

# **COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**March 4, 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
- Tim Cline – Police Chief
- Aaron Zuhl – Police Officer

### **Consent Agenda:**

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (February 20, 2024)
- January Monthly/YTD Fund Balance Reports
- January Check Report
- January Tax Report

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

### **Visitors**

None

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### **Mayor's Report**

None

### **Administrator's Report**

Tyler Rench, Village Administrator, met with a Windstream representative. The Windstream representative indicated there is a work order to take down the lines at Schoolhouse Park, which they hope to have completed in the next 3-4 weeks.

Westerheide is still on schedule with their portion of the project.

The WWTP project will need to shut down Main Street for street boring. The shutdown is expected to take 30-60 days. Residents have been contacted and advised there will be no parking in the south bound lane on Main Street.

Mr. Rench indicated the Village is working on replacing the hydrant at Pearl and State Route 41.

### **Discussion Items**

Chief Cline indicated they continue to monitor the Dodd Street issue with a resident driving over the embankment. Officer Aaron Zuhl explained to the council it appears a resident is the one driving over the embankment and parking on their own property. Due to it being the residents private property, the Village has no legal recourse.

Chief Cline shared the roofers hope to begin on the Government Center and the covering of the floors will begin. The Village is expected to receive approximately a \$4,000 break due to a decrease in prep time. The Government Center completion is within the time frame.

Mayor Harmon asked Chief Cline to reach out to whomever oversaw the flooring and have them look at the basement floor. It would be a good idea to address and correct the water infiltration issues causing damage in the basement at this time.

Mr. Rench reached out to Linda and Billy Williams and Dan. The Williams are waiting to hear back from their attorney. Ms. Blumenstock questioned if there is a timeline that the homes are required to be down. Mr. Rench indicated Dan has reached out several times to Billy and Linda Williams several times.

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Mr. Canan suggested the Village grant 30 paid days for employees who need time away for Reserve training.

Mr. Patrizio informed counsel that Billy and Linda Williams could be forced to sign the easement by bringing it to zoning. It would be best if they would decide to sign it on their own, however, the demo can take place without their signatures. The buildings need to come down as they are a public nuisance. He advised the Village to let the county to proceed as soon as possible. Mr. Rench agreed to reach out to Dan and get a timeline.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Ordinance 06-24 – An ordinance repealing and replacing the salary ordinance for the Village of Covington.

Mr. Rench explained there was a keying error when calculating the steps that was discovered. The council was asked to consider waiving the three-reading rule to allow the effected employee to be properly compensated.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule of Ordinance 06-24 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to accept Ordinance 06-24 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 07-24 – An ordinance approving, adopting and enacting American Legal Publishing's Ohio Basic Code, 2024 Edition, as the code of ordinances for the Village of Covington, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Rench explained Ohio's Basic Code is adopted each year. He asked the council to consider passing as an emergency.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule of Ordinance 07-24 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to accept Ordinance 07-24 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

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Resolution R11-24 – A resolution authorizing Tyler Rench, Village Administrator, Rhonda Gill, Fiscal Officer, and Lee Harmon, Mayor as signatories on Covington Savings and Loan, Minster Bank, and US Bank Accounts.

This resolution will allow designated parties to properly conduct Village financial transactions.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule of Resolution R11-24 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

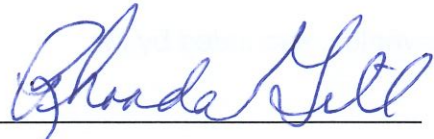
A motion to accept Resolution R11-24 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

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

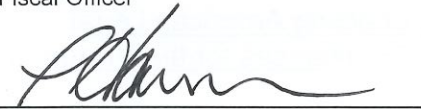
Mayor Harmon, Mr. Rench, and Chief Cline will be meeting to review various items pertaining to Schoolhouse Park, putting together timelines, concerns and discussion items for the next meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Fiscal Officer



Mayor

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