

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 2023

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

Council Members Present:

- Keith Warner
- Derrick Canan
- Julie Blumenstock
- Jesse Reynolds
- Amy Welborn
- Dawn Duff

Non-member Staff participating:

- Frank Patrizio – Legal Counsel
- Rhonda Gill - Fiscal Officer
- Kyle Hinkelman - Village Administrator
- Tim Cline – Police Sergeant

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (April 10, 2023)

Due to no comments, Mayor Ed McCord stated the minutes would stand as read.

Proclamation – Shield's Day 2023

Mayor McCord read a Proclamation officially naming April 22nd as Shield's Classic Drum Show Homecoming Day in honor of Jerry Shields to celebrate Roger's Drum Company and the work they did in Covington, Ohio.

He announced the 3rd Shield's Classic Drum Show will be held April 22, 2023, at Covington High School.

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Visitors – Public Comment

Mr. Jeff Shields, 201 Grant Street, expressed concerns about the parking lot lighting in the new Schoolhouse Park parking lot. He suggested the possibility of having a dimmer switch or some type of light in consideration of the surrounding neighborhood.

Mr. Hinkelman stated the lighting is part of the final step which has not been planned at yet. He expressed his appreciation for the concerns Mr. Shield shared with the Council and assured him that those concerns would be taken into consideration when those decisions were made.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Kyle Hinkelman announced the newest business to Covington, Rosebud's Real Food, would be holding an Open House on Saturday, April 22nd, from 9am-3pm and welcomed everyone to attend.

He noted that the Wastewater Treatment Plant construction is expected to begin May 1st and that Peterson Construction Company was the selected firm to work on the project. He continued that the first phase of the project will include clearing and leveling of the area.

Mr. Hinkelman discussed working with AES to get the streetlights and traffic lights completed. He noted that AES is currently working on installation of meters to allow the streetlights and traffic lights to be activated and that the ODOT contractor has had their application for service in for over a month.

Mr. Hinkelman discussed that the Sellman's Warehouse contents are being reviewed with the possibility of an auction to dispose of the various items. Currently, June 3rd is a possible auction date.

Mr. Hinkelman announced he will be out of the office from Tuesday, April 18th through Friday, April 21st.

Mr. Hinkelman asked if there were any additional questions of him, and there were none.

Discussion Items

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Mr. Hinkelman discussed the potential Fire Levy options that were confirmed by the Miami County Auditor. Mr. Hinkelman explained the two existing general fund levies that are used to pay for Fire and EMS services would be replaced by either the 3.0 mill levy or the 2.9 mill levy. The new levy would be designated specifically for Fire and EMS services and no longer be considered a general fund levy. He noted that the difference between renewing the existing levies and putting in the new levy was \$48 a year more per \$100,000 of valuation for the 3.0 mill levy and \$38 a year more for \$100,000 of valuation for the 2.9 mill levy. He noted that once Council has determined which levy they would like to move forward with, the next step would be to pass an ordinance to place the levy on the ballot formally.

Mr. Frank Patrizio explained Council would want to have completed prior to August 9th to get the levy on the November ballot, but suggested it be completed in June to assure clean passage.

Old Business

Ordinance 05-23 – Creation of the Downtown District and Regulations

Mr. Hinkelman stated that Ordinance 05-23 is considered tabled. Mr. Hinkelman continued that there have been three recommended changes to the original language of the Ordinance that he would detail. These recommended changes include adding parcels to the map; fully exempting all residential properties from the ordinance; and modifications to the color palettes approved to include the Historical Interior Color Palette, Sherwin Williams SW001 through SW0080 and Historical Exterior Color Palette SW2801 through SW2865. It also excluded a list of nine colors that may only be approved and used for accent colors of 25% or less of a building façade.

Mr. Hinkelman noted that if a property within the borders of the map has three tenants, it is considered commercial property and falls within the guidelines of the Ordinance. A property with two or fewer tenants is considered residential.

A motion to remove Ordinance 05-23 from the table was made by Mr. Jesse Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Derrick Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to amend Ordinance 05-23 with changes as discussed by Mr. Hinkelman was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Keith Warner. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 05-23 with amended changes was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Warner. All ayes. Motion passed.

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Ordinance 08-23 – Amending the Employee Manual.

Mr. Hinkelman noted this was the third reading, and that no changes were made. He asked if there were any questions and there were none.

A motion to approve Ordinance 08-23 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Warner. Mr. Warner – aye; Mr. Canan – Abstain; Ms. Welborn – aye; Ms. Blumenstock – aye; Mr. Reynolds – aye; Ms. Duff – aye. Motion passed.

Ordinance 10-23 – To rescind Ord 01-09 and Ord 11-12.

A motion to withdraw Ordinance 10-23 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. All ayes. Motion passed and Ordinance 10-23 is withdrawn from consideration.

New Business

Resolution R16-23 – Declaring the Intention to Proceed Under the Alternative Tax Document Format.

Mr. Hinkelman explained this is an annual requirement to declare the Village's intentions related to the tax budget process. He noted that the Village opts to utilize the Alternative Tax Document process each year, with a deadline to file the annual budget for the following year by July 20th. He asked if there were any questions, and there were none.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R16-23 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution R16-23 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Warner. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution R17-23 – Accepting a Bid and Authorizing the Village Administrator to enter a contract – Schoolhouse Park – Site Work.

Mr. Hinkelman explained that the Village had broken down the Schoolhouse Park project into smaller parts, as many of the contractors felt the project was too large. This bid is to complete the site work including the underground utilities, above ground

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grading and demolition, and sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. He continued that the Village put out a public bid for consideration, and by law, a bid is only valid if it is within 10% of the engineer's estimate. He noted that the Village received three valid bids that met the requirements of the Village and have been confirmed as valid bids by the Village's engineer, Kleinfelder. Based on the information available to the engineer it is their recommendation that the Village choose M&T as the lowest and best bid.

Ms. Blumenstock questioned if M & T had completed work prior within the Village and why the Village wouldn't want to further consider the bid by Finrock Construction since they are a local company.

Mr. Patrizio stated there have been discussions, however the dollar amount difference is too significant to justify going with Finrock Construction.

Mr. Canan asked if there were any examples of local projects completed by M & T for the Council to review. Mr. Hinkelman noted that he would provide them to Council.

Ms. Blumenstock questioned the timeline for Council to pass and work to begin, which Mr. Hinkelman explained the goal is to begin in June or July, once a contract is accepted.

Mr. Hinkelman asked if there were any additional questions, and there were none. The second reading will be May 1st.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Ms. Duff. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.



Fiscal Officer



Mayor

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