

JUSTIN HANSON  
Mayor



TINA DUNN  
Recorder-Treasurer

# *City of Covington*

POST OFFICE BOX 768  
200 West Washington Avenue, Covington, Tennessee 38019  
Telephone (901) 476-9613 Fax (901) 476-6699

THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, TENNESSEE ON MARCH 23, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.

1. Meeting to be called to order by Mayor Justin Hanson.
2. Invocation to be given by Alderman Danny Wallace.
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag to be led by Alderman C H Sullivan.
4. Minutes of the Preceding Meeting to be approved.
5. Report from Committees:
  - Minutes of the Covington Municipal Regional Planning Commission Meeting
  - Minutes of the General Welfare - Public Relations Committee Meeting
  - Minutes of the Finance & Administration Committee Meeting
6. Additions to the Agenda.
7. Welcome to visitors and grievances from citizens.
8. Report from Mayor Justin Hanson:
  - Updates
9. Report from Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn
10. Report from City Attorney Rachel Witherington
11. Old Business:
12. New Business:
  - Bills Over/Under \$1,000.00 ready for Board Approval

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met virtually on March 9, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Justin Hanson, Aldermen: Danny Wallace, Johnetta Yarbrough, Jeff Morris, John Edwards, and Chris Richardson. Also present were Fire Chief Richard Griggs, Assistant Fire Chief Jeremy Channell, Police Chief Larry Lindsey, Public Works Director David Gray, Personnel Director Tiny Rose, Building Official Lessie Fisher, Parks & Recreation Director Joe Mack, City Attorney Rachel Witherington and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Justin Hanson.

Invocation was given by Alderman Chris Richardson.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Alderman Jeff Morris.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Johnetta Yarbrough and seconded by Alderman Jeff Morris that the Minutes of the Preceding Meeting be approved as distributed to the Board (See Attached).

Voting Aye: Yarbrough, Edwards, Morris, Richardson, Wallace.

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Alderman Johnetta Yarbrough and seconded by Alderman Chris Richardson that the Minutes of the General Welfare – Public Safety be approved (See Attached).

Voting Aye: Yarbrough, Edwards, Morris, Richardson, Wallace.

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Alderman Danny Wallace and seconded by Alderwoman Johnetta Yarbrough that the Minutes of the Public Works Committee Meeting be approved (See Attached).

Voting Aye: Yarbrough, Edwards, Morris, Richardson, Wallace.

Motion passed.

Alderman Edwards requested discussion be brought to the Finance & Administration Committee on the unfair treatment of city employees and the appeals process.

Willie Ferrell approached the Board with concerns for raw sewage at Sneed Village and litter problems.

Mayor Justin Hanson made the recommendation for Margaret Fleming to fill the unexpired term of Virginia “Ginny” Robbins on the Historic Zoning Commission.

Motion was made by Alderman Edwards and Alderman Wallace to approve the recommendation for Margaret Fleming to serve on the Historic Zoning Commission.

Voting Aye: Yarbrough, Edwards, Morris, Richardson, Wallace.

Motion passed.

Mayor Hanson reported the Covington Lady Chargers Basketball team will be heading to state. A request was received from Coach Glass for a donation to help with the travel expenses. Motion was made by Alderman Wallace and seconded by Alderman Edwards to approve the donation of \$250.00 for the Covington Lady Chargers Basketball team. Voting Aye: Yarbrough, Edwards, Morris, Richardson, Wallace. Motion passed.

Mayor Hanson reported the City is working with Keep Tennessee Beautiful. The trashercise will begin on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. He reported there are 6,995 Covid cases in which 84 are active. This is down 12 cases from last week. There is no longer a mask mandate for Tipton County.

The following bills over/under \$1,000.00 were presented for approval:

ALEX VAN VLEET	POLICE	TRAVEL	245.80
AMANDA DURHAM	POLICE	TRAINING	377.00
AMAZON	VARIOUS	MISCELLANEOUS	1,360.52
ANSWER CONNECT	GAS	PHONE SERVICE	1,311.77
BENJAMIN STANIFER	POLICE	TRAVEL	138.00
BFI NORTH SHELBY LANDFILL	WWTP	SLUDGE REMOVAL	1,454.07
BFI NORTH SHELBY LANDFILL	WWTP	SLUDGE REMOVAL	3,160.49
BRENNTAG MID SOUTH INC	WWTP	CHEMICALS	2,109.00
BRENNTAG MID SOUTH INC	WWTP	CHEMICALS	1,859.60
BRENNTAG MID SOUTH INC	WWTP	CHEMICALS	2,639.60
COLTON HUTCHESON	POLICE	TRAVEL	138.00
COVINGTON ELECTRIC	VARIOUS	ELECTRIC SERVICE	5,189.85
FIRST NET	POLICE	TELEPHONE SERVICE	1,907.22
FORD MOTOR CREDIT	POLICE	PMT - 2020 FORD POLICE RESPONDER	17,944.52
G & C SUPPLY	PARKS/REC	CULVERT	1,233.40
G & C SUPPLY	WATER	MATERIALS	1,892.26
G & C SUPPLY	SEWER	MATERIALS	5,700.00
G & C SUPPLY	SEWER	MATERIALS	11,400.00
G & W DIESEL SERVICE	FIRE	PARTS	1,616.30
HACH	WTP	SPECTROPHOTOMETER REPAIR	4,746.44
HUB CITY TIRE CO INC	SANITATION	TIRES	1,848.60
KRISTIE GLASS MAXWELL	GENERAL	MIXED DRINK TAX	1,159.75
LEON LAM	POLICE	TRAVEL	179.00
MAXWELL'S PAINTING	WWTP	WALLS & TRIM PAINTED	4,350.00
MCKEE CONSTRUCTION	PARKS/REC	WATER HEATER FOR POOL/MATER/LABOR	2,369.08
MID SOUTH SUPPLIERS	STREET	ROCK	3,100.50
MID SOUTH SUPPLIERS	STREET	ROCK	2,047.10
MID SOUTH SUPPLIERS	STREET	ROCK	1,524.82
PURCHASE POWER	GENERAL	POSTAGE	1,005.00
RYAN BEAN	POLICE	TRAVEL	179.00
STATE OF TN	POLICE	BASIC POLICE SCHOO –BOHNERT,THORNE	6,600.00



The Covington Municipal –Regional Planning Commission met virtually on November 3, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman Joe Swaim, Commissioners: Joe Auger, Alice Fisher, Danny Wallace, Sammy Beasley, Louise McBride, Annette Johnson, and Sara Carter. Also present were Code Enforcement/Building Official Lessie Fisher, Fire Inspector Jason Jenkins, Planner Will Radford, Mark Herbison, Lance Scoggins, Timothy Magill, William Peeler, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Swaim.

Motion was made by Alice Fisher and seconded by Joe Auger that the minutes of the preceding meeting be approved.

Voting Aye: Fisher, McBride, Beasley, Carter, Auger, Swaim

Abstain: Wallace

Motion passed.

The Industrial Development Board Rezoning Request was presented for approval. This request is to rezone 65 acres on Hwy 51 North from B-2(Highway-Oriented Business) to M-1 (Industrial Park) District. Planner Radford recommended in favor of the rezoning request due to the adjacent M-1 zoning and the location near transportation facilities that will support industrial development.

Motion was made by Alice Fisher and seconded by Joe Auger to approve the request to rezone the IDB Property from B-2 to M-1.

Voting Aye: Swaim, Auger, Fisher, Beasley, Carter, McBride, Johnson, Wallace

Motion passed.

The rezoning request from Lance Scoggins was presented for approval. This request is to rezone property near 116 Haynie Street from R-2 (Medium Density Residential) to R-3 (High Density Residential) District. Planner Radford recommended denial of the rezoning request due to the Land Use Plan in 2010 stated that demand for High Density Residential was currently met.

Motion was made by Alice Fisher and seconded by Joe Auger to deny the rezoning request from Lance Scoggins.

Voting Aye: Swaim, Auger, Fisher, Beasley, McBride, Johnson, Wallace, Carter

Motion passed.

The rezoning request from Timothy Magill was presented for approval. This request is to rezone property near 224 Simonton from R-2(Medium Density Residential) to R-3(High Density Residential) District. Planner Radford recommended denial of the rezoning request due to the Land Use Plan in 2010 stated that demand for High Density Residential was currently met.

Motion was made by Alice Fisher and seconded by Louise McBride to deny the rezoning request from Timothy Magill.

Voting Aye: Swaim, Auger, Fisher, Beasley, McBride, Johnson, Wallace

Abstain: Carter

Motion passed.

Discussion begin on the continuance of virtual meetings.

Motion was made by Danny Wallace and seconded by Alice Fisher to have the December 1, 2020 meeting in the Board Room located on the second floor at City Hall.

Voting Aye: Swaim, Auger, Fisher, Beasley, McBride, Johnson, Wallace

Motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12: 41 p.m.

The Public Relations / General Welfare Committee met virtually on March 9, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman Alderman Jeff Morris, Alderman John Edwards, and Alderman C.H. Sullivan. Also present were Aldermen: Johnetta Yarbrough, Danny Wallace, and Chris Richardson, Parks and Recreation Director Joseph Mack, Airport Director Robin Anderson, Museum Director Katherine Markley, Public Works Director David Gray, Assistant to the Mayor Rebecca Ray, and Senior Accountant Kristin Mathis.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Alderman Jeff Morris.

Airport Director Robin Anderson reported total fuel sales for the month of February was 875 gallons. Director Anderson gave updates on the Cares Act grant, the 2021 Airfield Maintenance grant, and the Security Improvements grant. He stated there has been another Coronavirus Grant announcement in the amount of \$13,000 that will be applied for mid to late summer. Director Anderson also informed the committee that an update to the Airport Layout Plan will be completed within the next year.

Motion was made by Alderman C.H. Sullivan and seconded by Alderman John Edwards to accept Director Anderson's report as presented. Voting Aye: Sullivan, Edwards, and Morris. Motion passed.

Parks and Recreation Director Joseph Mack provided information on the many upcoming spring camps being offered. He stated the 2021 Outdoor Movie Series kicks off on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Director Mack gave updates on the upcoming Covington BBQ Festival which will begin on June 4<sup>th</sup> with a cornhole tournament and kids hamburger cookoff. The hamburger cookoff is being sponsored by Naifeh's Cash Saver and they have donated a Big Green Egg grill to be awarded to the winner. The Special Events Committee Meeting Minutes from March 4, 2021 were presented. (see attached) The Downtown Covington Association is hosting a Brunch Affair on March 20, 2021 and they are requesting the \$25 permit fee be waived for this event. The Special Events Committee is requesting that all application fees be waived permanently.

Motion was made by Alderman C.H. Sullivan and seconded by Alderman John Edwards that the \$25 application fee for the Downtown Covington Association be waived. Motion passed. Voting Aye: Sullivan, Edwards, and Morris. The request to waive all application fees permanently will be discussed at the next Finance and Administration meeting.

Director Mack introduced newly hired Museum Director Katherine Markley as this month's Parks and Recreation Teammate in the Spotlight. Director Markley gave updates on cosmetic and maintenance repairs, recently purchased exhibit displays, new gift shop items and upgrades, and grant options for trail cams and binoculars. She stated they are working on possibly getting ADA Compliant automatic doors installed. Director Markley reported on recent and upcoming events at the Museum. There will be a Meet the Director event on March 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Motion was made by Alderman C.H. Sullivan and seconded by Alderman Jeff Morris to accept Director Mack's and Director Markley's reports as presented. Voting Aye: Edwards, Sullivan and Morris. Motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.



The Finance and Administration Committee met virtually on March 16, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman Alderman C H Sullivan, Mayor Justin Hanson, Aldermen: Johnetta Yarbrough, Danny Wallace, Chris Richardson, John Edwards, and Jeff Morris. Also present were: Building Official Lessie Fisher, Public Works Director David Gray, Personnel Director Tiny Rose, Fire Chief Richard Griggs, Police Chief Larry Lindsey, Assistant to the Mayor Rebecca Ray, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn.

Chairman Alderman C H Sullivan called meeting to order.

Mayor Justin Hanson presented the 2021-22 Budget for review. The budget highlights were also presented which includes flock cameras, addition of three personnel positions, blight line item, park & recreation improvements, and backhoe lease. Some additional items are included to be purchased if a state grant is received. Discussion will begin at the Finance & Administration Committee Meeting in April, 2021.

Auditor Rick Tankersley reviewed the audit for the year ending June 30, 2020. The government's net position increased by \$2,770,000.00. He also discussed the four findings for the year.

William Franklin, Path Representative, gave a presentation on led lighting. He reported the led project predicts a net savings of \$15,000.00 per year. Over 20 years, it is predicted the city will have a net savings of \$871,000.00. The fee for a complete audit will be \$30,000.00. If the city moves forward, this cost will be absorbed into the project. It is a guaranteed savings and if this savings is not met, the City will be reimbursed.

Motion was made by Alderman John Edwards and seconded by Alderman C H Sullivan to take under review and bring back for discussion at the Finance & Administration Committee Meeting in April.

Voting Aye: Yarbrough, Edwards, Morris, Richardson, Wallace, Hanson, Sullivan  
Motion passed.

Recorder-Treasurer presented the bid for the addition of automatic door openers at City Hall. There was only one bid received from Dillard Door Entrance in the amount of \$10,160.00. These door openers will be placed on the north side of the building.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Yarbrough and seconded by Alderman Wallace to accept the bid from Dillard Door Entrance in the amount of \$10,160.00.

Voting Aye: Yarbrough, Edwards, Morris, Richardson, Wallace, Hanson, Sullivan  
Motion passed.

Alderman Edwards begin discussion on the employee appeal process. At the present time, aldermen are not involved in the appeal process. He requested to take under consideration for the final appeal to go before the Board.

Director Fisher presented proposed changes for Title 1, Title 2, & Title 3 in the Municipal Code for review. Attorney Witherington reported there is an addition of Title 1-105 which describes

in detail the procedure for the hiring and firing of department heads. Title 2 will pull all boards and commissions into one section which will make it simpler to locate. All fees will go through the administrative ordinance which will be approved during the budget process. A study of the salaries of mayors and aldermen were presented for review. An ordinance will need to be approved within the allowed time frame if any changes are proposed. Title 2, Title 4, and Title 5 will be discussed at the next Finance & Administration Committee Meeting. It was suggested to have all amendments discussed and approved by the committee before the discussion of the next Title.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

