

JAN WADE HENSLEY
Mayor



TINA DUNN
Recorder-Treasurer

City of Covington

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THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, TENNESSEE ON FEBRUARY 13, 2024 AT 5:30 P.M.

1. Meeting to be called to order by Mayor Jan Hensley.
2. Invocation to be given by Alderman C H Sullivan.
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag to be led by Alderman Danny Wallace.
4. Minutes of the Preceding Meeting to be approved.
5. Report from Committees:
 - Minutes of the General Welfare – Public Safety Committee Meeting
 - Minutes of the Public Works Committee Meeting
6. Additions to the Agenda.
7. Welcome to visitors and grievances from citizens.
8. Report from Mayor Jan Hensley:
 - Resolution – Mark Heaston
 - Updates
9. Report from Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn:
10. Report from City Attorney Rachel Witherington.
11. Old Business:
12. New Business:
 - Resolution – USDA Rural Utility Service Grant
 - Bills Over/Under \$1,000.00 ready for Board Approval

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met at City of Covington on January 23, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Jan Hensley, Aldermen: C.H. Sullivan, Jeff Morris, Danny Wallace, Chris Richardson, and Jean Johnson. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Molly Glass, Public Works Director David Gray, Police Chief Donna Turner, Fire Chief Richard Griggs, Building Official Lessie Fisher, Human Resource Director Cody Bumpus, Assistant to the Mayor Jason Fleming, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jan Hensley.

Invocation was given by Alderman Danny Wallace.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Alderman C H Sullivan.

Motion was made by Alderman Sullivan and seconded by Alderman Richardson that the Minutes of the Preceding Meeting be approved as distributed to the Board (See Attached).

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Alderman Sullivan and seconded by Alderman Richardson that the Minutes of the General Welfare – Public Relations Committee Meeting be approved (See Attached).

Motion passed.

The following bills over/under \$1000.00 were presented for approval:

A2H	STREET	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	3,215.00
A2H	STREET	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	1,705.00
A2H	STREET	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	13,655.00
A2H	STREET	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	27,130.00
BFI NORTH SHELBY LANDFILL	WWTP	SLUDGE REMOVAL	3,773.32
CITY OF COVINGTON	ALL	UTILITIES	11,071.53
COVINGTON ELECTRIC SYSTEM	ALL	ELECTRIC SERVICE	35,436.76
COVINGTON ELECTRIC SYSTEM	ALL	ELECTRIC SERVICE	5,727.82
COVINGTON ELECTRIC SYSTEM	STREET	STREET LIGHT FIXTURES	10,120.00
DURAWEAR	CIVIL DEFENSE	MULTIGAS DETECTORS (3)	2,643.00
FEDELITY SEARCH ENTERPRISES	GENERAL	DRUG / ALCOHOL TESTING	1,590.00
FIDELITY SEARCH ENTERPRISES	GENERAL	DRUG SCREENS	1,179.00
FLOCK SAFETY	POLICE	FLOCK SAFETY FALCON CAMERAS (5)	12,500.00
HC3	VARIOUS	UTILITY BILLING / SUPPLIES	1,222.91
JAN WADE HENSLEY	MAYOR	TRAVEL EXPENSE	67.00
KRISTIE GLASS MAXWELL	GENERAL	JAN 2024 MIXED DRINK TAX	1,745.00
MEAC	GAS	PURCHASED NATURAL GAS	42,036.00
MY BENEFITS CHANNEL	DATA PROCESS	SUBSCRIPTION FEE	1,070.09
NAFECO	FIRE	TURN OUT GLOVES	1,758.91
NAIFEH CASH SAVER	VARIOUS	MISCELLANEOUS/CHRISTMAS LUNCH	3,334.22
NATIONAL WATER SERVICES	WATER	PUMP REMOVAL / EVALUATION	14,725.00
OUTDOOR LINK	PARKS/REC	COMMERCIAL ANNUAL FEE	1,026.60

POLYDYNE INC	WWTP	CHEMICALS	3,074.04
POLYDYNE INC	WWTP	CHEMICALS	3,074.04
PUBLIC ENTITY PARTNERS	ATTORNEY	DEANDRE MCBEE EEOC LAWSUIT DED	5,000.00
SCHAUS PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	SANITATION	GRANT CONSULTING	3,420.00
TK ELEVATOR CORP	CIVIC CENTER	MAINTENANCE	1,694.39
TN COMPTROLLER	RECORDER	POSTAGE/MAILING 2023 TAX NOT	1,219.00
WALKERS COMMERCIAL CUT	STREET	REMOVE 7 TREES & GRIND STUMPS	2,500.00
WASCON INC	SEWER	EXTREME E/ONE AMGP PUMP	2,087.90
WHITEHORN TANKERSLEY DAVIS	ALL	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	3,475.00
WOOTEN OIL CO	ST/SA/SW/GAS	FUEL	1,544.66
		TOTAL	\$ 223,821.19

Motion was made by Alderman Richardson and seconded by Alderwoman Johnson that the preceding bills over/under \$1000.00 be paid when properly approved.

Motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Attest: _____

Recorder-Treasurer

Mayor

The General Welfare – Public Safety Committee met at City of Covington on January 23, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Jan Hensley, Alderman Chris Richardson, and Alderman C H Sullivan. Also, present were Police Chief Donna Turner, Fire Chief Richard Griggs, Public Works Director David Gray, Building Official Lessie Fisher, Human Resource Director Cody Bumpus, Alderwoman Jean Johnson, Alderman Jeff Morris, Alderman Danny Wallace, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Alderman Chris Richardson.

Fire Chief Griggs reported the Tennessee Fire Chiefs fall quarterly meeting will be in Jackson, TN from January 31st – February 2nd. There were 139 hours worked by the volunteers in 2023. The run report was presented showing 2,464 calls for the year 2023. The county coverage area collections were \$80,925.00 for the year 2023. The repairs have begun at the South Station. The 2023 Inservice documents were filed for reimbursement. All CFD members were eligible to receive the 2023 education incentive. Matt Jacome and Cody Peeler obtained Firefighter -2 certification. Zack Cook, Matthew Gardiner, and Andrew Owen obtained Aerial Apparatus Driver Operator certifications from the Tennessee Firefighting Commission. The fire safety director is designated as the director of occupational safety and health to plan, develop, and administer the Covington Occupational Safety and Health Program. Mark Heaston retired on January 18, 2024. A retirement reception will be held on January 26th at The Covington Fire Department.

Motion was made by Mayor Hensley and seconded by Alderman Sullivan for Fire Chief Griggs be name as interim fire safety director.
Motion passed.

Motion was made by Alderman Sullivan and seconded by Mayor Hensley to approve the fire department report.
Motion passed.

Chief Turner reported the department has nine vacant positions. Four positions have been filled. Officer Gary Gill (Certified) has been hired in the patrol division. Lt. Demario Avery (Certified) and Detective Cory Norwood (Certified) have been hired in the Criminal Investigations Division. Lt. Mccurry has been transferred to the Community Policing Division. Sgt. Scott Templeton has been routed into the Administration Division as the Departmental Training Officer. Background investigations are in the process for five candidates. The monthly activity report was presented for review. The statistics for the month were presented showing 1,399 calls for the month and 92 traffic stops. An update was given on the status of the construction of the new police/saferoom building. Ms. Norma Eaton, Schaus Representative, inquired about the outstanding grant for the safe room application. An amount of 4.9 million dollars for the saferoom had been approved. On July 7, 2023, it was determined the proposed location near H.T. Hackney property would not be approved for consideration of FEMA funds due to the lack of egress and ingress. On August 31, 2023, it was confirmed since the grant was in the que for review and after the recent tornado, it was determined we had 30 days to complete a new application for the same amount of funding. This grant application was approved, and the budget was changed for Covington only being responsible for 5% of in-kind match. The total amount for the grant is \$4,991,441.96. The city

projected cost is \$249,572.1. The application was submitted on September 4th as requested by TEMA for the Covington Emergency and Community Services Saferoom. The only property owned by the city that would be available and meets all requirements was the property of 401 S. College Street. On November 7, 2023, a meeting was held with the E911 Director to see if E911 would want to join in the saferoom project. The timeline was established through TEMA that it would be 2 years instead of 3 years. On November 17, 2023, E911 determined they would not have enough space and withdrew from the project. Attorney Witherington confirmed that removing the current building would not be a change to the current Park and Recreation Use.

Motion was made by Mayor Hensley and seconded by Alderman Sullivan to approve the police department report.

Motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

The Public Works Committee met at City of Covington on February 6, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman Alderman Danny Wallace, Alderman Jeff Morris, Alderwoman Jean Johnson, and Mayor Jan Hensley. Also, present were Public Works Director David Gray, Building Official Lessie Fisher, Alderman Chris Richardson, Alderman C H Sullivan, Human Resource Director Cody Bumpus, Utilities Manager Calvin Johnson, Assistant to the Mayor Jason Fleming, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn.

Chairman Alderman Wallace called meeting to order.

Public Works Director David Gray reported the Tennessee Public Utility Commission Gas Pipeline Safety Division performed the 2023 inspection. A quote from National Water Services in the amount of \$111,827.00 was received for the repair of Well #5. FEMA has approved \$454,292.60 for the reimbursement of debris removal from the tornado damage on March 31, 2023. The city cost of the debris removal was \$75,714.45. The Various Street Project and the Ripley Street Pavement Project are complete. The James Street Project will be completed by the end of March once the asphalt plants are open. The speed limit on Hope Street has been reduced to 20mph from Townsend Cemetery to Highway 51. A meeting with a TDOT Representative will be set up in order to have discussion on items including the roundabout, paving, and street name changes. An application will be made for the 2022 Disaster Water Grant with USDA for an amount up to \$700,000.00. This grant will cover damages/losses that were a result of the ice storm in February 2022. There will be a public meeting on February 13, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. The city will request a sewer bypass pump, and generators for the water plant and wastewater plant. A resolution will be presented at the Board of Mayor and Aldermen for approval for this USDA Grant. A Community Facility Grant will be discussed for equipment purchases to be used for emergency preparedness from winter weather. Alderman Wallace presented a plan for additional parking places on East Pleasant Ave. from the square to Maple Street. This would allow for eleven additional parking places but will be decreased to one lane.

Motion was made by Alderman Wallace and seconded by Alderwoman Johnson to approve the layout presented for the additional parking places on East Pleasant Ave. contingent on public safety approval.

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Alderman Morris and seconded by Mayor Hensley to approve the report from Public Works Director David Gray.

Motion passed.

Building Official Lessie Fisher reported work on the blight grant, property maintenance concerns, and disaster relief/recovery is ongoing. The city attorney will provide an update on the blight grant. The slum clearance ordinance was discussed and the proper method to report problems to the codes department.

Motion was made by Alderman Morris and seconded by Alderwoman Johnson to accept the report from Building Official Lessie Fisher.
Motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

RESOLUTION

HONORING THE CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF MARK EVERETT HEASTON

WHEREAS, Mark Everett Heaston was born the 19th day of January 1959 in Covington, Tennessee, the son of Joseph Heaston, Sr., a master butcher, and his wife, Rubye Belle Ware, a long-time Covington educator. Mark attended elementary school at Plummer's Grove, Frazier, and later Covington Grammar School before graduating Covington High School in 1976. Following high school, he served as a Private in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Following his service to our Country, he was employed by Charms from 1976 to 1988, and

WHEREAS, Mark Heaston was hired initially in August 1986 as a Volunteer Fire Fighter under Fire Chief Jerry Craig and thereafter became a full-time fire fighter and EMT in 1988. Mark Heaston advanced to the rank of Fire Fighter I in 1997. That same year, he received his certification as a Paramedic from Shelby State Community College becoming the first African-American in Tipton County to do so. In March 1998, Heaston resigned his position with the City to take a job with the Memphis Fire Department but he continued to act as a Volunteer Fire Fighter with the City of Covington throughout those years. Mark Heaston returned to the Covington Fire Department in 2011 to become the first Community Awareness Resources & Education aka CARE officer which became a full-time position in 2014. In 2016 he received his Associate of Applied Science Degree as Emergency Services-EMT Paramedic from Dyersburg State Community College and served as an Adjunct Professor at DSCC-Jimmy Naifeh Campus in Covington teaching EMT classes from 2018-2020. Mark Heaston has taught CPR classes ever since 1989, and

WHEREAS, Mark Heaston has been very involved in his community throughout the years. He has been involved with Drug Free -Tipton, the Board of Children & Family Services, Board of the Tipton County Commission on Aging and is a member of the Evening Star Lodge #62, Free & Accepted Masons. He is also an active member of the Covington Rotary Club in which he has served as President and was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow in 2023. He is also a frequent and well received speaker at various civic clubs. He is a graduate of TOTAL Leadership Class of 2014 and the UTM WestStar Leadership Class of 2015. Mark Heaston is a life-long member of Canaan Missionary Baptist Church in Covington, and

WHEREAS, Mark Heaston is the father of three remarkable and outstanding children namely Marcus DeShawn Heaston, former Principal of Covington High School and now CEO of Heaston & Associates, Inc.; Mia Ann Heaston Beniot, a former Miss Illinois USA and Senior Accountant Manager at Alcon Laboratories in Charlotte, NC; and Dr. Marlon Pierre Heaston, an Executive Principal in the Metro Nashville Public Schools, and

WHEREAS, Mark E. Heaston retired from the City of Covington on his 65th birthday on the 19th of January 2024. He will be missed by all his colleagues at the City of Covington, and we extend our best wishes to him in all his future endeavors, and

THEREFORE, NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mark Everett Heaston, a dedicated public servant of this community, is hereby, by this Resolution, honored and commended, for his untiring and selfless service to the citizens of Covington as well as to the community at large and a copy of this Resolution shall be spread upon the Minutes of this Board. This, the 13th day of February 2024.

RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS, APPLICANT intends to apply for and accept a Rural Utility Service Loan and/or Grant to be administered by the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA RD) herein called the Government in an amount not to exceed \$1,400,000.00 under the terms offered by the Government. The purpose of said funds is to assist in the Utility Department. Furthermore, The Board of Mayor and Aldermen is hereby authorized and empowered to take all action necessary or appropriate in the execution of all written instruments as may be required in regard to or as evidence of such financial assistance; and to operate the facilities under the terms offered by the government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Covington has duly adopted this resolution and caused to be executed by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen on this 13th day of February, 2024.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

(SEAL)

Attest: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

A T & T	VARIOUS	TELEPHONE SERVICE	1,997.49
A T & T	POLICE	TELEPHONES SERVICES	2,172.42
A2H	STREET	ENGINEERING SERVICES	3,210.00
A2H	STREET	ENGINEERING SERVICES	1,880.00
A2H	SEWER	ENGINEERING SERVICES	4,000.00
A2H	SEWER	ENGINEERING SERVICES	4,000.00
A2H	SEWER	ENGINEERING SERVICES	2,000.00
ACCURATE LAW ENFORCEMENT	POLICE	AMMUNITION	2,320.00
AMERICAN EXPRESS	VARIOUS/SW	MISC PURCHASES/CONTRACTED SERVICES	96,439.23
AXON ENTERPRISE	POLICE	TASER 60 YR - 4 PMTS	7,650.00
BFI NORTH SHELBY LANDFILL	WWTP	SLUDGE REMOVAL	5,966.08
BFI NORTH SHELBY LANDFILL	WWTP	SLUDGE REMOVAL	3,737.54
BNY MELLON	BIOMASS	INTEREST PYMT ON BOND	5,580.75
CADENCE BANK	VARIOUS	MISCELLANEOUS PURCHASES	2,630.56
CHRISTIAN GEARY ELECTRIC	PARKS & REC	POOL LIGHTS	1,000.00
CON-TIPTON EMER MGMT	CIV DEFENSE	1ST QTR SHARE OF EXPENSE	\$ 12,194.01
COTTRELL ELECTRIC INC	WTP	LABOR/MAT TRANSFORM CIR PANEL INSTALL	3,071.22
COTTRELL ELECTRIC INC	WWTP	RVICE CALL-CK - REPLACE SLUDGE PUMP MOTOR	3,164.63
COVINGTON ELECTRIC	ALL	ELECTRIC SERVICE	42,613.64
FORD CONSTRUCTION CO	STREET	JAMES AVENUE IMPROVEMENT	53,106.10
G & C SUPPLY CO INC	WATER	MATERIALS	2,015.00
HC3	W/WTR/SWR/GAS	BILLING / SUPPLIES	3,112.89
HC3	W/WTR/SWR/GAS	BILLING / SUPPLIES	3,143.17
HOME DEPOT	VARIOUS	MISCELLANEOUS PURCHASES	1,963.94
INTEGRATED CONSTRUCTION	WWTP	OUTBOARD BEARING CHANGE OUT (2)	\$ 4,600.00
INTEGRATED LLC	POLICE	INSTALLATION KIT / LABOR	2,550.00
K2 SCIENTIFIC	WTP	REFRIGERATOR	2,734.25
LRK ARCHITECTS DESIGN PLANI	CODES	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	4,359.52
MID SOUTH SUPPLIERS	STREET	ROAD SALT	2,529.60
MID SOUTH SUPPLIERS	STREET	ROAD SALT	2,680.40
PURVIS INDUSTRIES	WWTP	MATERIALS / REPAIRS	9,895.02
ROSE CONSTRUCTION	PARKS & REC	REPAIRS - BOYS & GIRLS CLUB	20,920.00
ROSE CONSTRUCTION	FIRE	STRUCTURAL REPAIR TO DOOR - S STATION	12,700.00
ROSE CONSTRUCTION	FIRE	DOOR STRUCTURAL REPAIR	12,700.00
RYE ENGINEERING	WTP	METER TESTING SERVICES	1,737.78
SOUTHWEST TN EMC	AP/SW/GAS/SSA	ELECTRIC SERVICE	2,050.01
SULLIVAN NATURAL GAS SERVICE	GAS	REPAIRS	1,500.00
SYMMETRY	GAS	PURCHASED NATURAL GAS	154,370.47
TIPTON COUNTY	GENERAL	REIMBURSEMENT - VCIF GRANT	84,223.00
TN PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION	GAS	INSPECTION FEE COMPUTATION	1,878.90
UNION CITY PAVING	STREET	RR CROSSING - E RIPLEY AVE - PROJECT	27,640.75
UNION CITY PAVING	STREET	VARIOUS STREETS	54,161.44
WALMART	VARIOUS	MISCELLANEOUS PURCHASES	1,767.97
WESTENN FENCE CO	PARKS & REC	FRASIER PARK FENCE	14,560.00
		TOTAL	\$ 688,527.78