

Covington City Council
329 Washington Street
Covington IN 47932

February 5, 2024

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmembers: Copenhaver, Martin, Easter, Smith, Randles, Attorney Powell.

In attendance from the public: Marlea Crain, Nancy Wallace, Margo Lewis, Brian & Polly Chumley, Dale White, Kim Eaton, Butch Scott, Marty Acord, Sharon Woodrow, Josh Rainey, Dennis Limauge, Pam & Tony Hicks, Keith Asbury, Julie Root, Amanda Strawser, Grey Clingan, Carol Owens.

Mayor Crain called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes were approved from January 8, 2024 Council meeting and Board of Works and January 22, 2024 Board of works.

Mayor Crain introduced Ordinance 2024-1 Public information record request and 2024-2 Stop sign at 3rd & Liberty East bound lane for a first reading and approval at the March meeting. Ordinance 2024-3 was introduced for a vote on April 15, 2024 for Golf Course subdivision annexation.

Dale White was present to update from the Western Indiana Foundation they received a \$50,000 planning grant for a needs assessment of all parks in Fountain County this will include all parks not just Covington. Dale said there will be 1 or 2 public meetings and surveys to complete and he encouraged the council and community members to complete the surveys there is 65 million dollars available in this Grant. He talked about the Wabash River Blue way Grant assessment that they will need surveys filled out on this also and it will deal with water activities on the Wabash River and will also include boat ramps and water activities. Dale brought up about the trail and abandoned railroad bridge that the City took responsibility in 2023, he stated the Foundation has received a grant for the study on this also and how the bridge can be made part of the walking trail and an observation area if the City will want to go ahead with this project.

Mayor Crain asked about the Wabash River Green Way Grant Dale stated they have received approval from DNR and INDOT that the trail going along the river and under the bridges that are there now have received funding around 1.5 million for the project, Dale stated bids will go out this summer for that stretch of the project.

Dennis Limauga was present asking for assistance from the City on the ditch that runs through his property on Harrison Street, he lives at 1004 Harrison Street he would like to have the whole

ditch dug out and line the ditch with rock. Mayor Crain said the city will look into this and see what can be done.

Superintendent KC Smith stated his department has been working on a few leaks and sewer backups but all in all everything is in good shape.

Bart Crowder said some of the Fire department will be going to Iowa next week to look at the new Fire Truck and then it will be sent to Indianapolis for the final work on it.

Greg Myers stated Ortmans will be here to pull the #1 well that the City has abandoned, they will fix the #3 well while they are here for a cracked fitting. Grey also stated we need to get heat into the well house as it froze up this winter.

Sharon Woodrow was present to request stop signs on Railroad Street as it has become a race track from 5th to 9th. Councilmember Smith thought maybe the city should ask the school corporation and see if that is a bus route. Chief Foster will watch the traffic and report back where he thinks a Stop sign on Railroad would work best.

Brian Chumley said he has sent his engineering drawings for Whispering Willows and wanted to know what now, Mayor Crain said he turned Brians project in. IEDC will pick the project not the City for the READI 2.0 investment commitment. Councilmember Smith asked Brian about hydrants for the proposed Whispering Willows property as he didn't see them on the submitted drawings.

Butch Scott asked again about the 10th and Harrison Street property and all the vehicles Chief Foster will check out the property again to make sure all vehicles have current plates.

Chief Foster announced Chuck Pippin will be retiring from the City Police Department effective February 27, 2024. The Police department is seeking applicants at this time, they are available on the city website or at the City Building.

Council:

Councilmember Martin asked about the waste water treatment plant? Mayor Crain stated we are still waiting on Baker Tilley for a cost adjustment and how to finance the project.

Councilmember Easter stated the City is still in search of a Park Superintendent if anyone knows of anyone have them apply at the City building.

Councilmember Randles has been asked about updating the City website. He asked about the lining of Stringtown road and Mayor Crain stated the city only goes to the bridge on 11th street

past that is County. He said he has been asked why there are no sidewalks on Liberty past the VFW for people to access the trail east of town? A short discussion was held on each of the questions asked by Councilmember Randles.

Meeting Adjourned



Mayor




Clerk-Treasurer


Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmembers Easter, Randles

Councilmember Easter made the motion to pay all claims Councilmember Randles 2nd Motion carried 3-0.
 Councilmember Randles made the motion to transfer \$100,000.00 from electric operating to electric depreciation to pay for 2 transformers at the High School Councilmember Easter 2nd motion carried 3-0.
 Meeting adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned


 Mayor


 Clerk-Treasurer

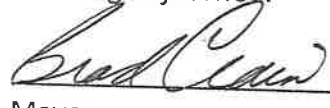
February 26, 2024

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmember Randles
 Absent: Councilmember Easter

Councilmember Randles made the motion to pay all claims Mayor Crain 2nd motion carried 2-0.
 Mayor Crain made the motion to allow a waste water adjustment for First Church of Christ Councilmember Randles 2nd motion carried 2-0.

Meeting adjourned.


 Mayor


 Clerk-Treasurer