

REGULAR MEETING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, CITY HALL, SEPTEMBER 20, 2010 6:30 PM.

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

Roger Smith of Grace United Methodist Church opened the meeting with prayer.

1. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Franklin to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on September 8, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Council member Dalton, seconded by Council member Goodman to discuss the **first** reading of a proposed parking ordinance for the City of Covington.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Dalton opposed the restrictions on work vehicles parked in residential areas and recommended rescinding conflicting sections 16.20.520 and 16.20.530 in the ordinance and return the draft back to the City Attorney for further review.

3. Motion made by Council member Dalton, seconded by Council member Whatley to deny approval of the **first** reading of the proposed parking ordinance and return the draft back to the City Attorney to rescind conflicting sections of the ordinance:

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

Planning and Zoning Director Randy Vinson presented the proposed Walker's Bend Overlay Zoning District.

Council members Smith and Whatley expressed concerns regarding the square footage and price of some of the proposed homes. There is no minimum square footage requirement and there are plans to build homes under 1200 square feet.

Council members Goodman and Williams discussed the need and advantages of smaller homes.

Roger Smith of the Covington Redevelopment Authority discussed his positive experience visiting other cities that are building small good quality affordable homes.

4. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Williams 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 PROVISION OF TITLE 16 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING A NEW SECTION 16.24.030

(WALKER'S BEND OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICT) OF CHAPTER 16.24 (OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICTS) THEREOF TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Council members Goodman, Williams, and Franklin voting for. Council members Smith, Dalton, and Whatley voting against. Motion carried with Mayor Carter voting for breaking 3-3 tie.

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

-Discussion of a lease agreement renewal with Steven Ratchford.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Dalton to approve the adoption of a resolution embracing recommendations from the LCI with regards to the Highway 278 Corridor Study.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Goodman to approve issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the design and engineering of Elizabeth Street/Dearing Street, and Geiger Street Water and Sewer Projects.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Franklin to authorize the Mayor to execute the Master Operating Agreement with the LPA Group for airport consulting engineering services.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Goodman to approve the appointment of Croy Engineering as a second airport consulting engineering firm.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion made by Council member Whatley, seconded by Council member Williams to approve the low bid from D&J Trenching in the amount of \$18,125.00 for Pace Street culvert cleaning.

D&J Trenching	\$18,125.00
Aqua Terra	\$18,500.00
Cumming Site Development	\$27,980.00

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve an estimated cost from Curb Specialist in amount of \$19,855.00 for the sidewalk work and additional handicap parking at the AT&T parking lot.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Williams to table the discussion of proposed amendments to the Newton County Animal Control Ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion made by Council member Goodman, seconded by Council member Whatley to approve the renewal of a lease agreement between the City of Covington and Stephen Ratchford to extend his lease-back property by 5 years when the current lease expires with a six month notice of termination.

Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Steve Horton discussed a letter from the Newton County Recreation Department regarding the use of parks located on Jefferson Avenue and Cecilia Street.

The Street Department received a request for **“Slow/Watch for Children Playing”** signs on Locust Circle.

City Manager Steve Horton informed the Mayor and Council of his approval of a request from the Fire Chief to authorize the Covington Fire Deputy Training Chief to take a City vehicle home daily.

A work session was scheduled for October 4, 2010 at 5PM prior to the Regular Council Meeting to discuss paying for E911 services.

Transportation Manager Billy Skinner discussed a complaint received regarding the intersection at Alcovy Road/ Turner Street and Herring Street.

Mayor Carter discussed a complaint received regarding the intersection at Wheat Street/Hazelbrand Road.

Mayor Carter informed the Council of an invitation from the State for an event called *Camera Ready* on October 7th.

Wednesday, September 29th at 1PM the Leadership Collaborative will hold their mid-year meeting at Oxford City Hall.

Tuesday, September 28th Mayor Carter and City Manager Steve Horton will have a meeting with principals involved with the Leadership Collaborative.

Mayor Carter reported that Newton County still has not responded to the City regarding their past due stormwater utility bills.

Mayor Carter also discussed a list of potential SPLOST projects to be given to City Representatives.

Council member Williams informed Mr. Horton that she had the neighborhood survey for the Eberhardt subdivision curb and gutter work.

Council member Smith had questions about the recent solid waste pick up changes.

Council member Smith also inquired about the progress of the Main Street By Laws.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Kimberly C. Carter, Mayor

Tonya R. Grier, City Clerk