

REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, COUNCIL ROOM, NOVEMBER 4, 2024, 6:30 PM.

Mayor Fleeta Baggett presided with Mayor Pro-tem Susie Keck, Council members: Anthony Henderson, Charika Davis, Kimberly Johnson, Travis Moore, and Jared Rutberg, City Manager Tres Thomas, Deputy City Manager John King, City Clerk Audra M. Gutierrez, and City Attorney Frank Turner, Jr. present.

Dr. Royeese Stowe gave the invocation.

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

Mayor Baggett administered the Oath of Office to new Covington Police Officers Alex Hobbs and Stacy Kelley.

1. Motion made by Council member Davis, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on October 21, 2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Rutberg, seconded by Council member Keck to approve the **final** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington, with the addition of *“onto the premises of any establishment.”*

“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 16 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTION 16.20.135 (BREWRIES, BREWPUBS AND DISTILLERIES) 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 Henderson, seconded by Council member Johnson 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 PROVISIONS OF TITLE 16 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF **AMENDING SECTION 16.08.010 (DEFNITIONS) OF CHAPTER 16.08 (INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS) AND SECTION 16.16.020 (PERMITTED USES) OF CHAPTER 16.16 (STANDARD ZONING DISTRICTS)** AND TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion made by Council member Davis, seconded by Council member Henderson to amend the agenda to add, “Enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Johnny’s New York Style Pizza	10176 Carlin Dr
Nagoya Japanese Steakhouse	1065 Access Road
Tubby Tom’s	9148 Hwy 278

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve licenses to sell alcoholic beverages for **off-premises consumption** only for:

Alcovy Liquor	10117 Alcovy Road
Covington Raceway	5148 Hwy 278 NW
Walmart # 459	10300 Industrial Blvd, NE

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a license to sell alcoholic beverages for **on-premises consumption & off-premises beer/wine only** for:

Mystic Grill

1116 Clark Street

Motion carried unanimously.

- 8. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a license for a **Beer and/or Wine Retail Amenity** only for:

Southern Heartland Art Gallery

1134 Clark Street, SW

Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve a license for **wholesalers only** for:

Leon Farmer & Company

100 Rail Ridge Road, Athens, GA

Motion carried unanimously.

- 10. Motion made by Council member Davis, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the Final Plat for Neely Farms Phase 1B Subdivision.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 11. Motion made by Council member Johnson, seconded by Council member Moore 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 AMEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 3 (SCHEDULES) OF CHAPTER 13.08 (ELECTRIC SYSTEM)** OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Motion carried unanimously.

- 12. Motion made by Council member Johnson, seconded by Council member Keck to approve a PDI Technologies, Inc. Master Customer Agreement for CNG Card Reader/POS upgrade at the CNG Fueling Facility.

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion made by Council member Johnson, seconded by Council member Keck to adopt the Covington Fire Department's Community Risk Assessment/Standards of Coverage document.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion made by Council member Johnson, seconded by Council member Davis to approve the Phase 2A of the Progressive Design Build for the City Pond and Williams Road Project.

Motion carried unanimously.

15. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Rutberg to approve adding 4-way **flashing** stop signs at Industrial @ Wheat Street and Wheat @ Hazelbrand Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Motion made by Council member Davis, seconded by Council member Henderson to approve the addition of Corley Street to the City Sidewalk Master Plan and review other locations.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public comments:

Ms. Thelma Nolley stated she received calls regarding a council member's comment regarding the Washington Street Basketball courts and Air Jordan sneakers.

Council member Hendsen inquired if the City had any plans for picking up the litter on streets.

Deputy City Manager John King stated the City will utilized community service workers.

Council member Rutberg mentioned golf carts are vehicles that are required to obey traffic laws. Council member Rutberg reminded everyone to vote tomorrow and the Veteran's Day ceremony on Monday. Council member Rutberg stated the concrete medians look unsightly and could the City earmark monies to upgrade future medians.

Council member Davis stated she would like to see training for hostage situations and bomb threats.

Council member Moore thanked the Covington Police Department for taking care of the incident on Legion Drive. Council member Moore mentioned the median poles on Highway 278 had been replaced with shorter ones.

Council member Johnson reminded everyone to honor Veterans and congratulated Council member Moore for being designated as one of the Faces of Newton County.

Council member Keck asked that the golf cart crossing needed to be repainted in Covington Place and stated there is an age requirement for operating golf carts.

Mayor Baggett informed everyone of:

- Election is tomorrow
- Halloween clean-up was immaculate
- Floyd Street Project started today

17. Motion made by Council member Davis, seconded by Council member Keck to enter into Executive Session at 7:24 PM for the purpose of discussing litigation.

Motion carried unanimously.

18. Motion made by Council member Keck, seconded by Council member Moore to enter back into Regular Session.

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Fleeta Baggett, Mayor

Audra M. Gutierrez, City Clerk