

September 2, 2025

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

Present from the public: Henry Schmitt, Marlea Crain, Margo Lewis, Nancy Wallace, Dale White, Charlotte Fogleman, Jackie Kiger, Rachel Woolwine, Keneth Ohl, Jessica Hanson, Jennifer Alexander

Minutes from August 4, 2025 Council meeting and Board of Works and August 18, 2025 Board of Works were approved.

Mayor Crain presented to the Council Resolution 2025-3 designating Brad Crain as the Title VI ADA Coordinator to be responsible for complying with Title II with respect to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Councilmember Copenhaver made a motion to accept Resolution 2025-3 seconded by Councilmember Smith. Carried 5-0.

Mayor Crain presented the Council with an estimate for \$3,750 for a study to apply for the OCRA grant to start replacing old water lines. The grant funds are for water construction projects. If the study passes, he is confident the City will receive the grant funds. Councilmember Smith motioned to proceed with the study and Councilmember Easter seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0 with Councilmember Copenhaver abstaining because of conflicts with her present job with the Lt. Governor's office.

Mayor Crain stated the plans for the new Street and Electric garage are to advertised next week and the bid specs will be available for pick up. Councilmember Smith asked for an estimate of the cost and Mayor Crain stated the estimate is around 1 million dollars but could possibly be between \$700,000 and \$800,000. The garage will be a wood frame with metal liner construction. Councilmember Smith made the motion to request bids for the new Street and Electric garage and Councilmember Randles seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. The city will accept bids the first week of October.

Henry Schmitt was present to report on the 2025 Covington 4th of July Celebration. He stated that this year was a fantastic year for the celebration. He submitted the financial report to each Council member. This was the largest celebration ever. He stated that the city support was fantastic as well. The 4th of July celebration for 2026 will be from June 29th – July 4th with the parade being on July 4th. The celebration committee is planning to spending \$25,000 on fireworks in 2026 in honor of Covington's 200th birthday. Permission was granted for next year's celebration. The committee emergency plan next year is for more Police presence in uniform at future celebrations. Mayor Crain commended Schmitt and committee on a great job.

Jackie Kiger asked the Council for permission to close 4th Street for the Halloween Ghost walk on October 31st for safety precautions as there will be food trucks on the square this year. Permission was granted.

Jennifer Alexander thanked the City Street Dept for picking up limbs and leaf bags promptly.

Dale White from the Community Foundation was present to update the Council on the progress of Phase 4 of the Circle trail and to address safety concerns on the trail. The Foundation has allocated \$50,000 to be used to place 16 safety bollards on the trail to deter any motorized vehicles or golf carts from driving on the trail and fencing and signage will be placed on Phase 4 of the trail as well. White stressed that the Foundation is in a 50/50 partnership with the city regarding the trail and the city will maintain it. The trail has overgrown areas and tree roots are crumbling the concrete in some areas as well. The city will rent a machine to cut back excess overgrowth and will address other trail issues. Bids for phase 5 of the trail is the restoration of the city owned railroad trestle over the Wabash River and will be opened in October.

Charlotte Fogleman was present to ask for a 20mph speed limit sign to be placed on Constitution Avenue for constant vehicles exceeding the limit.

Police Chief Shannon Foster presented Ordinance 2025-7 strictly prohibiting motorized vehicles, including golf carts, ATV's, UTV's, motorcycles, Class 3 electric bicycles, mowers and similar vehicles excluding Police, Fire and EMS vehicles on the Covington Circle Trail and Five Crossing Park. Violations of the ordinance will result in \$250 fine and the vehicle may be impounded at the owner's expense. It was read and will be voted on September 15th.

Supt. KC Smith reported that the city will be flushing fire hydrants on September 17th. He asked the Council to consider purchasing an electric cable reel trailer to replace the current 1984 trailer. The cost is \$13,649. Councilmember Copenhaver made the motion to purchase the electric reel trailer and Councilmember Martin seconded the motion. Carried 5-0.

Supt. Myers reported the pool is drained for the season. He reported that the lead and copper testing required by the State passed.

Fire Chief Kagels reported the concrete pad for fire training facility has been poured and fire burning training classes will begin November 7, 8, and 9. He will notify the city when they will be using excess water for training in case of possible dirty water.

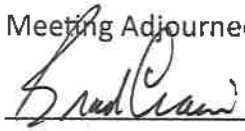
Council Reports:

Councilmember Copenhaver reported that a tree limb on the NE corner of 6th and Harrison needs to be looked at for possible trimming.

Councilmember Randles reported concerns from Dan Noble about Crockett and Canal street having overgrown weeds and needing cleaned up. There are also weeds behind the electric

shop that need to be sprayed. He reported a line of vacant cars lined up on the south side of Spring Street that need to be checked for valid tags.

Meeting Adjourned


Mayor

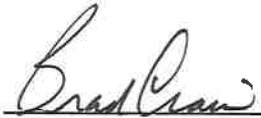

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmembers: Martin, Smith

Councilmember Martin made the motion to pay all claims, Councilmember Smith seconded motion. Carried 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned


Mayor


Deputy Clerk-Treasurer