



**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA,  
MARCH 3, 2025, 6:30 PM.**

Mayor Fleeta Baggett presided over Mayor Pro-tem Kimberly Johnson, Council Members Charika Davis, Susie Keck, Travis Moore, and Jared Rutberg, City Manager Tres Thomas, Deputy City Manager John King, City Clerk Audra M. Gutierrez and City Attorney Frank Turner, Jr. present. Council Member Anthony Henderson was not in attendance.

Rev. Dr. Royeese Stowe gave the invocation.

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

Mayor and Council Members recognized and congratulated the Covington Police Explorers for winning 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in two events at the Winterfest 2025 Gatlinburg.

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1. A motion was made by Council Member Davis, seconded by Council Member Keck to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on February 17, 2025.

The motion carried unanimously.

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2. A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Moore to approve the **final** reading of the 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 1 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING CHAPTER 15.36 (SOIL EROSION, SEDIMENTATION AND POLLUTION CONTROL)**; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

The motion carried unanimously.

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3. A motion was made by Council Member Davis, seconded by Council Member Rutberg to remove item #7, “Discussion of first reading of an ordinance modifying Chapter 5.12 Alcohol Beverages.”

The motion carried unanimously.

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4. A motion was made by Council Member Keck, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **off-premises** consumption only for:

**Covington Provisions**

**4120 Washington Street**

The motion carried unanimously.

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5. A motion was made by Council Member Rutberg, seconded by Council Member Davis to abandon a portion of Old Alcovy Road, crossing through the property located at 11145 Alcovy Road, map parcel C079 009.

The motion carried unanimously.

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6. A motion was made by Council Member Rutberg, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve a request from the Historic Preservation Commission to initiate a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, Sec.16.52.180, to shorten the Public Notice time for a Certification of Appropriateness.

The motion carried unanimously.

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7. A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Davis to approve a proposal from Thomas & Hutton in the amount of \$307,686.00 for Progressive Design-build for the City Pond/Williams Road Improvement Project Phase II – A – Surveying and Engineering Fees.

The motion carried unanimously.

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8. A motion was made by Council Member Keck, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve a Resolution adopting Carter & Sloope, Inc. Consulting Engineers’ rules and regulations to carry out and enforce Chapter 13.28 of the City’s Code of Ordinances and the cross-connection control program implemented thereby in accordance with City Code of Ordinances Section 13.28.070.

The motion carried unanimously.

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9. A motion was made by Council Member Rutberg, seconded by Council Member Moore to approve a **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 13.28.020 (DEFINITIONS) AND SECTION 13.28.060. (IMPLEMENTATION OF CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM) OF CHAPTER 13.28 (CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL**

**PROGRAM) THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”**

The motion carried unanimously.

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10. A motion was made by Council Member Davis, seconded by Council Member Rutberg to approve the sole bid from Pyrotecnico Fireworks in the amount of \$90,000.00 to execute firework displays for three events for 2025:

Juneteenth	\$7,500.00
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	\$75,000.00*
Lighting of the Square	\$7,500.00

\*Friends of Fireworks will provide \$40,000.00 worth of products for the Independence Day celebration.

The motion carried unanimously.

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11. A motion was made by Council Member Davis, seconded by Council Member Keck to approve the City’s participation of 50% in the proposed budget, \$22,700.00, for the 2025 Juneteenth Celebration to be held on June 14, 2025.

The motion carried unanimously.

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**Council member Rutberg:**

Said he had a great experience on a ride-along with CPD Officer of the Year Officer Bruce last week. Community policing is at its best.

**Council Member Moore:**

Said he had a great time at the Jazz and Art Show and thanked the Ohco District for hosting the event.

**Mayor Baggett:**

If we get calls from the residents about their utility bills, please advise them to consider their consumption usage and weatherproof their homes.

If we get directions from our City Attorney, Police, Fire, or 911, please listen to their advice.

Had a great time at the Art & Jazz show last weekend.

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12. A motion was made by Council Member Davis, seconded by Council Member Rutberg to enter into Executive Session at 7:18 PM.

The motion carried unanimously.

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13. A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Davis to enter back into the Regular Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

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Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM.

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Fleeta S. Baggett, Mayor

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Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk