

REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, CITY HALL, OCTOBER 19, 2009, 6:30 PM.

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

Father Randall Allen of St. Andrews Catholic Church opened the meeting with prayer.

Mayor Carter recognized visitors from the Leadership Newton County Program.

1. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the minutes from the Called Meeting held on September 10, 2009.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Franklin to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on October 5, 2009, as amended:

-Motion #2, para. 1, include: **“Council member Franklin withdrew the second.”**

-Motion #5, change to **“Turner”** Lake

-Page 3, para. 2, change to **“at”**

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the **final** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington:

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE COVINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE, ENACTED AND ADOPTED ON THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 6.06 OF THE SAID CODE RELATING TO **DOGS AND CATS**, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried with Council members Whatley, Goodman, Williams, Dalton, and Franklin voting for with Council member Howard voting against.

4. Motion made by Council member Howard, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve the **final** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 32 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, SO AS TO **CHANGE THE ACCEPTABLE MAXIMUM VALUE OF ANY GIFT, FAVOR OR OTHER THING OF VALUE OFFERED TO A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL, THE MAYOR, ANY OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF THE CITY; TO REPEAL ALL OTHER ACTS**

AND ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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

- Discussion/approval of a Stormwater Billing System invoice from Corus Group, LLC (DBA Corus360).
- Discussion/approval of Halloween street closures in the Clark’s Grove Neighborhood.
- Discussion/approval of a policy change regarding City street closures.
- Discussion/approval to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member Howard, seconded by Council member Dalton to approve applications to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption only for:

E-Z Trip
10125 Alcovy Road

QuickTrip Corp.
11124 Highway 142 NE

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve the **first** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington:

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE COVINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE, ENACTED AND ADOPTED ON THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF SECTION 3.04.010 OF THE SAID CODE RELATING TO **ISSUANCE OF PAYROLL AND OTHER CITY CHECKS**, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Dalton to approve the **first** reading of an ordinance for the City of Covington:

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE COVINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE, ENACTED AND ADOPTED ON THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TITLE 15 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE

PURPOSE OF AMENDING CHAPTER 15.36 (**SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL**) THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion made by Council member Williams, seconded by Council member Franklin to approve a Natural Gas County-Wide Safety Plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Dalton to approve additional costs associated with the Sidewalk Rehab Project.

\$17,435.51 approved requisition

\$ 4,534.32 additional cost

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Howard, seconded by Council member Williams to acknowledge receipt of the amended petition for annexation and rezoning of the Gainer property and authorize the City Attorney to proceed with notification to the County required by the Annexation State Law.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Dalton to approve a Stormwater Billing System invoice from Corus Group, LLC (DBA Corus360).

\$23,515.58

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve street closures in the Clark's Grove Neighborhood Halloween night, Saturday, October 31, 2009 from 6:30PM until 9PM.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion made by Council member Howard, seconded by Council member Whatley to authorize the City Manager and Mayor to approve permits for **City Street** closures.

Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Steve Horton discussed a meeting he will attend with the Electric Cities of Georgia to apply for grant funding for energy conservation and utility assistance.

Mr. Horton reminded the Mayor and Council of an agenda item for the November 2nd Council Meeting regarding establishing an Airport Authority.

Mr. Horton discussed the Covington Garden Club's 80th Anniversary and their plans to donate a granite bench to the City in Academy Springs Park.

Mayor Carter announced that Affordable Equity Partners have been granted their state tax credits and can proceed with plans for a Senior Housing Complex in the Harristown Community.

Mayor Carter discussed the Georgia Airport Association Conference she will attend.

Council member Williams announced she will be attending the GMA 5th District Meeting.

Council member Goodman described a trail tour she and the Mayor attended in Dekalb County.

Council member Whatley discussed plans for a curbing and guttering project in the Rivers Hill Community.

Senator John Douglas was in attendance to discuss issues in the Senate.

15. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Whatley to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation. 7:09PM

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Motion made by Council member Howard, seconded by Council member Dalton to enter back into Regular Session. 7:31PM

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:31PM.

Kimberly C. Carter, Mayor

Tonya R. Grier, City Clerk