

# COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

**February 5, 2024**

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
- Martin Leistner
- Amy Welborn
- Julie Blumenstock
- Dawn Duff
- Jesse Reynolds

### **Non-member Staff participating:**

- Frank Patrizio – Legal Counsel
- Rhonda Gill - Fiscal Officer
- Tim Cline – Police Chief
- Aaron Zuhl – Police Officer

### **Consent Agenda:**

The consent agenda included:

- Approval of Council Minutes (January 16, 2024, and January 23, 2024, Special Meeting)
- December 2023 Monthly/YTD Fund Balance Reports
- December 2023 Check Report

There were no comments or questions.

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

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### **Visitors**

Susan Jenkins, 418 S. Pearl Street, Covington, spoke of the danger associated with a resident driving over the embankment at the end of Dodd Street and St. Rt 41. She asked to have the issue reviewed to determine if there could be an additional sign placed in the area. Ms. Jenkins also expressed her concerns regarding property maintenance at 430 S. Pearl Street.

Ms. Jenkins inquired about the fire hydrant repair on the corner of Pearl and St. Rt. 41. Mayor Harmon indicated it has been delayed but is on the list for repair.

Ms. Jenkins closed with high praises of the Village of Covington and the work being completed at Schoolhouse Park. She expressed a desire to volunteer to bring in groups for concerts at the park and would like to see the first concert dedicated to first responders.

Valerie Mullikin, 5905 Piqua Clayton Road, Piqua, shared with council the Covington High School has their first swim team and encourages the community students to become involved.

The council thanked each for sharing.

### **Discussion Items**

Chief Tim Cline gave an update on progress at the Government Center. The project is still in the demo state. All the walls have been removed. The workers are finding large amounts of water infiltration and mold, which was expected. The north side of the building had an area of approximately 10 feet without insulation. The project is proceeding well. The generator will be approximately 10 weeks. Meetings take place every two weeks. The roof work should begin in March.

Mayor Harmon informed the Council there will be trailers parked in front of the Sellman's building while the new owner does work. The Police Chief is working with the owner about the parking arrangements.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

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Ordinance 05-24 – An ordinance amending the 1992 official zoning map of the Village of Covington and changing the zoning designation of a certain parcel.

Mayor Harmon stated a public meeting was held on January 23, 2024, with adjacent property owners. There was good feedback with the meeting being very positive. There were a couple minor items brought forward for consideration.

Ms. Welborn shared she was impressed with the detail provided by the builders. There are model homes in Versailles.

Ms. Blumenstock noted the residents who attended had excellent questions which were answered well by the builders.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Ordinance 05-24 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Ordinance 05-24 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

Legal Counsel, Frank Patrizio, noted Ordinance 05-24 requires a 30-day waiting period before any action can begin.

Resolution R06-24 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator or Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Miami County Demolition Reutilization Corporation.

Mayor Harmon reminded everyone this is a county project to tear down 184 and 188 N. High Street. To keep things moving with the project, Mayor Harmon asked the council to consider waiving the three-reading rule.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R06-24 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution R06-24 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Duff. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution R07-24 – A resolution authorizing the mayor to execute an agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for Village of Covington's Stillwater Dam removal Project.

The village has been awarded funds in the amount of \$500,00 to remove the Stillwater Dam and make improvements to the river.

A meeting is currently scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup>, but we are attempting to reschedule after the new Village administrator is on board.

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There were no additional questions or concerns.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R07-24 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution R07-24 was made by Mr. Canan, seconded by Ms. Welborn. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution R08-24 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator or Mayor to approve a change order for the Schoolhouse Park Project.

Mayor Harmon explained this change order relates to the splashpad. The Health Department did not like the plumbing and was concerned with water pooling. Mayor Harmon asked the council to consider waiving the three-reading rule as construction is at a halt until approved.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R08-24 was made by Ms. Duff, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve Resolution R08-24 was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Leistner. All ayes. Motion passed.

Resolution R09-24 – A resolution authorizing the Village Administrator or Mayor to execute a temporary easement agreement.

Mayor Harmon explained this resolution dovetails into the demo. The demolition company is asking for a temporary easement for the neighboring property. The easement falls off after the demolition is complete.

The demolition is expected to begin in March and to keep things rolling, Mayor Harmon asks the council to consider waiving the three-reading rule.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution R09-24 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Ms. Blumenstock. All ayes. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Resolution R09-24 was made by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. All ayes. Motion passed.

### **Police Chief and Elected Official's Comments**

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Chief Cline stated the training for the two new officers will be ending their training. Both have done a great job. This will be the first time the police have had a full staff since October.

Chief Cline addressed concerns he had received regarding the light sensor for Bridge and High Street intersection. The sensor prioritizes traffic based on information it receives from five directions of traffic and appears to be working properly.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Canan made a motion to go into executive session at 7:40 PM under ORC 121.22(G) (1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, seconded by Mr. Reynolds.

Ms. Welborn made a motion to leave executive session at 7:48 PM, seconded by Mr. Canan. All ayes, motion passed.

### **Adjournment**

A final motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Leistner. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.



Fiscal Officer



Mayor

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