

REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, CITY HALL, JANUARY 4, 2010 6:30 PM.

Mayor Kimberly C. Carter presided with Mayor Pro-Tem Keith Dalton, Council members: Chris Smith, Mike Whatley and Ocie Franklin, City Manager Steve Horton, City Clerk Tonya R. Grier, and City Attorney E. A. Crudup, Jr., present. Council members Hawnethia Williams and Janet A. Goodman were absent.

Council member Ocie Franklin opened the meeting with prayer.

1. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Franklin to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on December 21, 2009.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Carter discussed the Gainer property owner's request to table the final reading of an annexation ordinance and return it back to the Planning Commission for further review.

2. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Franklin to table the **final** reading of an annexation ordinance for the City of Covington until further review by the Planning Commission.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member Dalton, seconded by Council member Whatley to amend the agenda to add the following:

-Discussion/approval of the Covington Municipal Airport Capital Improvement Program and multiple funding applications.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Greg Shy thanked the Mayor and Council for their service and thanked the City of Covington Fire and Police Departments for their quick response to a house fire at 7141 Laseter Street.

Mr. Robert Clay was in attendance to discuss problems with storm water runoff across his property on Nelson Drive.

Keep Covington-Newton Beautiful Director Connie Waller, Chairman Michael St. Bernard, and board members were in attendance to discuss recent awards and projects. The board thanked the Mayor and Council for their support and will plant a tree in their honor in Turner Lake Park on Arbor Day February 19th at 11AM.

4. Motion made by Council member Smith, seconded by Council member Dalton to approve an application to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption only for:

**Dino's Gourmet Restaurant
9209 Highway 278 NE**

Motion carried unanimously.

- 5. Motion made by Council member Dalton, seconded by Council member Whatley to acknowledge receipt of the following and amend the Covington Redevelopment Authority meeting minutes to reflect Mayor Carter was in attendance:

Covington Planning Commission
January 12, 2010 agenda

Covington Redevelopment Authority
November 7, 2009 minutes
December 22, 2009 agenda and minutes

Motion carried unanimously.

Newton County resident Chris Jueschke was in attendance to request postponement of the adoption of a resolution supporting the creation of an Airport Authority until there can be more public discussion and disclosure regarding an authority.

- 6. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Smith to adopt a resolution to the Georgia Legislature supporting the creation of an Airport Authority.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 7. Motion made by Council member Dalton, seconded by Council member Whatley to authorize Information Systems Director Bobby Johnson to seek bids for a leased phone system.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 8. Motion made by Council member Franklin, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve the 2010 Appointments:

Municipal Court Judge	David Strickland
Emeritus Judge	Jerry O. Capes
City Attorney	Edward A. Crudup, Jr.
City Physician	Newton Medical

Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Franklin to appoint Mayor Pro-tem to sign checks in the absence of the Mayor and City Manager.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 10. Motion made by Council member Franklin, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve transferring uncollected utility bills receivable to bad debt expense.

April 2009 - \$82,494.23
May 2009 \$36,553.93

\$119,048.16

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Franklin to approve an invoice from URS for professional services in connection with the Turner Lake Round-A-Bout.

\$35,979.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Regional Adopt a Spring Coordinator Robert Phillips was in attendance and expressed concerns regarding the Gainer property annexation.

City Manager Steve Horton passed out invitations from Judge Horace Johnson for the annual Prayer Breakfast held Friday, January 8th.

Mr. Horton discussed bond validation documents sent by MEAG.

Mr. Horton informed everyone of the retirement reception for former Council member John A. Howard on Friday, January 22nd, 4PM until 7PM in the banquet room at the Turner Lake Complex.

Mr. Horton reminded everyone that due to the King Holiday the next Council Meeting will be Wednesday, January 20th.

Due to the weather, the Airport reopening has been postponed until January 22nd.

Mr. Horton discussed Planning and Zoning Office's court ordered demolitions.

Mr. Horton informed everyone that he anticipates receiving the City's annual financial audit later in the week.

12. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Franklin to approve the 2010-2015 Covington Municipal Airport Capital Improvement Program and execution of the funding applications.

\$185,300 S/E Phase II design - 95% Federal Participation, State & Local = 2.5% each

\$105,000 ALP update - 95% Federal Participation, State & Local = 2.5% each

\$295,000 Environmental Assessment (Phase 3) – 95% Fed, 2.5% State & Local

\$3,165,438 Fed reimbursement for land already purchased from Nisshinbo

\$2,278,862.45 Fed reimbursement for land already purchased from Ratchford

\$790,000 Glide Slope, localizer, and Bid/Construction Mgt. 75% state/25% local

Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Smith thanked former Council member Howard, City Manager Steve Horton and staff for their assistance during his transition.

Council member Franklin welcomed newly elected Council member Chris Smith.

Mayor Carter reminded everyone of the annual King Celebration being held Sunday, January 17th, 3PM in the Newton County High School Auditorium.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

Kimberly C. Carter, Mayor

Tonya R. Grier, City Clerk