for the Bard Water Tank.

Motion carried unanimously.

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11. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the low bid from Mason Tractor in the amount of \$125,000.00, to purchase a side-arm tractor for the Transportation Department.

Utility Tractor Bid

Bid # 1 AG Pro (John Deere) Amount \$132,361.64  
Tractor - \$64,086.38 Est. Delivery May 2022  
Boom Mower - \$60,956.26 Est. Delivery May 2022  
Hitch Blower - \$7,319.00 Est. Delivery 6-weeks for order

Bid #2 Mason Tractor (Kubota) Amount \$125,000.00  
Tractor - \$62,000 Est. Delivery April 2022  
Boom Mower - \$57,000 Est. Delivery April 2022  
Hitch Blower - \$6,000 Est. April 2022

Motion carried unanimously.

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12. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the sole bid from AKA Mulch Products in the amount of \$53,500.00, for vegetative material removal for the Transportation Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

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13. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Morgan to authorize the City Engineer to approve a change order up to \$50,000.00 from Thomas & Hutton with regards to traffic study.

Motion withdrawn.

14. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Keck to authorize the City Engineer to obtain a cost proposal with regards to traffic study.

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:

- Made a statement on homelessness and shelter
- City has decided not to pursue proposed Conyers Street Gym Development

Council member Floyd inquired if the City is planning to submit an application for a Public Safety grant.

Council member Williams stated the residents on Avery Street are grateful for the speed humps and would like smaller ones installed at the bottom of the hill.

Council member Baggett stated she was embarrassed and disturbed regarding who knew what, when, and where. Council member Baggett further stated she wants to know how the developer was paid the \$75,000.00 and who gave them approval to spend that kind of money.

Council member Keck stated she was surprised she has not been contacted since she was the one who sent out the news release. Council member Keck informed everyone early voting runs through October 29.

Council member Morgan stated he realizes the Conyers Street issue is a problem and the City needs to come together to work it out. Council member Morgan further stated Highway 278 is a drag strip and needs to be a right turn only.

Mayor's comments:

- Can get with GDOT about sight only turns for Highway 278
- Speeding is a local law enforcement issue

Council member Baggett stated she would like a response from Newton County BOC regarding monies sent to the Homeless Shelter.

- The City has asked the City Attorney to investigate the Conyers Street Gym matter
- Creating a community questionnaire regarding development
- Covington Planning Commission letter and possibly a joint meeting
- Sewer expansion and improvement project may be twice the anticipated cost

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Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

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Steve Horton, Mayor

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Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk