
4. Motion made by Council member Moore, seconded by Council member Johnson to approve a city-initiated zoning map amendment to clean up the zoning of seven parcels around Newton Drive (north side), Elizabeth Street, and Tate Street currently being used as parking lots for medical facilities.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion made by Council member Rutberg, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve sending a letter to GDOT (Georgia Department of Transportation) for the Hwy 278 CID project to relocate utilities to underground on the south side of US 278 from Robinson Street to Spring Street amounting to an estimated \$2,800,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member Davis, seconded by Council member Rutberg to approve a sole source bid from Equipment Controls Company, Inc. for 6,000 R-275 Residential Gas Meters, 6,000 Spud Swivel/Gaskets Sets, and 3,000 Angle Body Residential Regulators amounting to \$973,590.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member Rutberg, seconded by Council member Keck to approve lowest bid from United Systems & Software Inc. for 6,000 ERG-5006-002 100G DLS Datalogging-Sensus/Rockwell 1 1 Tooth Residential ERTs amounting to \$432,000.00.

United Systems & Software	\$432,000.00
The Blythe Company, LLC	\$435,240.00

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the sole bid from Southern Pipeline Inc. for the Piper Rd Regulator Station Replacement Project amounting to \$95,319.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Moore to approve the continuation of utilizing eight part-time firefighters through June 30, 2025.

Motion carried with Council members Keck, Johnson, Moore, Rutberg, and Henderson voting in favor. Council member Davis voting in opposition.

10. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve participation in the Kroger Co. National Opioid Settlement.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Davis, seconded by Council member Rutberg to approve amending the current budget to include additional revenues & expenditures as actual figures become available.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member Henderson, seconded by Council member Rutberg to approve the proposed 2024-2025 budget presented at the work sessions on May 28th-30th, 2024 with revenues of \$222,161,247 and expenditures of \$221,605,982. This budget provides for a total contingency in the General Fund of \$555,265.

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Johnson to approve the Truist One Credit Card agreement.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion made by Council member Johnson, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the Credit Card Use Policy – 7.11.

Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from the City Manager:

- Attended Juneteenth parade on Saturday, June 15, 2024, weather was very hot, thanks to Downtown and Tourism Development team for coordinating event, Street Department for laying out route and road barriers, Maintenance Crew for assembling parade float for Mayor and Council, and Public Safety that led the parade, very successful event
- Attended the Departure concert at Legion Field on Friday, June 7, 2024 and the Chris, Jon, and Scott concert Saturday June 8, 2024 on the Square during the EPIC events, commend the Downtown and Tourism Development Department, Public Works, and Public Safety Departments for a well-orchestrated and successful weekend
- Welcome to new Special Projects Coordinator Kayla Johnson

Council member Keck stated she was not able to attend but has heard nothing but great things regarding the Juneteenth parade, and kudos to everyone that assisted with the EPIC weekend. Council member Keck requested the sidewalks be washed on the Square.

Council member Johnson attended the Juneteenth parade and thought it was very successful and is glad to see continued attendance and participation. Council member Johnson stated she read the Newton County Archway Partnership report and took away some key points such as requests for public transportation and possibly placing a community garden in Central Park. Council member Johnson stated Exit 90 is nasty and while GDOT is responsible for it, Covington is our city and concern. Council member Johnson reminded everyone of the Nelson Heights Expo on June 27, 2024 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

City Manager Tres Thomas stated Exit 92 is looking bad as well, and while staff and community partners have assisted in cleaning them up, it is GDOT's responsibility, and they would like a maintenance agreement with the city. Mr. Thomas stated this has been discussed with staff and there will be some trimming to occur.

Council member Moore stated the city has been busy the last few weeks and wanted to thank the Downtown and Tourism Development Department, Covington Police Department, Covington Fire Department, and the Street Department for their hard work.

Council member Davis wanted to thank all of staff for the successful town hall meeting held at Flat Rock Baptist Church on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 and amazing Juneteenth parade. Council member Davis thanked staff for assembling the float

last minute for Mayor and Council. Council member Davis reminded everyone there is a community cleanup beginning at 9:00 AM at Grace United Methodist Church on Saturday, June 22, 2024 to clean the Sandhill/ Texas Alley neighborhood and Puckett Street.

Council member Rutberg thanked everyone for the great job with the Vampire Diaries Convention, especially the Downtown and Tourism Development crew, and he has heard from several businesses on the Square how amazing sales were. Council member Rutberg stated that these events are what help keep most of the businesses on the Square open. Council member Rutberg commended staff on the town hall meeting and Juneteenth parade. Council member Rutberg stated he met with Planning and Zoning Director Judy Johnson and Deputy City Clerk Amanda Huggins to discuss city Boards, Committees, and Authorities appointment procedures and applications to standardize the process. Council member Rutberg stated he met with the 501c6 Committee Tourism Board, also known as Discover Covington, that it went great. Council member Rutberg reminded everyone the water reservoir is at full capacity, but with the extreme heat already it will deplete quickly, and to please conserve water. Council member Rutberg asked everyone to use nozzles on water hoses in use, hand water plants, avoid the use of sprinklers unless they have a timer, and be aware of running toilets.

Council member Henderson thanked everyone for the assembly of the Juneteenth float and thanked the Mayor and Council for participating in the town hall meeting. Council member Henderson asked about the uniforms for staff and requiring the city logo on shirts. Council member Henderson also reminded everyone of the community cleanup.

City Manager Tres Thomas stated uniforms were budgeted, and there will be city logo shirts made available particularly to the Customer Service department as well as city nametags.

Mayor Baggett thanked the Finance Department for diligently preparing the budget and breaking it down for Council. Mayor Baggett stated half of the Council will be attending the GMA Conference in Savannah from Thursday June 20, 2024 to Monday June 24, 2024, as well as most of the Admin Department. Mayor Baggett stated that at the town hall meeting the purchase and plans of the Tuller House were discussed and the house is not planned on being used to house anyone but to provide informational materials and resources only as well as to house an employee to oversee distribution of information. Mayor Baggett stated there were over 100 entries in the Juneteenth parade and everything went well. Mayor Baggett stated she would like to see homecoming parades happen again. Mayor Baggett further stated there were a lot of fans in town for the Vampire weekend and nobody got "bit". Mayor Baggett reminded everyone

about water conservation as well and to check on the elderly, people without air conditioning, our homeless population, and pets during the hot weather.

15. Motion made by Council member Rutberg, seconded by Council member Henderson to enter into Executive Session at 7:13 PM for the purpose of discussing litigation.

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Motion made by Council member Rutberg, seconded by Council member Henderson to enter into Regular Session at 7:38 PM.

Motion carried unanimously.

17. Motion made by Council member Rutberg, seconded by Council member Moore to amend agenda to add, "Discussion of change order number one for the Eastside Sewer Line Project."

Motion carried unanimously.

18. Motion made by Council member Rutberg, seconded by Council member Keck to approve change order number one for the Eastside Sewer Line Project amounting to \$208,200.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

19. Motion made by Council member Rutberg, seconded by Council member Keck to proceed with litigation as discussed regarding change order number one for the Eastside Sewer Line Project.

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Fleeta Baggett, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk