

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

JULY 06, 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
- Amy Welborn

Non-member Staff participating:

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

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (June 22, 2026, Meeting)

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

Visitors

None

Swearing In Ceremony

Mayor Harmon welcomed the family and friends of Mr. Friend. Mayor Harmon swore in Mr. Friend as the new Police Chief for the Village of Covington. Mayor Harmon expressed that he is looking forward to Dave starting and it is going to be a good relationship. Mr. Friend thanked all his family and friends for coming to wish him well and for all their support. He also thanked council for hiring him and expressed that he will do the best he can for as long as he can.

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Mayor's Report

None

Administrator's Report

Mr. Hodges stated the school zone at Chestnut had been approved by ODOT and he would be meeting with police and public works to review and then have something for them at the next meeting. He gave council an update on the Broadway project noting that the sewer lines have been completed. He stated they are currently working on the water lines and hope to be completed by the first week of August. The annual Touch-a-Truck will be held on July 18th at the public library from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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 is the third reading of this resolution and it would allow the village to donate easements for property owned by the village for the Broadway project.

A motion to approve Resolution 29-26 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed

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

Mr. Hodges stated this is the third reading of this resolution and it 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.

A motion to approve Resolution 30-26 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

New Business

Resolution R33-26 – A resolution approving a first amendment to the Village Administrator employment contract.

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution would amend the current contract for the Village Administrator. Mr. Leistner asked if Lee and Jordan were both happy with the terms and they both agreed. He praised them for working well together to negotiate the amendment.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 33-26 was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution 33-26 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

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Resolution R34-26 – A resolution approving a first amendment to the Village Marshall employment contract.

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution would amend the current contract for the Police Chief, adding a stipend for health insurance. This amendment is an agreeable arrangement between both parties.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 34-26 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution 34-26 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments

None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Blei. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Lee Harmon, Mayor

Lisa Cavender, Fiscal Officer

Martin Leistner, President of Council

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