

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 22, 2026

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
- Derrick Canan
- Jesse Reynolds
- Steven Blei
- Martin Leistner

Non-member Staff participating:

- Jordan Hodges – Village Administrator
- Lisa Cavender – Fiscal Officer
- Aaron Zuhl – Acting Police Chief

Excused Absence:

- Amy Welborn

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (June 1, 2026, Meeting)
- May Check Report
- May Fund Report/YTD Fund Report
- May Balancing Report
- May Income Tax Report

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

Visitors

None

Mayor's Report

Mayor Harmon noted that the Bucc Booster tournament was great and he hoped everyone had a Happy Father's Day.

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Administrator's Report

Mr. Hodges stated that the grant presentation to UVMC for the amphitheater will be on August 6th. He also noted that they had a great planning commission meeting last week and he updated council that the school zone is currently in the hands of ODOT. He is waiting to hear back from them mid next week.

Discussion Items

None

Old Business

Resolution R29-26 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into an agreement with OR Colan related to the donation of right-of-way and easements for the Broadway project.

Mr. Hodges stated this would allow the village to donate easements for property owned by the village for the Broadway project.

Third reading will be on July 6, 2026.

Resolution R30-26 – A resolution approving the alternative tax document.

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution will approve the tax budget for fiscal year 2027 which is required to be submitted to the Miami County Budget Commission by July 20th of each year.

Third reading will be on July 6, 2026.

New Business

Resolution R32-26 – An emergency resolution confirming the appointment of Village Marshall

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution would confirm the appointment of David Friend as the new Police Chief for the village.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 32-26 was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution 32-26 was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance O10-26 – An ordinance repealing and replacing the salary ordinance for the Village of Covington declaring an emergency

Mr. Hodges stated this ordinance is necessary to be changed for the position of Police Chief since the position will now be salaried by contract. Police Chief is the only change to Exhibit A.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Ordinance 10-26 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Ordinance 10-26 was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

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Ordinance O11-26 – An ordinance amending Ordinance 15-23 for the Covington Downtown Redevelopment District (DRD)

Mr. Hodges stated this ordinance would amend the previously approved Exhibit A with a new Exhibit A for the DRD district. Once approved by council, this is also required to be approved by the State of Ohio.

Mr. Leistner spoke about the recent DRD meetings and that the group is looking to save for some bigger projects, such as, demolition of the old Sellman's building and paving a parking lot. However, to do that, the map needs to be amended.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Ordinance 11-26 was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Ordinance 11-26 was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments

Acting Police Chief Zuhl noted the tornado sirens were delivered and they are scheduled to be installed on July 6th if the power pole they need is delivered in time.

Ms. Blumenstock stated that everything was going great with the mural and she has had nothing but positive feedback from the community. They had many people volunteer their time to the project bringing the community together. There will be a photo op half an hour before the next council meeting.

Executive Session

Mayor Hamon indicated there was a need to have an 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. There is to be no action taken.

A motion to go into executive session was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Entered executive session at 7:15 p.m.

A motion to leave executive session was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed at 8:10 p.m.

Adjournment

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Blei. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12p.m.

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Lee Harmon, Mayor

Lisa Cavender, Fiscal Officer

Martin Leistner, President of Council

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