

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 16, 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

Non-member Staff participating:

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

Excused Absence:

- Jess Reynolds

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (June 2nd meeting)
- May Check Report
- May Fund Report/YTD Fund Report
- May Balancing Report
- April/May Income Tax Report

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

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Visitors

None

Mayor's Report

None

Administrator's Report

Jordan Hodges, Village Administrator, stated the Government Center would be closed on Thursday, June 19th and July 4th for holidays.

Discussion Items

Mr. Hodges opened with the discussion regarding the request for stop signs at Sharon and Chestnut Street at the prior meeting. Police Chief Cline stated Chestnut Street is heavily traveled, especially before and after school. Stop signs may cause some slight backing up of traffic before and after school. Speed monitoring signs had been considered vs. stop signs.

After some discussion, it was decided to bring an Ordinance for consideration to the next meeting.

Chief Cline brought additional information to the Council regarding tornado sirens. The current siren was installed in the late 90's. It is nearing its 30-year life span. Residents are unable to hear the sirens in the north and east areas of town. The siren is rated 6500 feet with nothing blocking the sound.

Chief Cline asked for some directions from the council to allow for proper future funding and budgeting purposes. The options are:

1. Replace existing siren only, same location
2. Replace the existing siren and add one new siren
3. Replace with two new sirens: one on the North side of town, one on South side
4. Replace with three new sirens: one on the North side of town, one on the South side, and one on the East side of town

Chief Cline had discussed the options with Mr. Reynolds, who had stated he liked option #3, but keep the existing siren in place until it failed. The estimated cost to replace one siren is \$34,000. Chief Cline believes there are some funding sources to assist in offsetting the cost.

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All siren locations are on Village property and school property. The area on school property houses Village equipment. The school is in favor of having a siren at the school location.

Mr. Canan, Ms. Blumenstock, and Mr. Leistner liked option #3. There was consensus with leaving the current siren until it quit working. Ms. Duff liked option #4 but agreed option #3 might be the best way.

The sirens will be considered as a 2026 budget item.

Old Business

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

Mr. Hodges asked the council to rescind the resolution. Mr. Hodges and Mr. Patrizio have a meeting with Spectrum tomorrow regarding service and equipment. Currently Mr. Hodges does not wish for the Village to go into a 36-month contract as there are issues with no service at the WWTP.

Resolution R23-25 died for lack of a motion.

New Business

Resolution R30-25 – 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. Hodges stated he had received a call from the Miami County Auditor. There had been a new code passed in April, so the numbers will change.

Mr. Patrizio stated he would like Resolution R30-25 to go three-readings, so the Board of Elections has time to notify the Village if they feel there are needed changes prior to the election.

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments

Discussion and questions regarding property maintenance around town. Mr. Patrizio explained the process the Village takes to notify owners. If necessary, there are steps that can be taken to assess property taxes.

The Schoolhouse Park Shelters are available for use on a "first come, first serve" basis at no cost. No reservations are being made currently. Council will re-evaluate at a later date.

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Executive Session

None

Adjournment

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Canan. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Lee Harmon, Mayor

Rhonda Gill, Fiscal Officer

Amy Welborn, President of Council

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