



COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

May 17, 2021 – Village Council Meeting

Covington Village Council had an in person and online Zoom meeting on May 17, 2021. Mayor Ed McCord called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following roll call was taken for council:

Council Members Present:

- Keith Warner
- Dawn Duff
- Lois Newman
- Bud Weer
- Scott Tobias

Non-member Staff participating:

- Frank Patrizio - Village Attorney
- Lee Harmon - Police Chief
- Rhonda Gill - Fiscal Officer
- Kyle Hinkelman - Village Administrator

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Minutes from May 3, 2021 Regular Meeting
- Check Report
- Fund Report

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as it stands with no modifications by Ms. Newman and seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Visitors

Several visitors were on the Zoom teleconference but did not state any concerns.

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Mayor's Report

Mayor McCord reminded all meeting participants to place their cell phones on silent. As this is the second meeting in May, reminded residents that the Village Offices would be closed on Memorial Day.

He added that he and Mr. Hinkelman continue to meet with the Chamber monthly and that the Marias building is coming along well. Mayor McCord, on behalf of the Village, expressed appreciation for all that Marias and Chris are doing for the community.

Mayor McCord shared that on May 5 they attended the Police Memorial, which was also attended by Mr. Hinkelman and Chief Harmon, along with all Police Department officers. This ceremony is moving and is held annually to honor fallen officers.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Hinkelman noted the website is being updated on a regular basis showing the status of the High Street Utility Project progress. The contractor is working through the project objectives including the sewer and water lines and is slightly ahead of schedule. The date for closing of St. Rt. 36 and St. Rt. 48 will be advertised on both the website and the Village Facebook page.

He reminded everyone that today is Tax Day. He also noted that the Village garage sales will be June 3, 4, and 5 and that large trash pickup will be the following week.

Residents may see the new Street Sweeper, which has been out. Employees are in the process of training and familiarizing themselves with the vehicle.

Mr. Hinkelman advised that there are residents who are being notified of property maintenance violations. The Village does have restrictions on grass length, as well as other property maintenance items.

Mr. Hinkelman noted that the State Audit, which occurs every two years, began in March and is coming along well. A change in the Fiscal Officer position occurring in the middle of the audit has been a bit of a challenge to assure that all additional information requested is adequately located and forwarded to the State. Brenda Carroll, (outgoing Fiscal Officer) and Rhonda Gill (new Fiscal Officer) have done an excellent job in locating and supplying all the material needed and providing it to the State for review.

Reminder that May 25 is the Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 PM at the Village Government Center.

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Discussion Items

None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Third Reading Considerations

Ordinance 12-21 regulating Trucks on Village Streets.

A third reading was completed to establish Truck Routes for Commercial Vehicles within the Village of Covington. This Ordinance will replace the Truck Route Ordinance 07-15 and prohibit travel on roadways other than the designated truck routes. It does not apply to any emergency vehicle, governmental vehicle, garbage service vehicle, school vehicle, or any Commercial Vehicle that has been instructed by an officially established detour.

Motion to approve Ordinance 12-21 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Ms. Newman. All Ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution R21-21 adopting a Strategic Plan for the Village of Covington

By adopting a strategic plan, the Village will have clear goals and benchmarks to monitor progress. Mr. Hinkelman shared he would likely bring the results before Council on a yearly or quarterly basis.

Motion to approve Resolution R21-21 was made by Mr. Weer, seconded by Mr. Tobias. All Ayes. Motion passed.

Second Reading Considerations

None

First Reading Considerations

Ordinance 14-21 adopting of a Consolidated Fee Schedule

Mr. Hinkelman stated the intention is to create a central location for all fees schedules to reside in one place. The Consolidated Fee Schedule would assist in the need to change numerous Ordinances when changes occur. Two new fees have been added to the

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proposed schedule. This being the first reading, there is no action. Further discussion will occur on June 7, and June 21.

Ordinance 15-21 – Reappropriation of Funds for 2021 Budget

Mr. Hinkelman explained the specific funds that needed additional funding and asked if there were any questions about the additional funding. None were asked.

Motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Ms. Newman, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion to approve Ordinance 15-21 was made by Mr. Tobias, seconded by Mr. Warner. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 16-21 Regulating Animals in the Village of Covington

This ordinance which regulates animals in the Village of Covington has been modified from a previous version that did not pass to address the comments and concerns proposed by the Council and general public. The modified ordinance reflects the concerns and suggestions that have been presented, such as sections that pertain to farm animals, wild animals, fowl, and domesticated animals.

This ordinance proposes a fee and permit system for animal husbandry, which will be listed under Animal Husbandry on the Consolidated Fee Schedule. Owners will be required to obtain a permit and get an inspection prior to having animals per the regulations. Other regulations include that it must be a single-family residence, an enclosure must meet a number of specific standards and be inspected, and the structure must be setback from the property line. Adjacent property owners would have the ability to write a letter to allow the setbacks to be reduced towards their property line.

This being the first reading, there is no action. Further discussion will occur on June 7, and June 21.

Additional Comments

Mr. Hinkelman shared that the State of Ohio has announced that the current COVID health orders will be lifted on June 2, 2021. The Village office will continue to follow the

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orders as stated by the Governor until June 2. A friendly reminder to residents to continue to wear a mask when entering the Village facility until that date.

Chief Lee Harmon thanked Mayor McCord and Mr. Hinkelman for attending the Miami County Police Memorial ceremony in Troy near the Court House in honor of officers who died in the line of duty.

Chief Harmon shared the new cruiser is currently being outfitted. Once the accessories have all been added, the Police Department will take ownership. He also stated that new body cameras are expected to be delivered soon. Both of these items are delayed as many items are due to backlogs caused by COVID.

Ms. Newman expressed interest in being the first honorary passenger in the new cruiser.

Mr. Patrizio reminded Council and residents that petitions must be in by first week in August. He recommends that any interested resident review the paperwork carefully before submitting to verify all portions are completed in their entirety. A small error can disqualify a candidate.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Weer and seconded by Ms. Newman. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Fiscal Officer

Mayor

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**Report of the Tax Department
Village of Covington
For the Month of May 2021**

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS AS OF APRIL 30	\$353,717.91	\$392,579.58	\$467,261.40	\$561,623.88
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR MAY	<u>\$57,787.82</u>	<u>\$63,274.41</u>	<u>\$94,858.87</u>	<u>\$184,325.50</u>
YTD RECEIPTS THROUGH MAY	\$411,505.73	\$455,853.99	\$562,120.27	\$745,949.38
REFUNDS THROUGH MAY	\$8,940.72	\$5,681.85	\$13,847.62	\$6,579.32

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Brown
Tax Commissioner