

**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON,  
GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022, 6:30 PM.**

Mayor Steve Horton presided with Mayor Pro-tem Fleeta Baggett, Council members: Susie Keck, Kenneth Morgan, and Don T. Floyd, City Manager Tres Thomas, Assistant City Manager John King, Deputy Clerk Amanda Huggins, and City Attorney Frank Turner, Jr. present. Council member Anthony Henderson, Council member Charika Davis, and City Clerk Audra M. Gutierrez were absent.

Pastor Brad Rutledge and Renee Rutledge of HOPE Church gave the invocation.

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

Council member Floyd gave an update on the health status of former Council member Roger Tingler. Council member Floyd informed Mr. Tingler tripped on a rug at his home resulting in a small brain bleed. Council member Floyd stated that besides being sore, Mr. Tingler is doing ok, and asked everyone to keep the Tingler family in their prayers.

Mayor Horton administered the Oath of Office to new Covington Police officers Crystal Cintron and Scott Strickland.

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1. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on August 15, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Mayor Horton announced Council member Davis was not feeling well and Council member Henderson was out of town.

2. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the minutes from the Called Council Meeting held on August 25, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

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3. Motion made by Council member Morgan to approve 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 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TITLES 5 AND 16 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTION 16.08.010 (DEFINITIONS) OF CHAPTER 16.08 (INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS), AMENDING SECTION 16.16.020 (PERMITTED USES) OF CHAPTER 16.16 (STANDARD ZONING DISTRICTS) AND ADOPTING SECTION 16.20.315 (FOR RENT SINGLE FAMILY DETACHED DEVELOPMENT) TO CHAPTER 16.20 (SUPPLEMENTAL USE PROVISIONS) THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**”

Motion **died** for lack of second.

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4. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to remove Item 9 from the agenda, “Discussion of Highway 278 CID Support Letter for Phase 2 from City and County.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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5. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Keck to amend the agenda to add, “Discussion of bids for update Production/Recovery Equipment associated with Microsoft 365 email migration from on-premises to hosted.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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6. 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:

**Lucky Day Tacos, LLC  
dba Lucky Day**

**1113 Floyd Street**

Motion carried unanimously.

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7. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve an amendment to the Covington Town Center Landscaping Performance Agreement.

Motion carried unanimously.

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8. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve acceptance of offer regarding Conservation Easement from Nisshinbo.

Motion carried unanimously.

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9. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve the application for a \$7,500.00 ReLeaf Grant from the Georgia Forestry Commission with no cash match, in-kind match of \$2,759.20, with project budget amounting to \$10,267.20, to plant approximately 45 trees.

Motion carried unanimously.

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10. Motion made by Council member Keck seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the low bid from Nettology in the amount of \$19,750.00 for the Microsoft 365 email migration from on-premises to hosted exchange.

Nettology	\$19,750.00
SFB Technology	\$23,000.00
Improving	\$46,400.00
Veristor	\$58,000.00

Motion carried unanimously.

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11. Motion made by Council member Morgan seconded by Council member Keck to approve low bid from Davenport Group for Dell storage array/install service amounting to \$60,488.00, Dell switch amounting to \$21,607.00, and RecoveryPoint software amounting to \$9,775.00 for update production/recovery equipment associated with the Microsoft 365 email migration from on-premises to hosted exchange.

<u>Dell Array Storage</u>	
ASA Computers	unable to register with Dell-no bid
BlueAlly	\$55,569.77 + install
Davenport Group (worked with Dell)	\$38,988.00 + install \$21,500.00= \$60,488.00

Dell Switch	
Davenport Group	\$21,607.00
CDW	\$19,206.88 (ETA date Spring of 2023)
Dell	\$23,424.86
BlueAlly	\$22,787.28

Replication Service	
Davenport Group	\$9,775.00
RecoveryPoint Online only	\$12,000.00

Motion carried unanimously.

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12. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve paving of the Red Trail in Central Park using funding from a DNR grant received amounting to \$200,000.00, with a \$68,000.00 match, to complete under City of Covington concrete contract with Peachstate Construction.

Motion carried unanimously.

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13. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve 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 PROVISION OF TITLE 13 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTION 13.08.380 (RIDERS AND ADJUSTMENTS) OF CHAPTER 13.08 (ELECTRIC SYSTEM) THEREOF**, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

This ordinance repeals bi-directional metering monthly charge of \$4.50 per month.

Motion carried unanimously.

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14. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck, to approve bid for a 2024 Freightliner M2-106 dump truck from Global Rental

Company Inc. for the Electrical Department amounting to \$135,840.00, as greater specifications were met from RFP.

Peach State Truck Centers, LLC	\$131,887.00
Global Rental Company, Inc.	\$135,840.00

Motion carried unanimously.

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15. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to enter into an Inner Participant Transfer (IPT) with the City of Griffin to meet MEAG requirements for excess reserve capacity at \$10/KW.

Motion carried unanimously.

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16. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve low bid from Wesco/Anixter for approximately 11,500 meters to change out amounting to \$17.50 per meter (\$201,250.00 plus \$1,500.00 software setup fee).

Wesco/Anixter	\$17.50 per meter (\$201,250.00 plus \$1,500.00 software setup fee)
Compass Metering Solutions	\$23.25 per meter (\$267,375.00)
Vanguard Utility Service, Inc.	\$41.85per meter (481,275.00)

Motion carried unanimously.

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17. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve sole source bid from Anixter, Inc. for 1,200 Tantalus meters amounting to \$226,800.02.

Motion carried unanimously.

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18. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve low bid from Knights Pressure Washing, LLC in the amount of \$11,500.00 for Covington Square pressure washing.

Knight's Pressure Washing, LLC	\$11,500.00
J & B Painting and Construction	\$29,514.00
Hot Pressure Solutions	No Response
Covington Window Cleaner	No Response

Motion carried unanimously.

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- 19. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve sole source bid from Eco-Tec, Inc. to proceed with Enviroquip belt press rehab amounting to \$105,837.00 for the Water Reclamation Facility.

Motion carried unanimously.

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- 20. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve sole bid for a 2024 Peterbuilt Model 548 tandem axle dump truck from Peterbuilt of Atlanta in the amount of \$164,475.00 as requested by the Water Reclamation Facility.

Motion carried unanimously.

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- 21. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve low bid from Atlanta Kubota, LLC for a new Kubota Compact Track Loader with attachments in the amount of \$97,647.00 as requested by the Water Reclamation Facility.

Atlanta Kubota, LLC	\$97,647.00
Mason Tractor Co.	\$98,200.00
Ag-Pro Conyers	\$113,313.00 John Deere CTL

Motion carried unanimously.

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- 22. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve MGAG Trade Confirmation with Verescence imposing a 50% cap on gas hedging.

Motion carried unanimously.

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- 23. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve contract with CSRA Probation Services Inc. for probation services.

Motion carried unanimously.

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24. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve recommended bid for Exit 92 beautification project associated with Covington Town Center from Great Estates amounting to \$65,670.90, along with a budget amendment and budget amendment resolution.

Arbor Equity	\$64,900.00
Great Estates	\$65,670.90

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

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Ms. Carolyn Kimes questioned on how to go about getting copies of body cam footage of interactions with members of the Covington Police Department.

Mayor Horton explained an open records request to the Covington Police Department would need to be made in order to get copies of body camera footage.

Ms. Thelma Nolley stated she asked the owner of the property beside her if he would not mind cleaning up area around of the fence boarding her property. Ms. Nolley stated that the City has torn up her fence by taking down trees that her neighbor requested to remove. Ms. Nolley stated gas lines were not marked before the tree removal. Ms. Nolley questioned if the City Manager's son was qualified to work for the City and how a human resource employee has three family members recently employed by the City. Ms. Nolley is concerned that City employees are not qualified for certain positions. Ms. Nolley stated concern of charges for furniture not picked up by trash service in the past and requested sending a notice to inform citizens 2 pieces of furniture can be picked up per cycle currently.

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Comments from the City Manager:

-Tres Thomas stated he understands there are times when employees approach Council members about various concerns/grievances, but he would like the Council member to give the supervisors and managers of the employee an opportunity to address them before engaging. Mr. Thomas referenced City Policy 506.

Council member Keck questioned where the City stood on getting a trailhead on Dearing Street at the backside of Covington Place as the bank is becoming a mess from people walking up it and it is dangerous. Council member Keck stated she witnessed a Wal-Mart 18 wheeler truck coming down Elm Street through

downtown from Porterdale.

Council member Baggett mentioned the lenders who have given money for the dog park behind Chimney Park have been paying for trash pickup and maintenance as the park is owned by the County. Council member Baggett stated former City Manager Scott Andrews and Loyd Kerr were working on the dog park before they left.

Community Development Director Ken Malcom stated Randy Connor has been in touch with some of the family of the lenders and is working on getting some answers on the dog park.

City Attorney Frank Turner Jr. stated Newton County owns Chimney Park and the dog park and have an agreement with Friends of Newton Parks to maintain it. City Attorney Frank Turner Jr. mentioned an agreement drafted with the Elder family that was never signed.

Ms. Thelma Nolley questioned who determines where sidewalks are in neighborhoods.

City Attorney Frank Turner Jr. stated he will check the ordinance and clarify sidewalk placement.

Mayor's Comments:

-Upcoming reception on October 4, 2022 4pm-6pm for City of Covington retirees in the Council Courtroom with presentations beginning at 5:15pm.

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25. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to enter into Executive Session at 8:09 PM for the purpose of discussing land opportunities.

Motion carried unanimously.

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26. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to enter back into Regular Session.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.



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Steve Horton, Mayor

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Amanda Huggins, Deputy City Clerk