

Covington City Council
329 Washington Street
Covington IN 47932

November 7, 2022

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmembers: Salts, Martin, Sare, Smith, Tanner, Attorney Powell.

In attendance from the public: Brian & Polly Chumley, Margo Lewis, Nancy Wallace, Keith Asbury, Mary Accord, Butch Scott, Noah Townsend, Jim Metz.

Mayor Crain called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes from the October 17, 2022 Council meeting and Board of Works were approved.

Mayor Crain introduced Ordinance 22-10 for service fee to be added to monthly electric bills this fee will be \$15.00 for residential and \$30.00 for Commercial and General Commercial power. Councilmember Tanner made the motion to adopt the ordinance Councilmember Salts 2nd motion carried 5-0. Ordinance 22-11 to add a service fee of \$3.00 on all water bills Councilmember Smith made the motion to accept 22-11 Sare 2nd. Motion carried 5-0. Ordinance 22-12 ordinance to add \$3.00 service fee to waste water bills. Councilmember Sare made the motion accept 22-12 Martin 2nd Motion carried 4-1. Josh Salts voted against Ordinance 22-12. Mayor Crain suggested that the City increase the trash charge from 15.00 to \$17.50 each month there was a discussion held and Councilmember Salts suggested that we hold off until the new contract comes up next year. Keith Asbury said the Mayor stated we are fine financially on trash and Keith disagrees on raising the garbage fee, no motion was made.

Keith Asbury wants to know when the video and Audio equipment for the council room will be installed so the council meetings can be live streamed, Brad Keller is in charge of ordering and installing all new equipment. Keith also asked about the streets getting paved this year that Councilmember Tanner has always asked about, he also stated that he would like 11th Street in front of his house paved. Mayor Crain will look into a price for that to be done. Keith also asked about the volleyball court at the City Park and when the work will be started again, Supt Karushis said the electric has to be moved and will be done next spring. Keith also asked about the sidewalks on 3rd, 4th, 5th on Park Avenue, he said he has someone interested in doing the sidewalk work and will have them get ahold of the Mayor with an estimate.

Noah Townsend was present as the 2023 Baseball president wanting to talk about the concession stand at the boys little league. He said the baseball league had a lot of kids this year which brings in a lot of parents, grandparents, etc. they have totally out grown the one they have, he has given the council a drawing of the new plans for a concession stand and storage area. Mayor Crain suggested we try and get a grant from DNR like has been done for the new

restrooms at the City Park. Noah is asking permission from the City to make a motion for the baseball board to start getting grants, donations, etc. the Council agreed to allow the little league board to pursue this new concession and upgrades to ball diamonds.

Councilmember Tanner asked about the quotes on the Park Avenue sidewalks again. He asked about CDL for the employees, he has talked to BMV they have to take a 40 hour class at DACC the cost is 4,000 once they have completed the class they will have a class A CDL if they pass. Councilmember Tanner will talk to Williamsport clerk-treasurer about where Williamsport got a grant to pay a portion of the cost. Councilmember Salts said they also offer a 40 hour class virtually and then have to drive 40 hours. He said federally they changed the laws and the DACC license will transfer to IN. He asked about a new leaf vac since our street sweeper isn't working, Councilmember Tanner and Supt Nolan feel we need to get utility tractor and leaf vac like the pull along that we have, and see if they will offer us any money for the old truck we have. Superintendent Nolan will get ahold of some companies and have quotes for the next meeting.

Councilmember Tanner asked about Grovier property Mayor Crain said they have hired an attorney and it will be resolved that way.

Councilmember Smith made the motion to move the City elections to mid-term elections everyone will run next year for 3 years than again in 3 years for 4 years with all districts staying the same. Councilmember Martin 2nd motion denied 3-2. Councilmember Salts, Sare, and Tanner voted against the motion.

Councilmember Sare asked about the property at the west end of Crockett Street and wondered if we can get something done about the property. Mayor Crain will check to see if it's in the City limits and who pays the taxes.

Councilmember Salts asked how long the street sweeper will run this year, Superintendent Nolan said we will run it until the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, after that all leaves will need to be bagged. Councilmember Salts also asked on behalf of Electric employee Mike Cadman about his status since passing his journeyman license test and when a pay raise will go into effect, Mayor Crain stated it will be up to Superintendent Karushis as to when he feels the rate increase should start.

Meeting Adjourned

Brad Crain

Mayor

Linda Knecht

Clerk-Treasurer

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmember Tanner and Smith

Councilmember Tanner made the motion to pay all claims, Councilmember Smith 2nd Motion carried 3-0.

Brad Crain

Mayor

Linda Knecht

Clerk-Treasurer