

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 2, 2025

Council President, Amy Welborn, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The following roll call was taken for council:

Council Members Present:

- Julie Blumenstock
- Dawn Duff
- Derrick Canan
- Jess Reynolds
- Martin Leistner
- Amy Welborn

Non-member Staff participating:

- Jordan Hodges – Village Administrator
- Rhonda Gill – Fiscal Officer
- Frank Patrizio, Legal Counsel
- Tim Cline – Police Chief

Excused Absence:

None

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (May 5, 2025) Approval of Council Minutes (May 19th meeting)
- Approval of Council Minutes (May 27th meeting).

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Duff. Mr. Reynolds, aye; Mr. Leistner, aye; Ms. Duff, aye; Mr. Canan, abstain; Ms. Welborn, aye; Ms. Blumenstock, aye. Motion passed.

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Visitors

Greg Reynolds, 300 Sharon Street, Covington – inquired about consideration on having traffic signage placed at Chestnut and Sharon Street.

Dale and Susan Fields, 5310 N. Walnut Street, Covington – not in favor of the proposed stop signs on Bridge and Main Street.

Dianna Johnson, 5315 N. Walnut Street, Covington – not in favor of the proposed stop signs on Bridge and Main Street.

Bob Johnson, 5315 N. Walnut Street, Covington – not in favor of the proposed stop signs on Bridge and Main Street.

Jeanne Scott, 125 S. High Street, Covington – not opposed to the proposed stop signs on Bridge and Main Street. Noted several curb lawns need to be mowed. Mr. Hodges will look into the matter.

Bob Rudy, 200 Maple Street, Covington – is requesting consideration to combine five lots into one large lot.

Junell Lynch, 9540 W. Covington-Gettysburg Road, Covington – requested the stop signs on Bridge and Main Street.

Eric and Monica Wagner, 9820 W, Covington-Gettysburg Road, Covington – not in favor of the proposed stop signs on Bridge and Main Street.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Harmon thanked everyone who attended the Schoolhouse Park Rock festival and everyone who contributed in any manner. There were many who helped and everyone did a great job.

Administrator's Report

Jordan Hodges, Village Administrator, reminded everyone the garage sales will be held this week.

Discussion Items

None

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Old BusinessOrdinance 05-25 – An ordinance changing intersections in the Village of Covington, Ohio to three-way stop.

Mr. Hodges shared with the council that the office has fielded approximately 15-20 calls from residents and non-residents who were not in favor of the stop signs.

After some discussion, Ordinance 05-25 died due to lack of motion.

Resolution R23-25 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into an agreement with Spectrum Business to provide internet and phones services.

Spectrum Business is asking the Village to sign a contract for 36 months. Mr. Hodges indicates there are three options.

1. Renew at 36 months, Spectrum waives the fees
2. Break the contract and go with Windstream, pay the \$25,000 in EFT fees
3. Pay for the damage and stay with Spectrum
4. Call Spectrum out for false info as the Village now has documented proof that Spectrum was aware the service was moving and had ample time to remove their equipment.

After some discussion, Mr. Hodges requested the council allow the three-reads to give time to find a solution to this urgent matter. WWTP does not currently have working telephone lines.

Resolution R26-25 – A resolution declaring the intention to proceed under the alternative tax document format provided under Ohio Revised Code section 5705.281.

Mr. Hodges explained this amend Resolution R15-25 due to misnumbering and not brought back for the second read. There are no other changes.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R26-25 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution R26-25 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

New BusinessResolution R27-25 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into an agreement with Finrock Construction Company, Inc. for the Stillwater Dam Modification Project.

Mr. Hodges was pleased to say there were three bids for the project, with Finrock Construction Company being the best and lowest bid. Mr. Hodges asked the council to consider waiving the three-reading rule if there were not questions, to allow the project to move forward.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R27-25 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

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A motion to accept Resolution R27-25 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution R28-25 – A resolution approving the alternative tax document.

This is an annual procedure, and no changes will be made.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R28-25 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution R28-25 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution R29-25 – A resolution declaring the intention to levy a two and one-half (2.5) mills for the purpose of maintaining Fire and E.M.S. services (renewal) and requesting the County Auditor of Miami County, Ohio, cortication under Ohio Revised Code section 5705.03.

Mr. Hodges explained this is a request for renewal of the levy which provides a portion of the funding used to pay the fire department contract. Frank Patrizio explained this resolution must be provided to the Miami County Auditor, who would then provide the values to put on the ballot.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R29-25 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution R29-25 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 6-25 – An ordinance accepting and approving the re-plat of inlots 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, part of outlot 30 in the Village of Covington.

Records indicate the replat was approved in November 2024 by the BZA. The approval would allow Mr. Rudy to proceed with the sale of the property that is to close either June 20th or June 30th.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Ordinance 6-25 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Ordinance 6-25 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments

Chief Cline asked to discuss tornado sirens at the next meeting to help determine funding options. The funding would be placed under the Police Department budget.

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Ms. Duff had been contacted by some concerned residents regarding the vehicles playing loud music. Chief Cline explained an officer would have to witness the issue and it is subjective. He will send an email to all officers to be on the lookout for loud vehicles. If a resident has a complaint or concerns, they must call dispatch, supply their name and telephone number, and then the police can investigate.

Mayor Harmon reminded residents that petitions need to be turned in for anyone running in the upcoming elections for expiring council seats.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Canan. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Lee Harmon, Mayor

Rhonda Gill, Fiscal Officer

Amy Welborn, President of Council

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