CITY of COVINGTON

200 W. Washington Covington, TN 38019 901-476-9613



Mayor Justin Hanson



District 1

Vice Mayor Johnetta Yarbrough 1122jwyatt@gmail.com

Alderman John Edwards aldermanedwards@gmail.com

District 2

Alderman Jeff Morris aldermanjeffmorris@gmail.com

Alderman Chris Richardson aldermanchrisrichardson@gmail.com

District 3

Alderman C.H. Sullivan aldermanchsullivan@gmail.com

Alderman Danny Wallace aldermanwallace@gmail.com



Committee Meetings

Public Works Committee - September 6
Chairperson Danny Wallace, Jeff Morris, Johnetta Yarbrough

General Welfare/Public Relations Committee - September 13 Chairperson Jeff Morris, CH Sullivan, John Edwards

Finance and Administration Committee - September 20 Chairperson CH Sullivan, All Board Members

Public Safety Committee - September 27

Chairperson Johnetta Yarbrough, Chris Richardson, CH Sullivan

Committee meetings are at 4:00 pm in the Lower Level Conference Room at Covington City Hall. 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.

City Board meetings are also live-streamed on our <u>Website</u> and <u>Facebook page</u>.



Public Works Committee Meeting 9/6/22, 4:00 p.m.

The Public Works Committee met at City Hall on September 6, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman Alderman Danny Wallace, Aldermen: Jeff Morris and Johnetta Yarbrough and Mayor Justin Hanson. Also present were Public Works Director David Gray, Building Official Lessie Fisher, Senior Accountant Kristin Mathis, Street / Sanitation Manager James Dowell, Utilities Manager Calvin Johnson, Police Chief Donna Turner, Personnel Director Eboni Eaton, and Parks and Recreation Director Molly Glass.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Alderman Danny Wallace.

Building Official Lessie Fisher gave an update on the Quail Creek subdivision addition. The Planning Commission voted to move forward with the cul-de-sac. She stated the Blue Oval Land Development Plan for Services Resolution for consideration was presented during the Planning Commission meeting and they have voted to recommend to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen its approval. Also presented before the Planning Commission was the re-zoning request by Thomas Faulk on Hwy 54 West. Alderman Jeff Morris shared his concerns from citizens regarding the annexation at Bert Johnston and there was further discussion by members of the committee pertaining to this annexation including traffic flow, the square footage of homes, and lot sizes.

A motion was made by Alderman Morris and seconded by Alderwoman Yarbrough to approve the Code Compliance Department report as presented. Motion passed.

Public Works Director David Gray stated the LED Street Lighting Project is now 100% complete. He gave an update on the 2021 Invest Prep Grant and informed the committee the Crestview lift station installation is complete and is now up and running. Director Gray stated regarding the February ice storm that we should be receiving approximately \$99,461.00 in relief funds from FEMA in the next 4-6 weeks.

A motion was made by Mayor Hanson and seconded by Alderman Morris to approve Director Gray's report as presented. Motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.





General Welfare / Public Relations Committee Meeting 9/13/22, 4:00 p.m.

The General Welfare – Public Relations Committee met at City of Covington on September 13, 2022 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 Alderwoman Johnetta Yarbrough, Alderman Danny Wallace, Alderman Chris Richardson, Parks and Recreation Director Molly Glass, Airport Manager Robin Anderson, Personnel Director Eboni Eaton, Lieutenant Tony Ginn, Public Works Director David Gray, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn.

Chairman Alderman Morris called meeting to order.

Airport Manager Anderson reported August fuel sales totaling 11,669 gallons. The Airport Layout Plan and the Security Fence Projects both have executed contracts Airport Manager Anderson is having discussion with the property owners concerning the tree violation. The bid for the airport farmland will be in October, 2022.

Motion was made by Alderman Sullivan and seconded by Alderman Edwards to accept the airport report. Motion passed.

Parks and Recreation Director Glass reported the veteran of the month for September is David Schumacher and will be recognized on September 13, 2022. The museum had 573 visitors for the month. Nature Journaling Classes are each Saturday in September at noon. The Vintage Christmas Toy Exhibit will begin in November.

Motion was made by Alderman Edwards and seconded by Alderman Sullivan to accept the museum report. Motion passed.

Parks and Recreation Director Glass reported softball games will begin this week. Baseball games will begin September 20th. Super Saturdays were a success. There will be a food truck festival on October 22nd at Cobb Parr Park. Fall Festival will begin October 27th. The minutes for the Special Events Committee Meeting were presented. There were not any requests for fees to be waived.

Motion was made by Alderman Sullivan and seconded by Alderman Edwards to accept the park and recreation report. Motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.



All Committee meetings are live-streamed and recorded. You can access the full meetings on our <u>Website</u> and <u>Facebook page</u>.



Finance & Administration Committee Meeting 9/20/22, 4:00 p.m.

The Finance and Administration Committee met at City of Covington on September 22, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman Alderman C H Sullivan, Aldermen: Johnetta Yarbrough, Jeff Morris, John Edwards, Danny Wallace, and Chris Richardson. Also, present were: Public Works Director David Gray, Fire Chief Richard Griggs, Building Official Lessie Fisher, Police Chief Donna Turner, Personnel Director Eboni Eaton, City Attorney Rachel Witherington, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn. Alderman Sullivan called meeting to order.

Fire Chief Griggs reported the bid for the South Fire Station addition was opened on September 8th. There was only one bid for the project. This bid was an increase of \$492,000.00 from the estimated cost. If the discrepancies can not be resolved, the project will need to be rebid. An update will be given at the Public Safety Meeting. The new vehicle for the fire department is having the equipment installed and should arrive in two weeks. A quote for the lease was presented. The cost of the vehicle is \$50,222.00 and will be leased on a four-year term. The department has received a public entity partners grant in the amount of \$3,000.00 which will be used for equipment. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant has been approved. This grant is in the amount of \$37,000.00. This grant requires 5% from the city which is \$1,761.00. Fire equipment will be purchased with this grant. Motion was made by Alderman Morris and seconded by Alderman Richardson to accept the Assistance to the Firefighters Grant. Motion passed.

Director Eaton discussed the final draft of the Employee Handbook. The labor attorney was contacted about the disciplinary process. Alderman Edwards stated his main concern is the protection of the city. The health insurance rates were presented that will start January 1, 2023. The compensation project proposal was presented. A proposal was developed after the review of the current compensation system. The proposal includes creating a customized salary grading structure for all positions, reviewing job descriptions, placing current jobs into appropriate salary grades, and recommendations for future human resource functions. The cost for this study will be divided among the different departments in the city. Motion was made by Alderman Edwards and seconded by Alderman Richardson to proceed with study and request the hard cost. Motion passed.

City Attorney Witherington began discussion on the airport farmland lease. The lease is for a three-year period with an option to renew for an additional three years. This will be a sealed bid process. This bid will be approved by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen on October 25th. Alderman Morris began discussion on the possibility of hiring a city planner due to the expected growth from Blue Oval City. Tipton County has hired a planner and would like to inquire about the city utilizing this agreement with the county to help prepare a plan for the city. Director Fisher reported there were not any corrections recommended to Title 15 after the Finance & Administration Meeting in August. The next title will be presented for review at the next meeting.

Alderman Edwards requested to review the feasibility for an addition of a pathway to DSCC from the new annexation development. This would provide a route to the library/school for new families. At the present time, there are two approved grants that will provide a walkway along Highway 51 from Tatlock to Mueller Brass Road. Alderman Edwards requested a study for the comparison of current police salaries to surrounding areas. Chief Turner has requested this information from 35 locations. Some information has been received. The city's current starting salaries range from \$17.36 to \$22.40 depending on certification. The information received from surrounding areas show salaries from \$16.40 to \$25.29. The department has hired six police officers and have four vacancies.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

WE OUR TEAM MEMBERS



Please join us in welcoming our newest member at the Covington Police Department! Officer Linda Taylor was sworn in by Covington Mayor Justin Hanson at City Hall. Officer Taylor will be assigned to the Patrol Division. Welcome to the team!

We congratulate Covington Public Works employee
Rickey Hughey on his retirement after almost 22
years of employment! Mr. Hughey was employed
in our street and sanitation division, a devoted
employee in all kinds of weather conditions. Thanks
sir for your devotion! We wish you the absolute
best in your next chapter!





Covington's unmatched water quality has long been a tremendous asset! And now, we are proud to announce that our Covington Public Works Water Quality Division is a State of Tennessee Certified Microbiological Lab! This certification is nearly a year in the making, with our team members having completed 80 hours of training and over 200 hours in lab development! There are only 119 certified labs in the state, so this designation is something for which to be proud! In addition, we will save taxpayer dollars by doing the testing "in house" and not having to pay for the service elsewhere. The City of Covington can also now provide this service to outside, non-certified utilities.

CONGRATULATIONS team!



Congratulations to one of our newest businesses in Covington - Plan and Print, LLC!
Owners Brian and Robin Kellum are excited about their new venture. They're open Monday - Saturday at 525 B Highway 51 North, next to Cash Express. See them for all your drafting services, wide format plotting, copies, faxes, laminating and more!









support local.

Congratulations to The Turquoise Paintbrush on your milestone ribbon cutting on Friday!

Located at 108 East Liberty Avenue in Historic Covington Downtown, the store features locally sourced home goods and also hosts paint parties! Congratulations to co-owners Emilie Wall and Mandy Gallagher on your new location!





September 17th was Constitution Day, the 235th anniversary of the signing of our country's founding document. Thanks to the River City Chapter DAR, Millington, TN for hosting a program focusing on the importance of this living, breathing document that remains strong enough for our continued safety and flexible enough to allow freedom.



Thank you Jessica Hernandez and Keep Tipton County Beautiful for an amazing inaugural Tipton County Cleanup Competition Saturday, September 17th! Covington won the inaugural trophy in this friendly game among municipalities to encourage clean up efforts!!! Covington's pick up team collected 560 pounds of trash and litter Saturday morning. All competing cities (Munford, Atoka, Brighton, Covington) collected a total of 1,460 pounds of litter, trash, and debris from selected roadways! We need your help to keep our cities and county beautiful! Do your part and keep your yards and businesses litter free!













Even though the storm may have cut short the Heritage Festival on Sunday, Saturday was a huge success! Thank you to the Chamber, the vendors, City employees, sponsors, and volunteers who worked so hard to make this event amazing!







Celebrating local foods & local farms & Covington, tn





















WIN A 2022 CHEVROLET TRAX!!







Improved ACT scores = CHANCE TO WIN A 2022
CHEVROLET TRAX!
—PLUS A—
\$1,000 Scholarship or a \$2,500 Scholarship

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#expressyourself

YOU can Make a Difference



Volunteer to help 2nd-graders become great readers.

Contact Covington First United Methodist church (901) 476-9694 to volunteer or for more information.



Let's Paint Covington!

A Fun & Easy Watercolor Class With Barrie Foster at

Liberty Vintage Marketplace

Start Slowly, See Remarkably, Paint Joyfully

When: Thursday mornings, 9:30-11:30

November 3, 10, 17 & December 1, 2022

Where: Liberty Vintage Marketplace

100 Union Street, Covington, TN

Fee: \$60 for the four week course

Join Barrie on Thursday mornings in the Liberty Vintage Marketplace studio in the Covington Depot District for this fun and educational art class. Barrie will lead you, step by step, in painting iconic scenes of Covington in watercolor and pen and ink. No previous art experience required! Please sign up early as class size is limited. Please call or email Barrie for registration form and supply list. We hope to see you there!

> Barrie Foster 901-212-7890 artistbarrie@outlook.com



Dyersburg State Community College





For more information contact Hannah Yawn, Coordinator of Student Life, 901-475-3166, yawn@dscc.edu



DON'T MISS TIPTON COUNTY'S

Fall Walk Across Tennessee!

Join us for a FREE 6-week team challenge

This program is a team challenge with up to 8 members on each team Each team will need a Captain who will report the miles to Katie each Monday.

The challenge starts October 24th

Wrap Up Rally will be on December 8th

You don't want to miss this chance to walk with friends for better health!

Sign up today with the link below

https://tiny.utk.edu/walktipton

Call Katie (FCS Agent) at the UT-TSU Extension office 901-476-0231 or email kwyatt3@utk.edu with guestions.

University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, Tennessee State University, US Department of Agriculture and county governments are coop erating. UT/TSU Extension provides equal opportunities in program and employment

Real. Life. Solutions.





Tipton County Health Department



VETERAN Of the Month

Congratulations to our Tipton County Veteran of the Month for September, David Bernard Schumacher. Born August 11, 1940, David Schumacher left home at 16 to move to Florida. He accepted a job on a ranch in Hernando, FL with the stipulation that he graduate from high school. He worked hard on the ranch and in school and earned his high school diploma. In May 1958, the newly minted high school graduate reported to Great Lakes, Illinois, for bootcamp. After working on a ranch, why did he choose to join the Navy? In his words, "because I like boats!"

To read Mr. Shumacher's complete story, please visit our Facebook page.









Thanks to all of our first responders, emergency personnel, public works, electric system team, and our many citizens who aided and continue to assist in storm damage recovery!





COMMUNITYCONNECTIONS







October 22, 2022

Historic Covington Town Square

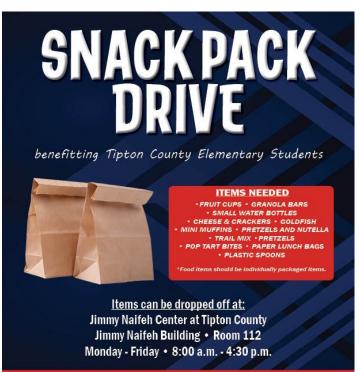
8:30am Kids Fun Run 9:00am 5k/10k

Packet pick up Oct. 21 or Race Day Spirit Runners welcome!

Register at golucygo.org

SPONSORED BY







For more information, contact Hannah Yawn, Student Life Coordinator, at 901-475-3166 or yawn@dscc.edu.

FALL USED BOOK SALE Friday & Saturday!

FRIDAY

Oct 21, 2022 10:00 AM-4:00 PM SATURDAY

Oct 22 2022 10:00 AM-2:00 PM





FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBER'S NIGHT **THURSDAY** Oct 20, 2022 4:00 - 7:00 PM **MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE AVAILABLE**

AT THE DOOR OR IN ADVANCE

TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 3149 HWY 51 S. BLDG C **COVINGTON, TN 38019** 901-476-8289

tcsuperfriends.org







You are invited to join Boys & Girls Club of the Hatchie River Region at the beautiful Manor at Mount Carmel venue for their 7th Annual Steak and Burger Dinner on Thursday, October 6, 2022. The guest speaker will be NFL Hall of Fame Recipient, Andre Reed.

Click here for more information!

UPCOMING

2022



EVENTS

- August 9th Veteran of the Month 6:30pm
- August 26th -Trivia Night 7pm
- August 27th Cars & Coffee 7:30am
- September 13th Veteran of the Month 6:30pm
- September 22nd-25th Heritage Festival on the Covington Square
- October 11th Veteran of the Month 6:30pm
- October every Saturday Garden Series 10am
- November 8th Veteran of the Month 6:30pm
- November 11th Veterans Day Parade 10am on the Covington Square
- November 12th Living History Day 10am 4:30pm
- December 13th Festival of Trees Reception 6:30pm

- Nature Journaling classes Saturdays in August /September 12pm-2pm
- Genealogy Classes- call for information

EXHIBITS

- Educating Tipton County Generations Now through August 29th
- Lost Children of Tipton County September / October
- Vintage Christmas Toys November / December

CLUB/ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

- Genealogy Club meets at 6:30 pm first Monday of the month
- Tipton County Veterans Council 8 am every third Saturday
- American Legion Charles Porter Smith Post 237 every third Saturday following the Veterans Council meeting
- Nature Journaling Club meets at 2 pm every third Sunday





INFORMATION:











GET INVOLVED









Friends of the Tipton County Public Library.

Do you have an announcement you would like to include in our weekly newsletter? Click <u>HERE</u> to email your info to Rebecca Ray!

SHOP SMALL
support local businesses