



# Newsletter - May 29, 2020

Mayor Justin Hanson



***You may contact your  
Alderman/Alderwoman by  
clicking on the email links below.***

**District 1** Vice Mayor Johnetta Yarbrough  
Alderwoman Minnie Bommer

[1122jwyatt@gmail.com](mailto:1122jwyatt@gmail.com)  
[alderwomandist1@gmail.com](mailto:alderwomandist1@gmail.com)

**District 2** Alderman Jeff Morris  
Alderman Keith Phelps

[aldermanjeffmorris@gmail.com](mailto:aldermanjeffmorris@gmail.com)  
[kphelps@jamiesonandfisher.com](mailto:kphelps@jamiesonandfisher.com)

**District 3** Alderman C.H. Sullivan  
Alderman Danny Wallace

[aldermanchsullivan@gmail.com](mailto:aldermanchsullivan@gmail.com)  
[aldermanwallace@gmail.com](mailto:aldermanwallace@gmail.com)



1st Tuesdays - Public Works Committee  
Jeff Morris - Chairman, Minnie Bommer, Danny Wallace

2nd Tuesdays - General Welfare and Public Relations Committee  
Minnie Bommer - Chairwoman, Keith Phelps, C.H. Sullivan

3rd Tuesdays - Finance and Administration Committee  
C.H. Sullivan - Chairman, All Aldermen/Alderwomen attend

4th Tuesdays - Public Safety Committee  
Keith Phelps - Chairman, C.H. Sullivan, Johnetta Yarbrough

All regularly scheduled committee meetings are at 4:00 pm in the Lower Level Conference Room at Covington City Hall at 200 W. Washington St. All Board of Mayor and Aldermen meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings of each month at 5:30 pm in the Board Room on the 2nd floor at Covington City Hall. ALL are open to the public. Official meeting minutes and agendas can be found by visiting [www.covingtontn.com](http://www.covingtontn.com).

## **Public Safety Committee Meeting – 5/26/20 – 4:00 p.m.**

Present via Virtual Meeting – Chairman Alderman Keith Phelps, Mayor Justin Hanson, Alderman Jeff Morris, Alderman Danny Wallace, Alderman CH Sullivan, Alderman Danny Wallace, Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn, Chief Larry Lindsey, Chief Richard Griggs, Director David Gray, Rebecca Ray, Echo Day

### **Covington Police Department – Chief Larry Lindsey**

#### Disposition of Vehicles

- Purchased 2015 Jeep, currently in shop being equipped, will be in service shortly

#### Personnel

- Property Room Specialist position closed
- Made offer to potential employee, possible start date June 1<sup>st</sup>

#### Equipment

- RMS (Records Management Systems) and NCIC (National Crime Information Center) upgrades are complete
- Training is scheduled for E-Citation and Watson Crash systems
- In process of installing Mobile CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system

#### Statistics

- Back to full operation, we will see an uptick in statistics
- Call volume down in April due to COVID-19

Motion to accept report, 2<sup>nd</sup>, roll call, accepted

### **Covington Fire Department – Chief Richard Griggs**

#### Community Events

- Salvation Army has fed all first responders in county 3 times
- Attended Nursing Home Week for proclamation for Magnolia Creek nursing home

Volunteer hours for April - 222

Submitted Run Report April 28 – May 22

#### CARE Report

- Smoke Alarms
- Distributed face masks

Firefighters Gardiner and Faulk to attend rope operation and technician level course with Memphis Fire Department  
Boat donated by Arlington Fire Department was acquired after budget process. Will need some accessories to assemble water rescue and recovery unit.

- Alderman Phelps inquired about what training is necessary for water rescue unit
- Training was started under previous chief and is being continued now
- Chief Griggs stated that this will be for our department and not necessarily county wide
- Discussion on if the boat is large enough for the type of rescues we would do. Chief Griggs stated that this size boat is recommended

Free Smoke Alarms – call Covington Fire Department

Volunteer Recruitment – still on hold to see if we obtain grant for turnout gear

USDA Grant Update – given ok to proceed

Will be meeting with Angela from FirstNet to discuss switching to their platform

Motion made to accept report, 2<sup>nd</sup>, roll call, accepted

There being no further business, meeting is adjourned



**Effective June 1**  
**Tipton County Health Department will be offering**  
**COVID-19 testing for the community by**  
**appointment only**

Effective June 1, the Tipton County Health Department will be offering COVID-19 testing for the community only by appointment. Anyone who wishes to be tested for COVID-19 should call the health department clinic at (901) 476-0235 to make an appointment for testing. "Anyone with concerns about their health or the health of a family member is invited to call us to set a time to receive testing for COVID-19," said Chelsei Granderson, County Health Director. "We're providing this testing at no cost to participants, and test results may be available within 72 hours after the samples arrive at the lab, depending on lab volume." The Tipton County Health Department is located at 4700 Mueller Brass Rd. Covington, TN 38019. COVID-19 testing will be offered from 1:30-3:30 on Monday-Friday. Please call the clinic to make an appointment for testing. Health department nurses will collect nasal swabs to send to the lab for your COVID-19 test. You do not have to live in Tipton County to be tested at the health department. Those who come for testing should be prepared to isolate themselves at home while awaiting their test results, and will be given information on what to expect after their test. This information is also available online at [www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/TestedGuidance.pdf](http://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/TestedGuidance.pdf). Everyone wishing to be tested for COVID-19 should be prepared to share their contact information so health department staff members can provide their test results. Everyone tested will be contacted about their results, whether they are negative or positive, and given further instructions to protect their health and the health of those around them. Tennessee's Coronavirus Public Information Lines are open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., CDT daily at 833-556-2476 or 877-857-2945.

**Regardless of  
Symptoms, Free  
COVID-19 Testing  
is Available to  
Tennesseans**

**DO YOUR PART.  
STAY APART.**

A graphic of several white COVID-19 test tubes with red caps, arranged in a diagonal line on the right side of the dark blue background.

**BUSINESSES CAN DONATE NEW, UNUSED PPE**

**PPE  
DONATIONS**

**INFORMATION ON ACCEPTED SUPPLIES AND  
DONATION LOCATIONS IS ONLINE**

Icons for personal protective equipment (PPE): a pair of white gloves, a white surgical mask, and a pair of white safety glasses, all on a light blue background.

**[www.tn.gov/tema/news](http://www.tn.gov/tema/news)**



The Tennessee Pledge was developed by Governor Lee, the Unified Command Group (UCG) and Tennessee's Economic Recovery Group (ERG) with input from health experts, state and local partners and business and industry leaders. It includes specific recommendations which enable most businesses to reopen responsibly without the burden of heavy mandates. This will be a gradual process, with room to adjust as data is evaluated. For links to all of Governor Lee's guidelines, please visit our website at [www.covingtontn.com](http://www.covingtontn.com).

# Important Information for Utility Customers

When Tennessee declared a State of Emergency in late March, the City of Covington and Covington Electric System postponed applying late payment fees and disconnection of gas, water, and electric services in an effort to help those customers that may have suffered reduced household or small business income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Collection for these monthly utility bills was delayed at that time, with the understanding that all past-due amounts must be repaid in full after Tennessee's businesses were allowed to reopen.

Now that Tennessee has undertaken efforts to allow most businesses to return to normal operations, Covington Electric System plans to reopen its lobby for normal business transactions on Tuesday, May 26th. The City of Covington will follow suit on June 1. Concurrent with the opening of their lobbies, collection of late payment fees and disconnection of unpaid gas, water, and electric service accounts will resume.

During the first week of June, Covington Electric System (CES) will begin mailing repayment agreements to residential and small commercial customers whose accounts are in arrears. Beginning with electric bills that have a past-due date in June, the repayment arrangement will require that all residential and small commercial electric customers pay their current month's electric bill in full, plus an additional amount of up to \$100 per month until all arrears are repaid. CES customers will be required to sign and return the repayment agreement in order to avoid the disconnection of electric service for past-due amounts.

Covington Public Works will be mailing repayment agreements to residential and small commercial customers whose accounts are in arrears on May 15 and will begin disconnection of gas and water service for unpaid bills on June 4. Gas and water customers will also be required to sign and return the repayment agreement to avoid the disconnection of gas and water service.

All City of Covington gas and water customers are encouraged to contact Covington City Hall at 901-476-9613 as soon as possible with any questions concerning their account status and repayment agreements to avoid disconnection of service due to non-payment. Covington Electric System customers should contact CES with any questions at 901-476-7104.

Click on the link below to download the repayment agreement.

<http://www.covingtontn.com/utility-billing-division.html>



# Covington Public Works/Utilities

## AGREEMENT FOR EXTENDING TERMS FOR PAYMENT OF UTILITY BILLS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt #: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Covington Gas and Water is providing an "Agreement For Extending Terms For Payment Of Utility Bills" during this state of emergency related to the COVID-19 virus.

In order to participate in the "Agreement For Extending Terms For Payment Of Utility Bills", the customer agrees and acknowledges the following:

- CG&W has deferred the collection of monthly utility bills during the time that the COVID-19 emergency exists in the State of Tennessee, and that such deferred monthly bills are still owed by the customer.
- By his/her signature below, he/she has notice of the repayment schedule provided and has received extended payment privileges from CG&W.
- Following termination of the COVID-19 emergency by the State of Tennessee, he/she must pay future utility bills in full in addition to the Monthly Repayment Amount shown below.
- Failure by the customer to pay the current monthly utility bill plus the Monthly Repayment Amount will result in termination of utility service without further notice.
- That any payments received by CG&W from LIHEAP (Delta) funds, churches or other charitable organizations will be applied first to their current amount due, with any remaining funds to be applied against outstanding balances.
- That in the event he/she fails to pay as described on this Agreement, he/she will pay all expenses incurred in the collection of this delinquent account.
- That this Agreement is subject to modification or amendment as necessary in order to comply with all rules, regulations and policies of CG&W.
- That such deferred monthly utility bills must be paid per the monthly repayment agreement shown below.

Past Due Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Repayment Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- \$1 - \$99.99 to be paid back in 1 month (plus current bill amount)
- \$100 - \$199.99 to be paid back in 2 months (plus current bill amount)
- \$200 - \$299.99 to be paid back in 3 months (plus current bill amount)
- \$300 - \$399.99 to be paid back in 4 months (plus current bill amount)
- \$400 - \$499.33 to be paid back in 5 months (plus current bill amount)
- \$500 - \$599.99 to be paid back in 6 months (plus current bill amount)
- Greater than \$600 to be paid back at the rate of \$100 per month until outstanding balance is paid in full (plus current bill amount)

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**TN**Department of  
**Labor & Workforce  
Development**

## Tennessee Unemployment Insurance

This video may help you understand the process:

### [How to Complete Certifications on Jobs4TN](#)



Prepared by the U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR'S GUIDE TO CARES ACT RELIEF

PPP Loans/Grants  
Economic Injury Disaster Loans  
Unemployment Compensation

If you are an independent contractor or self-employed, you may be eligible for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans/grants, SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL), and/or Unemployment Compensation for losses of income related to the coronavirus pandemic.

If you are an independent contractor or are self-employed and don't have any employees, here's what you need to know about each program:

<https://www.uschamber.com/report/independent-contractors-guide-cares-act-relief>

In an effort to keep our employees safe, please do not drop fire fees off at the Covington Fire Department. Please use the following options:

By Mail: 101 Tennessee Ave., Covington, TN 38019

Online: [Covingtontn.com](http://Covingtontn.com)

Or visit the drive-thru at City Hall, 200 W. Washington Ave.

Get a free, washable cloth  
face covering.



DO YOUR PART.  
STAY APART.

Gov. Bill Lee has made face coverings available to as many Tennesseans as possible. Thanks to the Tipton County Health Department for delivering these masks to City Hall for our employees and customers. If you need a mask, simply ask one of our utility clerks at the drive-through window and they will be happy to provide you one at no charge.



**Dyersburg State Community College**  
**Workforce Development and Continuing Education**

# **Free Online Courses Available!**

- 
- **Personal Finance**
  - **Creating Web Pages**
  - **Creating WordPress Websites**
  - **Twelve Steps to a Successful Job Search**
  - **Marketing Your Business on the Internet**
  - **Keys to Effective Communication**
  - **Individual Excellence**
  - **Small Business Marketing on a Shoestring**
  - **Managing Customer Service**
  - **Fundamentals of Supervision and Management**

The deadline to register for these free courses is June 30, 2020. Classes are self-paced and you have three months to complete the course.

For any questions, contact Kacie Haeberle at [haeberle@dsc.edu](mailto:haeberle@dsc.edu)



**DYERSBURG STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Dyersburg • Covington • Trenton**  
**1510 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024**  
**731-286-3200 / [www.dsc.edu](http://www.dsc.edu) / [enroll@dsc.edu](mailto:enroll@dsc.edu)**

Dyersburg State Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, ethnicity or national origin, sex, disability, age, status as a protected veteran or any other class protected by Federal or State laws and regulations and by Tennessee Board of Regents policies with respect to employment, programs, and activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Equity Officer, [equity@dsc.edu](mailto:equity@dsc.edu), E. B. Eber Administration Building, Room 205, 2050 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024, Ph: 731-286-9234, or Dean of Student Services, Deputy Title IX Coordinator, [katz@dsc.edu](mailto:katz@dsc.edu), Student Center, Room 224, 2010 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024, Ph: 731-286-9294. The Dyersburg State Community College policy on nondiscrimination can be found at <https://www.dsc.edu/node/6592>. PUB 05\_20\_2020



# SPORTSPLEX



**Opening Monday  
May 11, 2020**



**Start Slow**  
Covington  
**SPORTSPLEX**  
**Finish Strong**

**Take the pledge with us to reopen the Sportsplex responsibly!**

Parks & Recreation will screen customers for illness upon entry to the Sportsplex:

- ✓ Temperature checks for every customer.
- ✓ **Persons with temperatures above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will not be permitted on premise**
- Minimum: Question customers regarding COVID-19 symptoms
  - ✓ Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
  - ✓ Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
  - ✓ Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
  - ✓ **Anyone who answers yes to the above questions will not be permitted on premise.**
  - ✓ We recommend that persons more vulnerable or at-risk for COVID-19 as identified by the CDC—including those who are over the age of 65 or those who have chronic medical conditions—take extra precaution or refrain from use of the facility during Phase 1 of re-opening.
  - ✓ ALL Employees and Patrons are required to wear a cloth face covering.



- ✓ We will **cap fitness classes at 9 participants and 1 Instructor** unless we need to reduce it further to maintain social distancing (Spin Bike Area).
- ✓ The Sportsplex Staff will conduct regular (i.e., every 2 hours) disinfecting of high-touch surfaces, equipment and common areas of the facility using disinfectant cleaning supplies according to CDC guidelines.
- ✓ **Showers, locker rooms, and lockers will remain closed until further notice.**
- ✓ We have temporarily **closed water fountains**, common areas, break rooms,, where customers or employees may congregate. **Please bring your own water.**
- ✓ No self-service options (coffee bars, smoothie stations and other forms of communal food in facilities).
- ✓ **All basketball courts, racquetball courts**, and other places where formal and informal group or team sports may occur **will remain closed until further notice.**
- ✓ To ensure that our staffing of the facility is sufficient to enable enhanced sanitization and cleaning measures we will adjust our hours of operation to the following: 5AM-7PM Monday-Friday, Saturday 9AM- 12PM, **Closed on Sundays.**

Covington Parks & Recreation 790 Bert Johnston Ave 901-476-3734

**We here at Covington Parks and Recreation recognize that these are challenging times. As a result we have cancelled our Spring Youth Sports Season. We would like to offer our patrons a few options with regards to your spring youth sports fee payment. (1) You can use your spring youth sports payment to cover your fall or winter youth sports fees. (2) You can use your spring youth sports fee to cover your Sportsplex or Aquatic Center Membership fees or towards any service that parks and recreation provides i.e. pool party, pavilion rentals, etc. by sending an email to [sportsplex@covingtontn.com](mailto:sportsplex@covingtontn.com) (3) You may request a refund. In order to expedite the refund process we have placed refund request forms and return envelopes in an outdoor brochure box on the grounds of the Sportsplex. Although we have not opened our doors yet we wanted to provide you with an opportunity to begin the refund process by providing the forms. We hope that everyone will remain safe and healthy as we look forward to seeing you soon.**



## COVINGTON CIVIC CENTER

Stay up to date on upcoming events  
at the Civic Center!

Visit our [Facebook Page](#)  
or  
Visit our [Website!](#)

I'm challenging you to  
**complete the**  
**2020 Census**  
today.

#shapeyourfuture

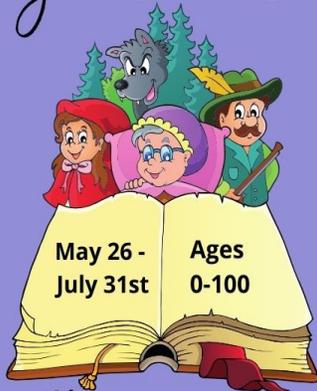
if you  
**SEE**  
something  
**SAY**  
something™

## REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

to Covington Police

Call 901-475-4300 or in an  
Emergency call 9-1-1

*Imagine Your Story!*



Sign up at

[tcpl.readsquared.com](http://tcpl.readsquared.com)



Download the  
READSquared Mobile APP



TIPTON COUNTY  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

# FINE FREE MONTH!

Does not apply to lost & damaged items

**JUNE 1 - JUNE 30, 2020**

FIND A BOOK YOU FORGOT YOU HAD?  
DON'T FRET...  
RETURN YOUR OVERDUE BOOKS, MOVIES, AUDIOS AND  
WE'LL WAIVE THE FINES!

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
476-8289

[tiptoncountylibrary.com](http://tiptoncountylibrary.com)  
3149 HWY 51 S BLDG. C. COVINGTON, TN 38019

# Let Us Help Plan Your Child's Next Party at the Covington Civic Center

Invite your friends to your **Paint Party** at the Covington Civic Center. Pick out a sample to paint on a Canvas board for your



birthday, special occasion, or any reason to get  together with friends for some fun.

We're going to put a little **ART** in your **PARTY!**

For Information Call 901.475.7139



Cost for a Party.....\$100.00

Total Time Allowed for Painting &  
Any Party Food to be Served.....2 Hours

Party Size.....Limited to 10

Canvas Size ..... 10 x 14 



Covington Civic Center will provide all supplies for the Paint Party. This includes the art picked from our sample wall, 10 x 14 Canvas boards, paints, brushes, easels, tables and chairs. The Canvas boards will be outlined before the party and will be ready for paint.



If the Renter chooses to serve refreshments to those attending, the Renter will provide the refreshments and all necessary serving pieces, plates, cups, spoons, forks, and napkins. 



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF THE HATCHIE RIVER  
REGION**

# SUMMER DAY CAMP

**June 8 - July 10**

**Grades 4-12**

**Limited Space Available!**

**Priority given to returning Club Members**

**Call 901-476-0180 for more information!**



As we battle COVID-19, CASA of Tipton County is committed to the safety and well-being of the community which is why they are pleased to announce the 4th annual CASA Superhero "Stop Child Abuse" Virtual 5k or 10k! CASA is a non-profit organization that provides trained volunteers who are appointed by the local juvenile court judge as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for abused or neglected children. They would appreciate any support you could offer for this exciting fundraiser to help their program continue to grow and serve more children that need an advocate. Your participation helps generate cause and awareness! Be the difference. Please join the 2020 Virtual Race!

Click [HERE](#) for more information!



## DSCC TO RELEASE VIRTUAL CEREMONY TO CELEBRATE 50TH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) has announced that its 50<sup>th</sup> annual commencement will recognize 455 candidates for graduation in a virtual prerecorded ceremony June 11. The virtual event is being held in lieu of its traditional in-person ceremony held each May. The College plans to offer graduates the option to attend a future in-person ceremony once it is deemed safe amid COVID-19 concerns.

The ceremony will be held at the First Citizens National Bank Auditorium inside the Campus Activities Building on the Dyersburg campus. The virtual recording will be released on the College’s [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages.



## TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY RIPLEY

### CNA to LPN Evening/Weekend Program Starting Fall 2020

**This class is designed specifically for individuals currently licensed as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). The duration of the program is approximately 18 months.**

**Schedule: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday – 5:00 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
& Saturday – 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
(Clinical times may vary)**



#### Application and Admissions Paperwork

**Deadline: July 15, 2020**

**Class Begins: September 1, 2020**

**HESI Schedule Will Be Posted on Our Website Soon!**

**For More Information, Please Contact Student Services at (731)635-3368.**

<https://tcatriplev.edu/programs/practical-nursing>



**HESI Passing Scores:  
Reading-70%  
Math-70%**

TCAT Ripley does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, ethnicity or national origin, sex, disability, age status as a protected veteran or any other class protected by Federal or State laws and regulations and by Tennessee Board of Regents policies with respect to employment, programs, and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: JacQueen Rainey, Title VI & Title IX Coordinator, 127 Industrial Drive Ripley, TN 38063 (731)635-3368 jacquene.rainey@tcatriplev.edu