

**CALLED MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, DECEMBER 29, 2021, 5 PM.**

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

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Planning & Zoning Manager Marc Beechuck discussed Moratorium planning such as levels of growth, Comp Plan, code clean-up, and housing. Mr. Beechuck also discussed future land use and corridors.

Council member Morgan entered the meeting at 5:26 PM.

Mayor and Council expressed their concerns regarding traffic, density, and fairness.

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A discussion ensued regarding the proposed Warming Shelter. The City Manager discussed the costs associated with security for the shelter.

ICMA Fellow Bailey Dickenson discussed the possibility of partnering with groups such as Repairers of the Breach or Willing Helpers Medical, Inc. for overnight stays in local hotels.

It was the consensus of the council to move forward with opening a warming shelter at Grace UMC, as originally planned.

1. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve a resolution amending the 2021-2022 budget in the amount of \$100,000.00, for the Warming Shelter.

Motion carried unanimously.

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2. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a resolution amending the 2021-2022 budget in the amount of \$502,095.00, payable to Peach State Construction Co. for a change order in

connection with the Industrial Blvd project.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Audience member Wanda Hodges Regan thanked the City for approving the funds for the warming shelter. Ms. Hodges stated it is better to do something and fail than to do nothing.

Council member Williams informed everyone she recently had surgery and it was a success.

Council member Floyd informed everyone Ms. Lula Vaughn Smith passed away and to keep her son in everyone's prayers.

Council member Williams stated it has been a pleasure to serve the City and it's been a roller coaster.

Council member Morgan asked everyone to keep employee Jeremy Kitchens in their prayers.

Mayor's comments:

- COVID#s are up
- Thanks to Council member Williams for her service

Council member elect Charika Davis stated the process has been a wonderful experience.

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Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7 PM.

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Steve Horton, Mayor

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Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk