COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 19, 2026

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

Council Members Present:

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

Non-member Staff participating:

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

Excused Absence:

- Derrick Canan

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (October 5, 2026, Meeting)
- September Check Report
- September Fund Report/YTD Fund Report
- September Balancing Report
- September Income Tax Report

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

Visitors

Susan Jenkins, 418 S Pearl St., started by thanking council and the Village Administrator for taking care of the items she brought to their attention the last time she attended a meeting. She came to voice concerns regarding several properties that have been purchased by the same owner as rental properties near and around her residence. She also noted that not one of the new lots in the development have been sold yet and she practices riding her e-bike in the area, which was another reason she came tonight, to learn about the Ordinance regarding e-bikes.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Harmon noted the upcoming workshops he would like to have with two council members at a time to get them more involved in the budget process to review the 2027 budget. The 4pm meeting will be for the General Fund and will be attended by Ms. Blumenstock and Mr. Blei. The 5pm meeting will be Public Works with Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Leistner and the 6pm meeting will be Ms. Welborn and Mr. Canan discussing Utilities.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Hodges stated that he is working on valve replacements at the water plant and a bid will be completed and issued soon. He noted the Broadway project is in final stages of closeout and he is working through some final small issues with Finfrock Construction, noting they have been great to work with. Before year end, Mr. Hodges is working to complete a capital improvement plan for the village. Finally, he announced that Trick or Treat will be October 29th 6pm-8pm.

Discussion Items

Mr. Hodges wanted to again discuss the option of getting tablets for council meetings so council packets could be reviewed electronically and this would avoid the extreme amount of paper that is used to create council packets for each meeting. After a small discussion, council agreed to the purchase of tablets in the future 2027 budget going with whatever would be the most cost-effective solution.

Old Business

Ordinance 13-26 – An ordinance for operating or riding on an electric bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device.
Mr. Hodges stated that this is the third reading to enact rules and regulations for e-bikes and scooters. It does not apply to motorized wheelchairs.

A motion to amend Ordinance 13-26 was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Ordinance 13-26 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 15-26 – An ordinance repealing and replacing Ordinance 01-16 regulating vehicular parking on High Street and city owned municipal parking lots.
Mr. Hodges stated this is the third reading of this ordinance and the only change is the parking time for village owned lots. The current no parking time from 11pm – 5am is being changed to 2am – 5am.

A motion to approve Ordinance 15-26 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 16-26 – An ordinance repealing and replacing the High Street Banner Program with The Banner Program within the Village of Covington.

Mr. Hodges stated this is the third reading to replace the current program to allow the village to put the Hometown Heroes banners on other poles throughout the village in addition to the poles on High Street.

A motion to amend Ordinance 16-26 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Ordinance 16-26 was made by Mr. Blei, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution 44-26 – A resolution to adopt a Cybersecurity Program pursuant to R.C. 9.64.
Mr. Hodges explained this is the third reading of this resolution to adopt the NIST Cybersecurity Framework, which is the generally accepted best practice.

A motion to approve Resolution 44-26 was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution 45-26 – A resolution declaring certain equipment and materials as surplus and authorizing the Village Administrator to dispose of said equipment.
Mr. Hodges explained this is the third reading of this resolution and it will allow him to dispose of obsolete equipment and materials at the public auction in November.

A motion to amend Resolution 45-26 was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution 45-26 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution 47-26 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Covington Events Association.
Mr. Hodges explained that this is the third reading of the resolution which would allow him to enter into a MOU for event management and coordination with the Covington Events Association.

A motion to approve Resolution 47-26 was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Mr. Blei. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution 48-26 – A resolution authorizing the clerk to approve an application for agricultural district.
Mr. Hodges explained that this is the third reading of this resolution to approve agricultural property within the village.

A motion to approve Resolution 48-26 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution 49-26 – A resolution authorizing and naming of the amphitheater within the park as the Roy J Weikert Amphitheater and the Premier Health UVMC Community Benefit Fund Plaza.

Mr. Hodges explained that this is the second reading of this resolution authorizing the naming of the new amphitheater and plaza in recognition of the funding assistance provided for the project

Third reading will be November 2, 2026.

New Business
None

Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments
Police Sergeant Zuhl noted everything was ready for the Halloween costume contest on Tuesday, October 27th from 6-9pm.

Executive Session
None

Adjournment
A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leistner, seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

_____
Lee Harmon, Mayor

_____
Lisa Cavender, Fiscal Officer

_____
Martin Leistner, President of Council