

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED YET.

REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, CITY HALL, November 12, 2019, 6:30 PM.

Mayor Ronnie Johnston presided with Mayor Pro-Tem Kenneth Morgan, Council members: Hawnethia Williams, Josh McKelvey, Anthony Henderson, Michael Whatley, and Susie Keck, City Manager Leigh Anne Knight, and City Attorney Frank Turner, Jr. present. City Clerk Audra M. Gutierrez was absent.

Councilman Kenneth Morgan gave the invocation.

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

Mayor Johnston swore in new police officers Michael Wyatt and Kinsley Nichols.

Mayor and Council approved a proposed Eagle Scout project from Wyatt King.

Mayor Johnston thanked the Newton County FFA for donating 100 flags to be placed on veteran's graves in city cemeteries on Memorial Day.

1. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on October 21, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve the **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 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISION OF TITLE 16 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING SECTION 16.08.010 (DEFINITIONS) OF CHAPTER 16.08 (INTEPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS) AND **AMENDING SECTION 16.20.290 (EXTENDED-STAY MOTEL/HOTELS) OF CHAPTER 16.20 (SUPPLEMENTAL USE PROVISIONS)** THEREOF TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve the 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 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISION OF TITLE 8 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING CHAPTER 8.04 (GARBAGE, YARD TRIMMING AND WEEDS)** THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Motion carried with Whatley, McKelvey, Williams, Keck and Morgan voting for and Henderson voting against.

Archie Shepherd asked the Council to consider placing raised crosswalks on Carlton Trail.

Kathy Suber asked the Council to consider altering an ordinance to allow the creation of a shelter for people suffering from domestic violence.

Thelma Starr asked for clarification on the road closure over the weekend and expressed concerns with storm water practices.

4. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve an application to obtain a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **on-premises consumption** only for:

Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar	5176 Hwy 278
Bradley's Bar-B-Que	1160 Church Street
The Depot Sports Bar & Grill	4122 Emory Street
Five O'Clock Sports Bar & Grill	7191 Turner Lake Road
Jim Stalvey's Restaurant & Lounge	3132 Hwy 278 NE
Johnny's New York Style Pizza	10176 Carlin Drive
Mystic Grill	1116 Clark Street
Osake Hibachi Grill	2123 Usher Street
Pockets Billiards LLC	6259 Hwy 278 NE
Pockets Billiards LLC	6185 Hwy 278 NE
RL's Off the Square	1113 Floyd Street
Tello's Mexican Grill	4139 Hwy 278 NW
Village Grill	10400 Covington Bypass

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve an application to obtain a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **off-premises consumption** only for:

Bonds BP	8145 Washington Street
Covington Package Store	6138 Jackson Hwy
Covington Raceway	5148 Hwy 278 NW
CVS Pharmacy # 4695	4183 Hwy 278 NE
Dollar General Store # 11417	10734 Hwy 36
Dollar General Store # 85	6185 Hwy 278
Dollar General Store # 7057	7118 Hwy 278
Food Depot # 44	6169 Hwy 278
Food Mart	6155 Hwy 36
Hazel Brand Store LLC	9225 Hwy 142 N
Hester Package Store	5148 Washington Street
Ingles Markets # 439	9176 Hwy 278 NE
Newton Package Shop	9197 Hwy 278
Nitro 2 Go Beverages LLC	9135 Dr. M L King Jr Ave
Turner Lake Chevron	6206 Turner Lake Road
21 Package Store	6147 Hwy 278 NW
Walgreens # 3760	3188 Hwy 278

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve an application to obtain a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **off-premises consumption and ancillary tastings** only:

Town Square Olive Oil, LLC

1130 Church Street

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve an application for **Personal Service beer and/or wine license** only for:

Beauty Restoration Med Spa/Beauty Bar 1109 Floyd Street

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve a request for filming in the downtown area November 18-20, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve a request for road closure in the downtown area December 13, 2019 for a Christmas Carnival.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve a request for closure of Stone Mountain from Spring Street to West on November 9, 2019, *ex post facto*.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a pay request in the amount of \$217,849.82 to American Railroad Industries, Inc. for the US Corrugated Rail Spur. The funds flow through the City via a grant.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the Covington Municipal Airport FY 2021 Capital Improvement Plan, as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the purchase of pad and pole mounted single phase transformers from Gresco and Anixter.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member

Williams to place 100% of the sales from the MEAG Municipal Competitive Trust into the Flexible Operating Account, Intermediate Extended Maturity Portfolio.

Motion carried unanimously.

15. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the best bid from VC3 in the amount of \$17,217.09 for switches and wireless access points for the new police headquarters on Harland drive. Cost of installation will be \$4,321.

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member McKelvey to approve a resolution in support of applying for a trail grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the DNR. The city must match the \$200,000 if awarded.

Motion carried unanimously.

17. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve a change order in the amount of \$181,388.36 for the Pace Street project. The funds will be paid for from current SPLOST funds and will be used to improve the tree wells, place pavers and place lighted bollards from Usher St. to Clark on Pace St.

Motion carried unanimously.

18. Motion made by Council member Whatley, 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 PROVISION OF TITLE 8 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING CHAPTER 8.04 (GARBAGE, YARD TRIMMING AND WEEDS)** THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

19. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve a resolution to amend the budget in the amount of \$114,763 to relocate jobs in the sanitation. Two former sanitation department employees will move to the street department and one to the parks and cemeteries department.

Motion carried unanimously.

20. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Williams to accept an agreement with Pratt for a single stream recycling plan at a price of \$60 per ton for the next three years.

Motion carried unanimously.

21. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve a plan rewrite to provide changes in the funding and vesting structure of the plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

22. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve the 2020 Council meeting calendar with meetings held on the first and third Monday of each month with these exceptions: January 21, September 8 and one meeting in December, on the 7.

Motion carried unanimously.

23. Motion made by Council member McKelvey, seconded by Council member Whatley 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 PROVISION OF TITLE 5 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTION 5.12.040 (HOURS OF OPERATION) OF CHAPTER 5.12 (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES)** THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously

Public Comments:

- Marcus Bailey asked to meet with the engineering department to discuss a drainage ditch in his front yard.

- Representatives from the group “Say no to ETO” provided an update to the Council on their research into the Ethylene Oxide situation.

- Thelma Starr asked how senior citizens can get the back door sanitation service they are accustomed to. Ms. Starr was told current seniors receiving that service should have a note from their doctor on file and those will be honored.

City Manager Leigh Anne Knight noted Latham Sanitation sent letters and posted signs around town notifying people of any changes to their sanitation schedule. She also notified the Council the employee Christmas party will be held on December 5, 2019 at 11:30 a.m. at Legion Field.

- Council member Whatley stated he would reserve his comments for the next Council meeting.

- Council member McKelvey thanked his supporters and would like to see the first reading of the alcohol at public event ordinance to be at the next meeting.

- Council member Henderson wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

- Council member Williams asked about a guard rail at Ivy and Emory streets. Also

wants to consider the raised crosswalks mentioned earlier in the meeting.

- Council member Keck asked for clarification on Ms. Suber's transitional housing request.

-Council member Morgan thanked our Veteran's and asked the Council to look at ordinances that would require builders of new neighborhoods to install speed humps.

-Mayor Johnston asked the community to embrace each other and not show hate. He also said the Ethylene Oxide and Matt Cooper situations are excellent examples of what the community is capable of accomplishing.

Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Whatley to enter into executive session at 8:14 p.m. to discuss land opportunities and personnel matters.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Whatley to enter back into regular session.

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Ronnie Johnston, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk