

# COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

**April 15, 2024**

Mayor Lee Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The following roll call was taken for council:

### **Council Members Present:**

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

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

- Frank Patrizio - Legal Counsel
- Rhonda Gill - Fiscal Officer

### **Consent Agenda:**

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (April 1, 2024)

A motion to amend the consent agenda and add an Executive Session was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

- Executive Session for sale or purchase of property under ORC 121.22 (G) (2) to consider the purchase of property for public purposes, the sale of property at competitive bidding, or the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use property in accordance with section 505.10 of the Revised Code

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

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## **Proclamation**

Mayor Harmon read Proclamation 01-24 -Acknowledging Shields Classic Drum Show & Homecoming Day as April 27, 2024.

There will be Pancake Day at the High School on Saturday, April 27, 2024. The public is invited.

## **Visitors**

None

## **Mayor's Report**

Reminded all residents to attend the Shields Classic Drum Show & Homecoming Day and come eat pancakes.

## **Administrator's Report**

Tyler Rench, Village Administrator, concrete is ready to be put down for the splashpad.

Windstream has removed their lines.

M&T Excavating hopes to be out soon to seed Schoolhouse Park.

AES needs to remove poles.

WWTP garage has been sided. Peterson hopes to have the garage doors installed shortly.

The boring has been completed but the road will remain closed for a few more weeks. The project is progressing as scheduled.

The Village is waiting on Dan Suerdieck for an update on the demolition of the homes on N. High Street.

Mr. Rench shared the propane tank at the Government Center which is now empty and waiting to get moved. The roofing portion is approximately 95% complete. There is a tank that was located in the ground where one of the columns needed to be placed. We are unaware of what it was used for. We are currently assessing what steps are most advantageous for the Village.

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Mayor Harmon shared there were two tanks removed in 2005 during prior renovations.

### **Discussion Items**

Ms. Blumenstock inquired as to whether N. High Street would be closed during the demolition process. Mr. Rench and Mayor Harmon indicated they did not believe there would be a need to close the street but were unable to answer definitively.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Ordinance 09-24 - An ordinance creating an outdoor special event permit and regulations within the Village of Covington.

This ordinance replaces Ordinance 019-22 for an outdoor special event permit and regulations. The council discussed and made some minor changes to the verbiage along with suggesting an amendment to Section 4 to reflect the date when the repeal and replacement of the new ordinance would take place.

A motion to amend Section 4 of Ordinance 09-24 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

The second reading for Ordinance 09-24 will be May 6, 2024.

Ordinance 10-24 An ordinance updating regulations related to and various fees applicable to the provision of certain water/sewer services being provided by the Village of Covington, Ohio.

Mr. Rench shared this ordinance is intended to eliminate the requirement of having homeowners be required to pay a deposit on their utility accounts with the village.

Section 3 would help avoid "ghost" accounts. Although an account can be established for a business, there must be an individual name and contact information associated with all accounts. Owners will be required to complete a utility service application for owners, and all tenants would be required to complete a utility service application for tenants.

Section 4 states a utility deposit of \$150 shall be required for all tenants using Village water, sewerage, and sanitation services.

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Mr. Rench asked the council members if there were any questions or concerns. There were none. The second reading of Ordinance 10-24 will be held May 6, 2024.

Resolution 14-24 - A resolution adopting a new investment policy for the Village of Covington.

Mr. Rench explained the village is looking into an investment account with STAR. Many municipalities use STAR as investment as their interest rates are competitive with CD's. STAR is a state ran program. The money is easily accessible and earns a much larger interest rate than our current account earns. STAR is insured.

The council had no further comments.

The second reading of Ordinance 10-24 will be held May 6, 2024.

Resolution 13-24 - A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into an agreement for the purchase of natural gas for the Village's natural gas aggregation program.

The village had been contacted by a representative pertaining to the renewal of the aggregation program.

Mr. Canan clarified everyone can opt in or out of the aggregation program. There is no obligation to take advantage of the program.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 13-24 was made by Mr. Canan and seconded by Dawn Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution 13-24 was made by Mr. Canan seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. All ayes. Motion passed.

**Executive Session**

Ms. Duff made a motion to enter into an executive session at 7:50 PM. A motion to go into Executive Session for sale or purchase of property under ORC 121.22 (G) ((2) to consider the purchase of property for public purposes, the sale of property at competitive bidding, or the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use property, seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. All ayes. Motion passed.

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Mr. Reynolds made a motion to leave executive session at 8:01 PM, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

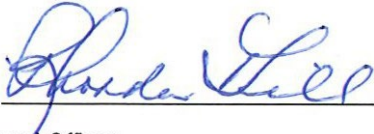
No decision was made.

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

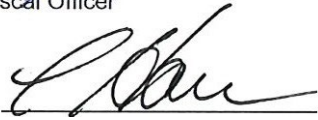
None

**Adjournment**

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Leistner. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.



Fiscal Officer



Mayor