



**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA,  
MARCH 17, 2025, 6:30 PM.**

Mayor Fleeta Baggett presided with Mayor Pro-tem Kimberly Johnson, Council Members: Anthony Henderson, Susie Keck, Travis Moore, Charika Davis, and Jared Rutberg, City Manager Tres Thomas, Deputy City Manager John King, City Clerk Audra M. Gutierrez, and City Attorney Frank Turner Jr.

Rev. Chris Shurtz, Senior Pastor of Covington FUMC, gave the invocation.

Council Members Davis and Henderson entered the meeting at 6:32 PM.

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

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1. A motion was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on March 3, 2025, with the correction of "Ohco."

The motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor and Council Members recognized and congratulated Kimberly Smith and Beth Ivey of the Civility Taskforce, both of whom received the Civility Award.

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2. A motion was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Henderson 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 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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3. A motion was made by Council Member Henderson and seconded by Council Member Moore to amend the agenda:

- Remove item 7
- add "Discussion of WRF Improvements change order."
- add "Enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation."

The motion carried unanimously.

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4. A motion was made by Council Member Moore and seconded by Council Member Rutberg to approve a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **on-premises** consumption only for:

**Bar Oscar**

**1113 Floyd Street**

The motion carried unanimously.

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A Public Hearing was held at 6:45 PM concerning the transmittal of the FY2024 Annual Impact Fee Capital Improvements Element to the Atlanta Regional Commission, pursuant to the Georgia Development Impact Fee Act.

5. A motion was made by Council Member Henderson and seconded by Council Member Keck to approve a Transmittal Resolution for the Capital Improvements Element FY2024 Annual update to the Atlanta Regional Commission, pursuant to the Georgia Development Impact Fee Act.

The motion carried unanimously.

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6. A motion was made by Council Member Keck and seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve change order #1 in the amount of \$399,600.00, payable to Lakeshore Engineering for the Water Reclamation Facility Improvements.

The motion carried unanimously.

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A Public Hearing was held at 6:53 PM concerning a Special Use Permit for a banquet hall/special event facility located at 4118 Herring Street - PSU25-0002. The applicant, Guadalupe Alvaret, and owner, Jacob Thomason, were present to speak in favor of the SUP.

7. A motion was made by Council Member Rutberg and seconded by Council Member Henderson to approve a Special Use Permit for a banquet hall/special event facility located at 4118 Herring Street - PSU25-0002, with conditions:

- i Abide by all referenced ordinances under Section 16.20.115 for Banquet Hall.*
- ii Fire Marshall approval required; occupancy load will be based on Fire CO.*
- iii Should request be approved, all ordinances supplemental use standards pertaining shall be followed, or the operation and owner/management thereof will be held in violation and subject to penalties found under Chapter 1.12 of the Covington Code of Ordinance;*
- iv Before any and all operations of business can begin and/or before any and all renovations /remodeling of structures supporting said operation can occur, any and all required permits must be obtained.*

The motion carried unanimously.

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8. A motion was made by Council Member Moore and seconded by Council Member Rutberg to approve the **first** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington, with change:

“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 5 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING **CHAPTER 5.12 (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES)** THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

The motion carried unanimously.

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9. A motion was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Henderson to appoint Rob Leigh as the voting delegate at the Election Committee Representative at the 2025 Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia's Annual Election.

The motion carried unanimously.

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10. A motion was made by Council Member Keck and seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve Change Order no. 1 payable to Southern Utility Group, LLC in the amount of \$185,000.00, for the Floyd Street Pipeline Replacement Project.

The motion carried unanimously.

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11. A motion was made by Council Member Henderson and seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve a Change Order No. 1 payable to Pittman Construction in the amount of \$191,500.00, for the new Bravo taxiway at the Covington Municipal Airport, ex post facto.

The motion carried unanimously.

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12. A motion was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Moore to approve an updated plan from Sunbelt Builders in the amount of \$5,673,927.00, for the new 911 Center.

The motion carried unanimously.

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Covington Fire Department's Chief Doss gave a status update on the concept design plan for the proposed Station 23.

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13. A motion was made by Council Member Henderson and seconded by Council Member Rutberg to approve a Cost-shared Agreement with Buyside Capital Advisors, LLC, for the replacement of a 60-inch pipe for the proposed Pine Leaf Subdivision.

Council Members Keck, Johnson, Moore, Rutberg, and Henderson voted in favor. Council Member Davis voted against

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14. A motion was made by Council Member Keck and seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the best bid from Cajeen Construction and Rehab Services in the amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 for Phase 1 & 2 of Alcovy Rd. Sewer Rehab Project.

GCU - (Phase 1) \$156,500.00  
(Phase 2) \$1,040,000.00 estimated

Inliner - (Phase 1) \$338,500.00  
(Phase 2) \$577,100.00 estimated

Cajeen - (Phase 1) \$234,780.00  
(Phase 2) \$1,162,500.00 estimated

The motion carried unanimously.

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15. A motion was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Rutberg to appoint Council member Kim Johnson to serve on the Retirement Committee.

The motion carried unanimously.

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**Public Comments.**

Pastor Carlton Mathis wanted information regarding the oil spill that happened near his church on Stone Mountain Street.

**Comments from the City Manager.**

He explained how the clean-up regarding the 200-400 gallons of diesel fuel spill on Spring Street will occur in the upcoming weeks. The EPD will continue to monitor the clean-up by taking samples.

No hurt or harm to the community.

There was no bad weather this weekend. Thanks to John King and staff for updating the city on the weather conditions.

**Council Member Henderson:**

He gave us an update regarding his brother's condition.

**Mayor Baggett:**

She asked that we keep our neighbors in West Georgia in our prayers as they faced severe storms over the weekend. Newton Day at the Capital: New things are coming to Covington's new job and growth, and on 4/21/2025, she will be out of town; Pro-Tem Kim Johnson will be presiding.

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16. A motion was made by Council Member Davis, seconded by Council Member Henderson, to enter into Executive Session at 7:41 PM to discuss litigation.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

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Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.

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Fleeta S. Baggett, Mayor

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Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk