

September 18, 2023

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

In attendance from the public: Carol Owens, Marlea Crain, Nancy Wallace, Margo Lewis, Marty Acord, Butch Scott, Brian & Polly Chumley, Tony & Pam Hicks.

Mayor Crain called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.  
Minutes from September 5, 2023 Council meeting and Board of works were approved.

Mayor Crain announced this is the public hearing for the 2024 Budget is there anyone here to make any comments? No Comments

Superintendent Smith said his department has been busy with a few new water leaks and starting new water project at Shiloh.

Gene Fye said the electric department wants permission to buy a hydraulic pole saw for use on the bucket truck at a cost of \$2395.00. Councilmember Tanner made motion to purchase the saw and Councilmember Salts 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion carried 5-0. Councilmember Salts asked where the City is on hiring a new electric superintendent, he feels we need to hire someone soon but that has experience in being in charge. Mayor Crain stated we haven't had very many applications submitted.

Police Chief Foster said his department is in need of 2 new Police vehicles he wants permission to order 2 Ford F-150 trucks for a price of \$48,636.00 each. He needs \$11,000.00 per vehicle to have them fit with lights, cages, etc., this doesn't include all dash cams and computers. Mayor Crain asked about purchasing Explorers? Chief Foster said they are about the same price as the F-150 and he prefers the trucks because they can reach places an SUV can't. Councilmember Tanner made the motion to allow Chief Foster to order the trucks and Councilmember Salts 2<sup>nd</sup> motion carried 5-0. Chief Foster will also order all equipment to guarantee the price that was quoted.

Attorney Powell talked about the annexation process of Rivercrest Subdivision into the City of Covington. Public notice of meetings will be in the paper and posted at City Building and Courthouse. The meetings will start October 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Building and each Tuesday thereafter for a total of six (6) meetings. Attorney Powell advised the council that the same process will happen soon on the annexation of Peach Lane.

#### Councilmember Reports:

Councilmember Tanner: Nothing

Councilmember Smith asked about the well testing for a site for a new well, Mayor Crain stated nothing more has been done on this and we are now looking into boring under the river. Councilmember Smith asked about Ordinance 2023-7 for the Police department that Chief Foster presented to Council several months ago. Councilmember Salts made the motion to accept 2023-7 Councilmember Tanner 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion carried 5-0. Councilmember Smith also commented on the argument from the last meeting and he reviewed the film and all was presented correctly with the exception the vote was 4-1 with Salts voting against.

Councilmember Sare asked about the stage and volleyball courts, the city is working on both. The big pavilion is finished at the City Park and everything looks really nice.

Councilmember Martin: Nothing  
Councilmember Salts: Nothing

Meeting Adjourned.

Brad Crain  
Mayor

Linda Knecht  
Clerk-Treasurer

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmembers Martin, Sare.

Councilmember Martin made the motion to pay all claims and Councilmember Sare 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion carried 3-0.

A Wastewater adjustment for Sarah Valdez was presented Councilmember Martin made the motion to approve the wastewater adjustment Councilmember Sare 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned.

Brad Crain  
Mayor

Linda Knecht  
Clerk-Treasurer