

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 17, 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
- Amy Welborn
- Julie Blumenstock

Non-member Staff participating:

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

Excused Absence:

- Martin Leistner

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (August 3, 2026, Meeting)
- July Check Report
- July Fund Report/YTD Fund Report
- July Balancing Report
- July Income Tax Report

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

Visitors

None

Swearing In Ceremony

Mayor Harmon welcomed the family of Mr. Keringten Martin. Mayor Harmon swore in Mr. Martin as a new Police Officer for the Village of Covington. The Council congratulated Mr. Martin. Chief

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Friend congratulated Mr. Martin and expressed how wonderful it was to see a full council chamber of family and friends there to support him.

Mayor's Report

None

Administrator's Report

Mr. Hodges had several updates for the council for various ongoing projects. He explained that Broadway street was now open and paving will happen weather permitting in the next week. Mr. Hodges has received language for possible E-bike legislation and he is still in the process of reviewing everything to get something ready for the next meeting. He stated that Grid Growth Ventures will hold a public information meeting for Miami County on Sept. 30th at Romer's Catering in Piqua from 4-7:30 p.m. Mr. Hodges noted that the planning commission meeting had to be rescheduled and it will now be on Tuesday, September 1st. He reminded everyone offices will be closed on Monday, September 7th for Labor Day and the next council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 8th.

Discussion Items

Mr. Hodges noted that he and the mayor presented at UVMC for the grant related to the Amphitheater. They have had some conversations with them since and they are expecting to hear from them by the end of next week with an update.

Old Business

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 is the second reading of this resolution. It 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.

Third reading will be on September 8, 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 is the second reading of this resolution and it would allow the village to assess unpaid utilities. This resolution will be due to the County Auditor in September.

Third reading will be on September 8, 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 is the second reading of this resolution and it would allow the village to assess nuisance abatements. This resolution will be due to the County Auditor in September.

Third reading will be on September 8, 2026.

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New Business

Resolution 40-26 – An emergency resolution confirming the appointment of a law enforcement officer.

Mr. Hodges stated this would allow the village to employ Keringten Martin as a police officer for the Village of Covington beginning as soon as possible.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 40-26 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution 40-26 was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments

Chief Friend noted they have been active on Facebook with a recent public service announcement (PSA) regarding the Chestnut School Zone and that they would also be issuing other PSAs for E-bikes/scooters and back to school as well.

Ms. Blumenstock noted she had met the new owners of the Covington Body Shop recently. She said they were very nice helping her through an issue she had and she invited them to visit a council meeting in the future.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Lee Harmon, Mayor

Lisa Cavender, Fiscal Officer

Martin Leistner, President of Council

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