

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

December 2, 2024

Mayor Lee Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The following roll call was taken for council:

Council Members Present:

- Amy Welborn
- Jesse Reynolds
- Julie Blumenstock
- Dawn Duff
- Derrick Canan
- Martin Leistner

Non-member Staff participating:

- Frank Patrizio – Legal Counsel
- Tim Cline – Police Chief
- Rhonda Gill - Fiscal Officer

Proclamations:

Mayor Lee Harmon read Proclamation 02-24 to recognize Siegel's Country Store, owners and founders, Ben and Theresa Siegel and John and Kathy Siegel, for 20 years of service.

Mayor Harmon read Proclamation 03-24 to recognize owners Jason and Pam Sommer for, for 21 years of service operating the Subway on High St.

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (November 18, 2024)

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A motion was made to accept the consent agenda by Ms. Wellborn, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

Visitors

None.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Lee Harmon reported Hometown Christmas had a good crowd. Santa Claus was at the Government Center and there was a good number of vendors. The Mayor stated how happy he was to see so much support and thanked all those who participated in putting the event together.

Administrator's Report

Tyler Rench, Village Administrator stated the seeding began at the WWTP. Once the village experiences success, they will begin seeding the remaining beds.

Work continues at the Government Center. The exterior is nearly complete but we would need to wait on the roofing company to finish their task before being able to finalize the exterior work.

The roofing company should be back soon to complete the roof. Crews are currently working on moving out equipment and cleaning the parking lot.

The work on the housing development is going strong. Asphalt companies are closing for the winter, so there will be conversations with the developer and the Village to contemplate the next steps.

The Village now has the two fire hydrants back in service. Dodd and Pearl Street, and Wenrick and Maple Street.

The area of St. Rt. 36 and Pearl Street is bumpy due to a watermain break causing the road to be dug up. The village crews will continue to fill and pack over the winter.

Discussion Items

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Mr. Rench explained the Government Center is still under construction but could begin having the council meetings at the center. All attendees should enter off High Street entrance.

Old Business

Ordinance 20-24 – An ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Covington, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025.

Mr. Rench stated there were no changes from the previous reading.

A motion to approve Ordinance 20-24 was made by Ms. Blumenstock, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 21-24 – An ordinance establishing a street opening permit for the Village of Covington.

Mr. Rench stated there were no changes from the previous reading.

A motion to approve Ordinance 21-24 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 22-24 - An ordinance amending the employee manual - Section 5.03 – Vacation Leave.

Mr. Rench indicate this is the third reading reflecting the language changes requested and approved by the Council in section 5.03 subsection B.

A motion to approve Ordinance 22-24 was made by Ms. Blumenstock, seconded by Mr. Leistner. Mr. Reynolds, aye; Mr. Leistner, aye; Ms. Duff, aye; Mr. Canan, abstain; Ms. Welborn, aye; Ms. Blumenstock, aye. Motion passed.

Resolution R33-24 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract for the deposit of village funds with Minster Bank.

Mr. Rench stated there were no changes from the previous reading.

A motion to approve Resolution R33-24 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

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Ordinance 23-24 – An ordinance repealing and replacing the salary ordinance for the Village of Covington.

Mr. Rench stated there were no changes from the previous reading. He asked if council had any further questions or comments. There were none.

Third reading will be held on December 16th, 2024

New Business

Ordinance 24-24 – An ordinance amending the personnel policy – Section 5.13 – Group Health Insurance.

Mr. Rench explained this would make the Village of Covington more competitive with other employers. The proposed change would need to be annually revisited in the beginning.

Currently the health insurance premium is covered at a rate of 85% by the village; 15%, by the employee.

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments

Chief Cline thanked everyone who came out for the Hometown Christmas parade. There were over 100 kids who visited with Santa.

Mayor Harmon informed the council there will not be a decorating contest this year due to the large number of projects that are ongoing.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.

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Mayor



Fiscal Officer



Council President

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