

REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM AND BY TELECONFERENCE, MARCH 29, 2022, 6:30 PM.

Mayor Steve Horton presided with Council members: Kenneth Morgan, Susie Keck, Anthony Henderson, Charika Davis and Don T. Floyd, City Manager Scott Andrews, Assistant City Manager John King City Clerk Audra M. Gutierrez, and City Attorney Frank Turner, Jr. present. Mayor Pro-tem Fleeta Baggett was in attendance by teleconference.

First Presbyterian Church in Covington's Senior Pastor Neeley Rentz Lane 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 Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on March 7, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the minutes from the Called Meeting held on March 18, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member Baggett, 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 TITLES 5 AND 16 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTIONS 5.12.030 (DEFINITIONS) AND 5.12.050 (LOCATION) OF CHAPTER 5.12 (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES), AMENDING SECTION 16.08.010 (DEFINITIONS) OF CHAPTER 16.08 (INTERPRETATIONS AND**

DEFINITIONS), AND ADOPTING SECTION 16.20.135 (BREWRIES, BREWPUBS AND DISTILLERIES) TO CHAPTER 16.20 (SUPPLEMENTAL USE PROVISIONS) THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried with Council member Keck, Baggett, Davis, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council member Morgan voting against.

4. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to remove item 9 - Discussion of rezone request for 5186 Hartsook Drive, item 13 - Discussion of changing the City’s noise ordinance to match the state ordinance, and item 14 - Discussion of “fixed income” retirement.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Davis to amend the agenda to add, “Discussion of initiating a text amendment to Amendments of Chapter 16 - Zoning.”

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Henderson to amend the agenda to add, “Executive Session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation.”

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to amend the agenda to add, “Discussion of a project agreement with Absolics, Inc.” **and** “Discussion of adding a permitting tech position for the Engineering Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion ensued regarding a text amendment with regards to Corridor Bonus Density criteria. Mr. Scott Daniell stated he is open to the plan because it gives everyone a chance to plan and organize as he is looking to plan a development regarding the historic train depot.

Mr. Bill Dashiell and Mr. Chase Beasley discussed an upcoming development on Washington Street.

8. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Morgan to approve the **first** reading of a text amendment with regards to Corridor Bonus Density criteria.

Motion carried with Council members Morgan, Keck, Davis, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council member Baggett voting against.

9. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve the **first** reading of a text amendment with regards to Single Family Residential Design Standards.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Davis to approve the renewal of a contract with Veristor Capital LLC in the total amount of \$142,047.90, for network monitoring.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Davis to approve adding NO LEFT TURN signs at Covington Crossings onto Turner Lake Road and from Turner Lake Road into Covington Crossings.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member Floyd, seconded by Council member Henderson to designate *Residential Parking Only from 6 PM – 7:30 AM* on College Ave, Oak and Davis Streets around the Welcome Center.

Motion carried with Council member Morgan, Baggett, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council members Keck and Davis voting against.

13. Motion made by Council member Baggett, seconded by Council member Floyd to table the discussion of sewer service on Alcovy Road near the Williams property until the first meeting in May.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a project agreement with incentives with Absolics, Inc.

Motion carried unanimously.

15. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Davis to approve adding a permitting tech position for the Engineering Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve initiating a text amendment to *Amendments* of Chapter 16 - Zoning.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Thelma Starr discussed her utility bill being over \$500 last month and sanitation issues. Ms. Starr stated customer service gave out her customer information to the sanitation contractors.

Comments from the City Manager:

- Introduced new ICMA Fellow – Langston Leake
- Council retreat 4/18-19 at the Airport
- Covington Fire phone AP
- 43 employees are utilizing the City’s educational benefit

Comments from the Assistant City Manager:

- Community Clean-up in the Sand Hill arear on 4/9

Council member Morgan informed every one of an issues with cars and debris in the yard at 10173 Puckett Street. Council member Morgan stated there are several duplexes that are in bad shape. Council member Morgan stated mailboxes should be required to have numbers on them.

Council member Keck informed everyone the trail crossing signals are up.

Council member Davis reminded everyone of the Anti-violence Rally Saturday in Nelson Heights. Council member Davis mentioned the Easter egg hunt at Legion Field.

Council member Floyd stated someone mentioned the charging stations at Community Development and inquired when the City will be giving out free gas cards.

The Mayor informed everyone this year is Covington's Bicentennial. The Mayor asked for an update when the Milestones will be updated/corrected.

Council member Baggett stated she is playing momma and nurse in South Carolina.

17. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Davis to approve enter into Executive Session at 8:55 PM for the purpose of discussing potential litigation.

Motion carried unanimously.

18. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Davis to enter back into Regular Session at 9:15 PM.

Motion carried unanimously.

19. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Davis to amend the agenda to add a resolution providing for the approval of the issuance of tax-exempt multifamily housing revenue bonds by the Housing Authority of the City of Covington for the benefit of the Reserve at Jackson Highway, LP and for other purposes.

Motion carried with Council members Morgan, Keck, Davis, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council member Baggett voting against.

20. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to amend the agenda to add a Real Estate Sales Contract to purchase C064 010 in the amount of \$420,000.00.

Motion carried with Council members Morgan, Keck, Davis, Henderson, and Floyd voting for. Council member Baggett voting against.

Council member Baggett left the teleconference meeting at 9:17 PM.

21. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Davis to approve a resolution providing for the approval of the issuance of tax-exempt multifamily housing revenue bonds by the Housing Authority of the City of Covington for the benefit of the Reserve at Jackson Highway, LP and for other purposes.

Motion carried unanimously.

22. Motion made by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Floyd to approve a Real Estate Sales Contract with Philip A. and Rita S. Johnson Family Limited Partnership for the City to purchase C064 010 in the amount of \$420,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Steve Horton, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk