

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 03, 2026

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

Council Members Present:

- Derrick Canan
- Jesse Reynolds
- Steven Blei
- Martin Leistner
- Amy Welborn
- Julie Blumenstock

Non-member Staff participating:

- Jordan Hodges – Village Administrator
- Lisa Cavender – Fiscal Officer
- David Friend – Police Chief

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (July 20, 2026, Meeting)

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

Visitors

None

Mayor's Report

None

Administrator's Report

Mr. Hodges had several updates for the council for various ongoing projects. He explained that concrete and asphalt still need to be completed on the Broadway project. The concrete was pushed back due to weather, but he is hopeful that the project will be complete by Aug. 14th. He informed council that Lee and him will be presenting to UVMC on Thursday, Aug 6th for the village grant application that was submitted for the amphitheater. At the next planning meeting, they will be discussing the zoning code audit and the bike path if anyone would like to attend on

VILLAGE OF COVINGTON

1 South High Street, Covington, OH 45318
phone: (937) 473-3420 | www.villageofcovington.com

Tuesday, Aug 18th. The DRD map was amended and we are just waiting for approval from the school board before the State of Ohio will approve the amendment. Brandon is waiting on doors before he can begin working on the small conference room. As we continue to work on the SLIM inventory required by the EPA, there will be surveys on Facebook and included in the utility bills to gather the necessary data.

Discussion Items

The council discussed current regulations for E-bikes and scooters. Chief Friend stated that these types of transportation devices are now a leading cause of injuries. He noted the Ohio Revised Code only requires helmets for Class 3 e-bike operators and passengers. He has some example legislation from Minster and was hoping to have an ordinance that would help ease the people into wearing helmets. The mayor mentioned an old ordinance targeting the uptown area from the past regarding toy vehicles. After discussion, Jordan and Chief will come up with some ideas and look at some model legislation and bring back for further discussion.

The next item for discussion was Hometown Christmas. The village is hoping that the Covington Events Association (CEA) would be willing to take over this event and Jordan wanted to make sure council agreed with this approach. After much discussion, everyone agreed and Mr. Canan will touch base with CEA and see if they are also in agreement. He stated that the CEA is eager to take on these types of events for the community.

Old Business

None

New Business

Resolution 35-26 – A resolution opposing AES Ohio’s request to increase distribution rates and requesting that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio deny the utility’s request.

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution would show that the village opposes AES Ohio’s request to increase their distribution rates.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 35-26 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Cana. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution 35-26 was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution 36-26 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator of the Village of Covington, Ohio to prepare and submit an application to participate in the OPWC State Capital Improvement and/or local transportation improvement programs and to execute contracts as required.

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution would allow him to submit the application to OPWC for their grant improvement programs to apply for the US36 project expected to be completed in 2028.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 36-26 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

VILLAGE OF COVINGTON

1 South High Street, Covington, OH 45318
phone: (937) 473-3420 | www.villageofcovington.com

A motion to approve Resolution 36-26 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution 37-26 – A resolution to levy a special assessment for the purpose of paying the cost of lighting the streets in the village of Covington, Ohio for the year 2027.

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution is an annual item that needs passed so the street lighting can be assessed for next year. This resolution will be due to the County Auditor in September.

Second reading will be on August 17, 2026.

Resolution 38-26 – A resolution levying assessments upon various lots and lands located in the Village of Covington for failure to pay utilities.

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution would allow the village to assess unpaid utilities. This resolution will be due to the County Auditor in September.

Second reading will be on August 17, 2026.

Resolution 39-26 – A resolution levying assessments upon various lots and lands located in the Village of Covington for nuisance abatement.

Mr. Hodges stated this resolution would allow the village to assess nuisance abatements. This resolution will be due to the County Auditor in September.

Second reading will be on August 17, 2026.

Council also approved the special event application for Fort Rowdy Gathering over Labor Day weekend.

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments

Chief Friend stated we have a new officer on the horizon. He is hoping that we will have all employment items back so we can do the swearing in at the next meeting. He reminded everyone that National Night Out is Tuesday, Aug 4th from 5pm to 9pm at the Community Park in Troy.

Ms. Welborn stated the ribbon cutting for the Wild Grove Tattoo Studio is this Friday at 5pm.

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. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Entered executive session at 8:05 p.m.

A motion to leave executive session was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed at 8:26 p.m.

VILLAGE OF COVINGTON

1 South High Street, Covington, OH 45318
phone: (937) 473-3420 | www.villageofcovington.com

Adjournment

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Blei. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Lee Harmon, Mayor

Lisa Cavender, Fiscal Officer

Martin Leistner, President of Council

VILLAGE OF COVINGTON

1 South High Street, Covington, OH 45318
phone: (937) 473-3420 | www.villageofcovington.com