

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 6, 2025

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

Council Members Present:

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

Non-member Staff participating:

- Jordan Hodges – Village Administrator
- Rhonda Gill – Fiscal Officer
- Tim Cline – Police Chief
- Frank Patrizio – Legal Counsel

Excused Absence:

- Derrick Canan

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (September 15, 2025, meeting)
- August Check Report
- August Fund Report/YTD Fund Report
- August Balancing Report
- August Income Tax Report

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds, aye; Mr. Leistner, aye; Ms. Duff, aye; Mr. Canan, absent; Ms. Welborn, aye; Ms. Blumenstock, aye. Motion passed.

Visitors

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1 South High Street, Covington, OH 45318
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Robert Kener, 7764 Ingle Road, Covington, OH, asked about updates on the proposed bike path.

Mr. Hodges shared that it is all in the preliminary discussion phases at this time. The desired route would be to use the railroad area. The route would stop roughly around Rakestraw Road. Currently working on easements and right of ways.

Mayor's Report

None.

Administrator's Report

Jordan Hodges, Village Administrator, shared photos of the Stillwater Dam project. Currently, the Village is working with Flatland and ODNR. There will be stairs added to the east side of the dam. There are some asphalt and miscellaneous items to be completed. Looking at options for additional use of funds for Community Park.

The Village is currently waiting on Kinetic to remove lines that run under the railroad track on N. Main Street. This is slowing progress to remove the railroad, plan for the bike path, and open N. Main Street for traffic.

Proposals for the bike path from Access Engineering and Kleinfelder's are very different.

Mr. Hodges stated the DRD is currently working on guidelines. They meet the 4th Monday at 2:00 PM. Residents are welcome to attend.

The splashpad is currently open. Notice will be placed on Facebook when they close.

Leaf collection has begun and will be completed as weather and time permit. No other additional yard waste will be collected.

The Village is working with another website provider to revamp content and look.

Trick-or-treat will be October 30th from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

Covington Christmas Committee has been working on plans for Covington Hometown Christmas, which will be held November 28th. The parade will begin at 5:30 PM, with the tree lighting at 5:45 PM. The festivities will end at 7:30 PM.

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The gates at WWTP are in and will be activated once the asphalt and the pole barn have been installed.

The WWTP and water department were both hit by lightening on the weekend of September 21st and 22nd. The Village crews did a great job responding and insuring the residents were not affected.

The Village offices will be closed October 13th for the holiday so trash will be delayed one day.

Discussion Items

Outdoor Events – no discussion due to requested Councilmember absence

Councilmember, Julie Blumenstock, reported she had spoken with John Hackett to receive permission to use the north side of his business for a mural. Ms. Blumenstock has been in contact with the Duke Foundation regarding funding. She will continue to update the council as she receives information.

Old Business

None

New Business

Ordinance 09-25 – An ordinance to modify revenues and appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Covington, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Hodges explained this would allow modifications to appropriations for payments necessary from various funds to maintain and run the Village.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Ordinance 09-25 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Ordinance 09-25 was made by Ms. Blumenstock, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 10-25 – An ordinance to transfer funds from the General Fund (#10) to the Fire/EMS Fund (#15) during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Hodges explained the revenues were down from what Miami County anticipated. This would allow the Village to pay the remainder of money owed to the Covington Fire and EMS per the contract. This is an emergency.

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A motion to waive the three-reading for Ordinance 10-25 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Ordinance 10-25 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments

Chief Line reminded everyone that the Costume contest will be held on Tuesday, October 28. The parade begins at 7:00 PM and begins on Wright Street.

Executive Session

There was a need to go into executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official by division (G)(1) of section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

A motion to go into executive session was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. All ayes. Entered executive session at 7:21 PM.

A motion to leave executive session was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed at 8:54PM

Adjournment

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06PM

Lee Harmon, Mayor

Rhonda Gill, Fiscal Officer

Amy Welborn, President of Council

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