

**REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON,
GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, PUBLIC BY TELECONFERENCE, AUGUST
17, 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.

President Rajan Zed of the Universal Society of Hinduism gave the invocation.

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

1. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on August 3, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Keck to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of a MOA from NEGRC to update the City's Comp Plan."

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of mandatory face-mask order inside the City limits."

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to amend the agenda to add, "Discussion of personnel matters" to the Executive Session.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Baggett to approve a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **on-premises consumption** only for:

**Three One Four Group, LLC
dba Your Pie
1115 Washington Street**

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the renewal of the City's Property and Casualty Insurance payable to Gary Massey Agency, Inc. in the amount of \$552,838.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Keck approve a Tourism Promotion Service Contract with Covington Downtown and Tourism Association, Inc.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to approve a resolution authorizing for hedging natural gas through Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia (MGAG).

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a budget amendment reallocating percentages for the Assistant Public Works Director's salary.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a resolution for contracting additional work at the Covington Municipal Airport.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Williams to approve creating a Shared Leave Bank Policy 312.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Williams to approve a Memorandum of Agreement from NEGRC to update the City's Comp Plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Williams to approve an emergency order requiring face coverings to be worn in public during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

Council members Keck and Williams voting for. Motion **denied** with Council members Morgan, Baggett, Henderson, and Floyd voting against.

Comments from the City Manager:

- Good to see everyone back in the Council Room
- Council Retreat August 26th & 27th at CPD training room

Special Projects Coordinator Randy Conner updated the Council on the trestle and paving on the Cricket Frog Trail.

CPD Chief Cotton updated the Council on the upcoming march on Saturday, August 29th from 10 AM – 3 PM.

Council member Morgan expressed concerns regarding vacant buildings around the city.

Council member Keck stated she is not wanting for government control but is at a loss on what to do about the spread of COVID – 19.

Council member Williams stated she is concerned about what is going on at Riverside Nursing Home.

Mayor Horton stated it is a private agency under state regulations.

Council member Henderson stated he is not against wearing masks. Council member Henderson further stated people can make decisions for themselves.

Council member Floyd mentioned the recent drownings of two local citizens at Factory Shoals. Council member Floyd stated the new part of the cemetery needs cutting. Council member Floyd stated he was notified of speeding drivers on Martin Street.

Mayor's comments:

- Would like a street paving list for upcoming retreat
- Bushes at the corner of Pace and Usher Streets need pruning
- Large pothole on Green Acres near Petty Street
- Need to look at parade/public gathering ordinance, needs to be consistent
- A lot on Eberhardt Street near Ms. Perry's residence needs Code Enforcement to look at

Davis Street resident Katie Jenson discussed the neighborhood impact of the proposed splash pad to be constructed at Baker Field.

14. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Keck to enter into Executive Session at 7:54 PM for the purpose of discussing land and a personnel matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

15. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to enter back into Regular Session at 8:31 PM.

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Williams to amend the agenda to add, "Termination of purchase of Bellairs' property on Cherry Laurel Drive."

Motion carried unanimously.

17. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Keck to terminate the purchase of CO1100004006A00, 1.211 acres on Cherry Laurel Drive.

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Steve Horton, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk