

## COVINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Covington Village Council met in a regular meeting on April 15, 2019 at the Village office at 1 S. High St. Covington. Mayor McCord called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following roll call was taken for council:

Present	Keith Warner
	Dawn Duff
	Judy Smith
	Lois Newman
	Scott Tobias
	Bud Weer

Nonmembers present included Mike Busse-Village Administrator, Frank Patrizio-Village Attorney, Lee Harmon-Police Chief, and Sam Wildow-Piqua Daily Call Reporter.

### **Agenda:**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Newman and seconded by Warner. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Visitors:**

See attached Council Meeting Attendees List

The following visitors addressed Council:

Jay Wackler

Mr. Wackler did a presentation to the council and all attendees about the WW1 centennial monument that he is working on. He also discussed the Memorial Day parade and the event at the cemetery that will follow the parade. Council commended him on his hard work on this event.

Joyce Robertson

Mrs. Robertson addressed council concerning the current trash rates and the proposed rate increases to water and sewer bills. Mrs. Robertson requested council reconsider these proposed rate increases. Mrs. Robertson also voiced concern about the equipment the village has on hand to perform maintenance and provide services to the village and its residents.

Cathy Kendig

Mrs. Kendig requested that the village run the street sweeper and clean catch basins more often.

Adam VonAschen

Mr. VonAschen voiced concern about brush being removed from an adjacent property line and persons trespassing on his property. Mr. Busse told him the screening issue between his property and his neighbor's property would be addressed at the planning and zoning meeting on Wednesday May 17 and invited Mr. VonAschen to attend the meeting. Mr. Busse also directed Mr. VonAschen to call 911 if someone was trespassing on his property and the police department would respond to take a report and follow-up on the issue.

David Besecker

Mr. Besecker voiced concern about the water rates. He inquired about what was being done to save money on the utility expenses. Mr. Besecker also inquired about what was driving the proposed rate increases.

Kathy Miller

Mrs. Miller pointed out spelling errors on Ordinance 8-19 and voiced concern about some of the wording in this ordinance. Mr. Busse will make corrections to the spelling errors. Mrs. Miller also voiced concern about the lack of yellow painted curbs on Chestnut Street near the ball diamonds. Chief Harmon was asked to monitor the area for parking violations.

Nanette Gibson

Mrs. Gibson voiced concern about the proposed 3% utility increases in Ordinance 8-19. Mrs. Gibson stated that the latest report she read indicated an 18% poverty level in the village. She stated that the Social Security check did not go up 3% this past year.

### **Minutes**

Minutes from the 4/01/19 Council meeting will stand approved as presented.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor McCord updated Council on his weekly meetings and activities and reminded Council of the following: The Village has been awarded 4.9 million dollars in grants since Village Administrator Mike Busse was hired. This includes a \$500,000 grant for the wastewater treatment plant. Two loans have been obtained for the Wastewater Phase 1 project: \$375,000 0% loan and \$696,000 1% loan. Also, the Village has gotten a \$150,000 0% loan for the Lift Station.

**Village Administrator Report** – the following topics were addressed:

**Old Middle School Lots**

Mr. Busse has been in contact with Covington Superintendent Gooding about setting up closing on the two parcels currently owned by the Covington Board of Education, and they have agreed to close on these properties prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**South End Lift Station**

A new level sensor will be installed on the South End Lift Station April 16<sup>th</sup>. The gas service has been activated and we hope to have startup on the generator the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Zoning**

Planning and Zoning will have their monthly meeting April 17<sup>th</sup>. Several items will be discussed including a proposed parking lot for Fields of Grace and possible rezoning on their property, a R/W vacation exhibit for Perrigo, and the screening requirement for Dustin Kimmel's car lot parking.

**High Street Project**

We are continuing to discuss with ODOT proposed R/W takes for the project. Brice and Mr. Busse continue to update and submit information to ODOT as requested, and will keep Council updated as to our progress.

A community meeting will be held in late August or early September to discuss the progress of the project.

**Police Department Radio Repeater**

The Radio BDA (radio repeater) for this building has been installed and is working great. Thank you to the Community Chest for their kind donation and continued support of our emergency services.

**On-Line Backup**

The Village has a contract with Marias Technology for on-line backup. The cost is \$0.80 per GB of data backed up. Our current cost is approximately \$100.00 per month for this service. Marias is a local company that provides great support and we are very happy with their service. Recommending Council vote to authorize the Village Administrator to enter into a 12-month renewal for on-line backup services.

**Street Sweeping**

We have a proposal from Contract Sweepers to continue sweeping the downtown areas from 41 to Face Street including Wright Street. Their proposal is for \$248 per sweep twice per month or \$348 per sweep once per month. Recommending to Council that we contract with them at the \$348 once per month rate for the months of May through October 2019 (6 months).

**Gas Aggregation**

Covington gas aggregation customers have begun receiving notices from Volunteer Energy that Volunteer Energy is the Village's new gas aggregation supplier. Their service begins in May and will continue through April of 2021. The new rate of \$0.371 per CCF is down from the previous rate of \$0.423 per CCF.

**Economic Development**

KEC America has leased the Starbrook building on Industrial Drive. They will move in later this month, and will have seven employees to start. The company looks to hire two more employees soon and hopefully expand their business into the new facility.

**Financial Reports**

Motion to approve the financial reports was made by Newman and seconded by Smith. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

Motion to table the vote on Ordinance 8-19 amending the Water and Sewer rates for the Village of Covington until the May 6, 2019 meeting was made by Weer and seconded by Smith. All ayes. Motion carried.

**New Business**

Motion to vote to approve a 12-month renewal contract with Marias Technology for on-line backup services was made by Tobias and seconded by Smith. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2019 street sweeping contract with Contract Sweepers was made by Weer but motion died due to lack of a second.

Motion to adjourn made by Weer and seconded by Newman. All ayes.  
Meeting adjourned 9:47 PM.

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Fiscal Officer

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Mayor