

# COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

JULY 7, 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
- Martin Leistner
- Amy Welborn
- Jesse Reynolds

### **Non-member Staff participating:**

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

### **Amend Agenda:**

Jordan Hodges, Village Administrator, indicated there was a need to amend the agenda to include Resolution R33-25, a resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to sign IRS 147(F) form for the Covington Fire & Rescue, Inc.

A motion to amend the agenda to add Resolution R33-25 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

### **Consent Agenda:**

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (June 16th meeting)

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

### **Visitors**

Virginia Slade, 304 N. Grant Street, Covington, OH – Addressed the council regarding concerns for pedestrian safety.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Harmon shared he had attended New Tech Employee Appreciation, also attended by the Village Administrator and some of the council members, which was well attended. He had the opportunity to meet the new owners. It was a nice function.

### **Administrator's Report**

Jordan Hodges, Village Administrator, shared the Touch a Truck will be held this weekend.

Chief Cline explained kids and adults as well, will have an opportunity to come to the library Saturday to view and touch a variety of trucks. The function was attended well the year prior and anticipated to be well attended again this year.

### **Discussion Items**

None.

### **Old Business**

Resolution R30-25 – AMENDED - A resolution to levy a two and one-half (2.5) mills for the purpose of maintaining Fire and E.M.S. services (renewal) and directing the Miami County Board of Elections to place the question of said levy on the November 4, 2025 General Election ballot.

Mr. Patrizio, Legal Counsel, asked the council to consider waving the three-read rule. The resolution was amended due to a code change that occurred last year making the stated auditors calculations incorrect on the first read.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R30-25 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. All Ayes. Motion passed.

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A Motion to approve Resolution R30-25 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

### **New Business**

Resolution R31-25 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into an agreement with Windstream Enterprise to provide voice line services.

As previously discussed at the earlier meetings, the Village continues to have no telephone communication at WWTP, which also is to provide alerts via the SCADA system of failures or other issues in the plant. Mr. Hodges and Mr. Patrizio are currently dealing with Spectrum. Mr. Hodges asked the council to consider waiving the three-reading rule so the Village could move forward.

Mr. Leistner asked if Windstream would be able to work with cost and contract lengths if additional services were added. Mr. Hodges will discuss it with Windstream.

Resolution R32-25 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a Power of Attorney Agreement with Priority Power Management, the Village's Aggregation Consultant, authorizing Priority Power Management to facilitate the Purchase of Natural Gas and Electricity for the Village's Natural Gas and Electric Aggregation Programs.

Mr. Hodges hopes to have a representative come to speak at the next meeting.

Mr. Patrizio explained the several years ago the Village selected to go into aggregation. This resolution gives Power of Attorney to select and enter agreements for rates. Residents will continue to get bills from AES and CenterPoint but will have the option to participate in the aggregate or select their own provider.

The second reading will be July 21, 2025.

Resolution R33-25 - A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to sign IRS147(F) form acknowledging the Covington Fire & Rescue, Inc.'s service to the Village of Covington.

Mr. Hodges explained the document is the last piece needed to give the Fire Department permission to purchase a fire truck. It does not obligate the village financially or in any other manner. The form acknowledges the Fire Department provides service to Village of Covington residents.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R33-25 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution R33-25 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

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Ordinance 07-25 - An ordinance changing intersections in the Village of Covington, Ohio to three-way stop.

This ordinance is to place stop signs at Chestnut and Sharon Street. A resident had reached out asking if a traffic study had been conducted. Mr. Hodges stated no study had been conducted recently.

After some discussion, the council asked to wait on passing the ordinance to allow residents an opportunity to speak.

Next reading will be July 21, 2025.

**Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments**

Chief Cline has talked with ODOT regarding lowering the speed to 35 mph on Troy-Pike Road at Wenrick Street. ODOT has already completed a study.

There will be information posted pertaining to speed changes.

**Executive Session**

None

**Adjournment**

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

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Lee Harmon, Mayor

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Rhonda Gill, Fiscal Officer

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Amy Welborn, President of Council

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