

Covington City Council  
329 Washington Street  
Covington IN 47932  
6:00 p.m.

June 2, 2025

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmembers: Martin, Easter, Smith, Randles

Absent: Councilmember Copenhaver, Attorney Powell

Present from the public: Marlea Crain, Nancy Wallace, Margo Lewis, Carol Owens, Amanda Strawser, Allen Strawser, Bob Kemp, Dale White, Mallorie Allen

Minutes from May 27, 2025 Council meeting and Board of Works were approved.

Allen and Amanda Strawser were present to ask about process of the City park and everything that needs to be done for the DNR grant for the inspection on June 24, 2025. Allen and Amanda stated the restrooms need to be handicap assessable, all electric lines need to be buried, volleyball court needs to be repaired and road surrounding it needs to be redone. Mayor Crain stated it won't be complete by June 23, 2025 but more likely by September. Councilmember Randles had many questions on the solar lights that were purchased for the City Park he said he doesn't feel they will be powered well in the winter due to the lack of sunlight he feels they need to be hard wired. Mayor Crain said the lights that have been purchased have been approved by DNR and should receive a credit since they are environmentally friendly. Amanda stated that all power lines in the city park have to be buried for us to get full credit on the grant. A long conversation by the Council and Strawsers was held. Allen Strawser wants a timeline on the volleyball court he wants it completed as soon as possible along with the roads he feels it should take no more than 2 weeks they would like a plan in place by the next council meeting for these projects to be finished.

Mayor Crain asked Allen Strawser if he would build a building at the city pool for the pump house because the one that is there is in bad shape he stated he would take a look at it and get started.

Mallorie Allen was present to ask about having chickens or hens within the city limits, she was asking if the city would be willing to amend the ordinance to allow this, she feels it would be a benefit to the city. Councilmember Randles said he feels like this would be like opening a can of worms. She would like to approach the Council with the facts from other cities and towns and how they allow this. Allen Strawser asked if she presented a petition and most of the town was

in favor would we change the ordinance. Mallorie will email information to the City Council for them to consider.

Supt. KC Smith asked to promote Keaton Fye to Class B employee \$24.50 he has been here for 6 months and KC feels he is capable of the job. Councilmember Randles made the motion Councilmember Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Carried 4-0

Supt Greg Myers reported the City pool is open and running well so far with just a few minor issues and the Splash Pad is open also. Greg stated we have a few issues at the waste water plant and wondering why the lightning detector didn't protect from the damage.

Chief Foster talked about the electric scooters and bikes in town, there is nothing the City can do since it is considered a bicycle. Mayor Crain stated golf cart issues need to be addressed with children on parent laps, kids hanging off the back and underage drivers. The Council held a conversation and feel there needs to be a bicycle safety class in the elementary school to teach children the rules of the road and they must abide by the same rules as a car.

Bart Crowder from the Fire department stated EMR test will be Thursday and 2 firemen will be able to make medical calls. Classes will be starting in August for the fire department burn classes. The Fire department will be at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration again this year and will use the money made to purchase an 8 bottle Cascade system this will benefit the Tri County fire departments and cost between \$12,000 and \$16,000. Dale White asked Bart if the Fire department would be interested in holding water safety classes and stated there is a grant available for this. Bart said he would talk to Garth and see if this is something they could do and any monies left over the fire department could use for purchases.

Councilmember Smith talked about 2025-5 that will amend 2008-7 City Policies and that attorney Powell made a couple changes so Brad talked to the Council about that.

Councilmember Randles made the motion to approved Ordinance 2025-5 as presented Councilmember Easter 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion carried 4-0. Councilmember Smith would like all employee files to be filed with the City clerk and kept in the City Building Mayor Crain will talk to AIM and see what they recommend

Councilmember Randles stated Courtney High Parker contacted him about using U14 soccer field on Sunday evenings in the month of June for soccer and devotionals the council was all in agreement. Randy talked about the tournaments that the little league and softball hold and why the city charges \$25.00 for each team that participates Randy doesn't feel this charge is necessary. Bob Kemp the President of Little League stated Little League and Girls Softball take

care of all their own fields, utilities, etc and would like to know when this policy was started and enforced and why? A long conversation was held on the subject and the council will look into this and find a solution. Bob Kemp said that Little League and Girls Softball are a benefit to the children in the community and feels they shouldn't be charged? Nothing else you use in the City Park has a charge it's a City park and it should be free.

Brad Crain

Linda Knecht

Mayor

Clerk-Tres

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmember Martin, Smith

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

Brad Crain

Linda Knecht

Mayor

Clerk-Tres.

Board of Works

June 16 2025

Present: Councilmember Martin, Smith

Absent: Mayor Crain

Councilmember Martin made the motion to pay all claims Councilmember Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> motion carried 2-0.

Meeting Adjourned

Brad Crain

Linda Knecht

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer