

REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, TELECONFERENCE, MAY 4, 2020, 6:30 PM.

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

Mayor Horton gave the invocation.

1. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on April 20, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve a request for two road closures, Pace Street from Williams to Stallings from April 30, 2020 to May 1, 2020 and Williams Street from May 1, 2020 to May 2, 2020, expost facto.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Floyd expressed concerns regarding fire apparatus navigating the intersection of Pace and Floyd Streets.

Mayor Horton stated he received a lengthy email from Ms. Barbara Morgan stating merchants on Pace Street not getting enough notice of closure.

3. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a request from the Covington Housing Authority to send a letter to the NEGRC asking their assistance to be the administrators of the 2020 CHIP Grant recently awarded to the CHA.

Motion carried unanimously.

Planning & Zoning Director Mary Darby presented an update on Code Enforcement Officer Neighborhood program for Boarded-up Houses.

- Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the low bid from Carter & Sloope in the amount of \$38,000.00, for a Water & Sewer rate study.

Carter & Sloope	\$38,000.00
Georgia Water & Environmental Services	\$38,500.00
Raftelis	\$55,200.00

Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion made by Council member Floyd, 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 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TITLE 10 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTION 10.18.030 (OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS) OF CHAPTER 10.18 (MOTORIZED CARTS)** THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a resolution appointing Eric Threets to the Development Authority.

Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the transfer of \$88,000.00 from the DDA and \$50,000.00 from MEAG Funds to Covington Development Authority.

Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve amending the 2019-2020 Budget for the afore-mentioned transfers.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve an agreement with the Covington Downtown and Tourism Association, Inc.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve execution of grant application and acceptance of CARES Act Grant in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the Covington Municipal Airport.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve varying from the Personnel Policy and allow employees to expend unused annual leave from Budget Year 2019-2020 until December 31, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to dismiss the lawsuit against Pension Financial Services (PFS), without prejudice.

Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from the City Manager:

- Thanked Council for extending the time for employees to take vacation
- Georgia National Guard has cleaned all of the nursing homes in the state and is looking to clean fire station next
- Looking to open City Hall on May 18th depending on the numbers
- Update on call with Dr. Arona

Council member Williams asked for a county update of COVID-19 cases.

The City Manager stated there are 215 confirmed cases resulting in 8 deaths.

Planning and Zoning Director Mary Darby asked the Council to be looking for a survey from the Georgia Conservancy.

Council member Baggett stated the City is running smoothly.

Council member Floyd asked the City Manager to look at a hydrant leaks at Legion Drive/Conyers Street and in the area of 6166 Cherry Valley Drive. Council member Floyd also mentioned a road issue at East/Floyd Streets.

Mayor's comments:

- Please continue with current efforts in social distancing
- Teleconference council meetings until June 12th unless further changes

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Steve Horton, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk