



Mayor Justin Hanson

Monthly Update - March



We are beginning to move into budget time here in city government. Department heads just today provided Mayor Hanson their proposed budgets for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. He will be working hard these next few months, collaborating with team leaders, to provide a **balanced budget** to our city council in April. We will invest heavily in **public safety** (police and fire) as well as other areas of importance like **public works, parks and recreation, code enforcement**, and other community improvement. The Mayor is committed to **protecting your tax dollars** and spending wisely to provide the best essential services possible. This is his 6th balanced budget to prepare **with no new taxes**.



The state of our city economy is strong! We continue to see **increased sales tax revenue** (up 3.4% in 2019), property tax revenue continues to come in, and we continue to spend your money wisely. In the past year, we've continued to reduce our overall debt all while our **net position has increased by nearly \$1.9 million dollars!** That means we are in a much better financial position than we were last year – and last year was a success as well!



Public Safety continues to be a priority. Ridding guns, gangs and drugs from our streets is vitally important. In the month of February, Covington Police made 11 drug arrests and seized the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 3.9g Methamphetamine | 72 Ecstasy pills |
| 1 dose pack of Fentanyl | 1.41 lbs. of Marijuana |
| 82 Hydrocodone pills | 24g Alprazolam |
| 9 Oxycodone pills | 2g Heroin |

CPD also made 4 weapons arrests and seized 9 illegal weapons.



We should start seeing work being done toward paving Highway 51. Signage is going up today and concrete work will begin in the next couple of weeks. Per the schedule we have been given by TDOT (Tennessee Department of Transportation), paving should begin the first week of April. Construction times will be slated for 8:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m. so that disruption to traffic will be minimal. We are looking forward in the next months to the main corridor into and out of our city being MUCH improved!