

COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Covington Village Council met in a regular meeting on December 21, 2015 at the Village office at 1 S. High St. Covington. Mayor Ed McCord called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following roll call was taken for council:

Present	Joyce Robertson Scott Tobias Bud Weer Lois Newman Keith Warner
Absent	Doris Beeman

The council packet included minutes from the 12/7/15 meeting, Village Administrator report, and the bill packets including checks #9070-9113.

Nonmembers present included Frank Patrizio-Attorney, Mike Busse-Village Administrator, Brenda Carroll-Fiscal Officer, Sam Wildow-reporter from Piqua Daily Call, Lee Harmon-Chief of Police, Brice Schmitmeyer-Access Engineering, and Village residents.

Agenda:

A motion was made by Tobias and seconded by Warner to revise the agenda from 1st reading on Ordinance 24-15 and 1st reading on Ordinance 25-15, to waive the 3 reading rule on Ordinance 24-15 and Ordinance 25-15. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes:

The minutes from the 12/7/15 meeting are approved as read.

Brice Schmitmeyer presented to Council detailed information regarding the Safe Routes to School project, and explained due to ODOT's additional acquisition requirements, an additional \$50,000 in 2016 would be required to finish the project. Brice explained if Council did not want to spend the additional expense, the project could not be completed and the Village would have to opt out of the ODOT grant. Council discussed and decided to finish the project.

Mayors Report

Mayor McCord updated Council on his monthly meetings and activities. Mayor McCord informed Council of the following:

Christmas Holiday – the Government Center will close at noon on December 24th and reopen on Monday, December 28th at 8:00 AM.

New Year's Holiday – the Government Center will close at noon on December 31st, and reopen on Monday, January 4th at 8:00 AM.

Council Meetings – Mayor McCord asked if Council wanted to continue having meetings on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month in 2016, and Council said yes.

Open Council Seats – three letters of interest have been received regarding the open Council seats. At the January 4th meeting, the three interested parties will address Council, and two new councilmembers will be appointed, and a new council president will be elected.

Approximately 50 people attended the School Land use meeting on December 14 discussing how the land can be utilized. The school superintendent requested a committee be formed of Village residents to discuss and decide the eventual use of the land.

The mayor asked Council to review 2016 Draft Goals, and discuss at next meeting.

Village Administrator Report-the following topics were addressed:

Data Server

The new data server is now online and is functioning properly

Electronic Sign

The sign communication issue has been corrected and we are able to program the sign.

2016 Budget

Brenda and I have prepared a 2016 draft budget and 2016 temporary appropriations for review, and Council will need to pass these temporary appropriations to allow us to process payroll and pay some initial bills the first week of January. The full budget will be passed in January 2016 after discussions and input from Council.

Safe Routes to School

Brice and Mr. Busse are continuing to work with ODOT to identify additional R/W takes required by ODOT. Brice updated Council on the project.

School Resource Officer

Chief Harmon and I met with Superintendent Gene Gooding to review the school resource officer program. Mr. Gooding stated the program is going very well, and Officer Tim Cline is doing a great job. We plan to meet quarterly to continue to evaluate the program.

Village Income Tax

Joy Bond has left the employment of the City of St. Marys, and Angie Brown has been appointed as the tax administrator for the City of St. Marys. As part of her duties, she will continue to administrate the Village of Covington's income tax collections. Income tax forms will be mailed to Village residents week of Decembert 28th.

Water Meter Replacement

Approximately 650 water meters have been replaced.

Bills/Financials

Motion to approve the 2016 Budget Draft, 2016 Temporary Appropriations, and bill packets including checks #9070-9113 was made by Warner and seconded by Newman. All ayes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion continued on Ordinance 1-16 regulating vehicular parking on High Street and in city owned municipal parking lots. Village residents brought up several issues including renters parking and if 2 hour limit is long enough for customers to visit their businesses. Mayor McCord brought up the issues the Village faces including street cleaning, and snow removal.

Discussion also continued on Ordinance 2-16 regarding long term parking on city streets. Campers, semis, trucks with trailers, and other large vehicles were discussed at great length with much input from Village residents. Also discussed was parking in front lawns and to the side of properties.

Council will review.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to waive the three reading rule on Ordinance 24-15 approving planning and zoning's recommendation to approve a replat of the Dale Sink properties was made by Robertson and seconded by Newman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Ordinance 24-15 was made by Newman and seconded by Weer. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to waive the three reading rule on Ordinance 25-15 to make temporary appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures for the Village of Covington during the fiscal year 2016 was made by Robertson and seconded by Newman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Ordinance 25-15 was made by Newman and seconded by Warner. All ayes. Motion carried.

Council set a public hearing for February 16, 2016 at 7:00 PM to review a zoning map amendment for the newly annexed school, Smith and Sink properties.

Vote to accept the resignation of Zack Smith as a part time police officer effective immediately.
All ayes.

Vote to accept the resignation of Rick Stephan as a part time maintenance worker effective
December 25, 2015. All ayes.

Vote to accept the resignation of Jim Hutchinson as a part time maintenance worker effective
December 25, 2015. All ayes.

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues at 8:50 PM made by
Robertson and seconded by Newman.

Motion to resume Regular Session at 9:05 PM made by Tobias and seconded by Robertson.

Motion to adjourn made by Weer and seconded by Newman. All ayes.
Meeting adjourned 9:06 PM.

Fiscal Officer

Mayor