

Krad Crain
Mayington City Council
329 Washington Street
Covington IN 47932
Budget Adoption

Clerk-Treasurer

October 6, 2025

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmember Copenhaver, Bolser, Easter, Smith, Randles

Absent: Attorney Powell

Mayor Crain presented Ordinance 2025-8 Adoption of appropriations and tax rates for 2026 Budget. Councilmember Copenhaver made the motion to pass 2025-8 as presented Councilmember Eater 2nd motion carried 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned

Brian Crain
Mayor

Linda Kasert
Clerk-Treasurer

401

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

October 6, 2025

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

Absent: Attorney Powell

Present from the public: Marlea Crain, Nancy Wallace, Margo Lewis, Lidia Hanson, Jeri Boyer, Robin Brown, Dawn Bushue, Carol Owens, William & Kathy Billman, Raquel Stultz, Kim Eaton, Greg Green, Michelle Drummond, Eric Drummond, Grayson Vedder, Ken Ohl, Keith Asbury, Sylvia Cauley, Stacy Easter, Judy Hegg, Clay Gerling, Samantha Perkins, Dean Perkins, Dale White, Adan Stonebraker, Art Langrish, Terry Vollmer, Adam Gerling, Ryan Sowers, Allen & Amanda Strawser, Ethan Harkleroad, Jessica Hason, Bob Kemp.

Minutes from September 15, 2025 Council meeting and Board of Works, September 15, 2025 Budget Hearing and Special Council meeting October 1, 2025 were approved with the correction by Councilmember Smith to change the September 2, 2025 minutes that were approved at the September 15, 2025 Council meeting to reflect Jackie Kiger asked the Council permission to close 4th Street for the Halloween Ghost walk on October 31st for safety precautions as there will be Trunk or Treat on the square this year NOT Food trucks. Permission was granted.

Mayor Crain introduced Ordinance 2025-9 to replace 2020-2 Trash can ordinance reflecting the current \$18.00 charge and removal of cans from street 48 hours after pick up. Councilmember Smith made the motion to accept the changed ordinance Councilmember Easter 2nd motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Crain asked about the purchase of the truck at Clark Chevrolet for 42,000.00 Councilmember Easter made the motion to purchase the truck for the Waste Water department Councilmember Randles 2nd Motion carried 5-0.

Bid for the new Electric/MVH garage submitted by Offutt Construction Inc. The City only received 1 bid for 814,000.00 everything is in order for the construction to begin.

Councilmember Copenhaver made the motion for Offutt Construction Inc. to build the garage Councilmember Smith 2nd Motion carried 4-1. Councilmember Randles voted No.

Gene Fye from electric department stated the department received the new Reel trailer and thanked the council for allowing the purchase as it has made their job much easier. Gene stated all power is installed for Shiloh Development area.

Supt. KC Smith said his department will be flushing hydrants Oct. 15th and leaf vac will start running the week of October 20.

Bart Crowder stated classes are still going on for instructors. He listed a lot of things the fire department will need for the new fire training station required by the State. Supt. KC Smith stated the fire hydrant will be installed this week by the new training facility.

Police Chief Foster announced Trick or Treat Hours October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. along with the Ghost Walk downtown Covington.

Police Chief Foster explained Ordinance 2025-7 and stated why the City passed the ordinance for NO electric bikes on the trail. Chief Foster stated we are having a lot of issues with all motorized vehicles not just electric bikes. Chief Foster feels there is no room for motorized vehicles for the safety of the community on the trail, the new ordinance is pretty straight forward and easy to understand. Dale White stated the Community Foundation is 50/50 with the City for the trail and wants to listen to the public and it was initially built for walking and regular bikes. Mayor Crain stated it's the younger generation that is causing the issue not the older generation that is the problem.

Art Langrish talked about the trail and he and his wife ride their electric bicycles for exercise, he said he enjoys seeing the kids on the trail enjoying it. Mr Langrish and everyone in attendance would like the council to reconsider the ordinance. The Community feels this is the safest way for the kids to get to the complex instead of 9th Street and Park Avenue since there are no sidewalks on those streets. Allen Strawser is on the trail everyday and never encounters anyone on electric bikes not observing rules he feels these are the future and we need to allow them, Amanda Strawser stated every other town/city with a trail allows them why can't Covington. Adam Stonebraker said he rides the trail everyday and never encounters any issues with electric bikes he would like the documentation on the complaints that people are making as he posts on You Tube and people are coming from other towns to enjoy the trail on the electric bikes. Everyone in attendance is in favor of the electric bikes on the trail and wants the ordinance redone.

Chief Foster stated the Police Department will start getting strict and the parents will be held accountable for anyone abusing the trail. Greg Green stated he thinks electric bikes are just too fast and have no business on the trail as they can go 20mph and the speed limit in town is 20 mph for a car on City streets. A lengthy conversation was held on speed limit signs, certain hours for electric bikes only on the trail. Chief Foster and Officer Brewer stated the Police Department doesn't have enough man power to patrol the trail. The classes of electric bikes

was discussed by Bill Billman. Clay Gerling stated he rides his electric bike but uses the pedals a lot of the time except on the hills he stated he will be riding his electric bike on the trail. A very long conversation was held on this subject with a lot of disagreement. Ethan Harkleroad stated to the council that kids mental health and giving them something to do outside as enjoying the trail on scooters or electric bikes should be first and foremost on their minds when considering their decision on this ordinance and allowing class 1 and 2 electric bicycles on the trail. Officer Brewer thinks it would be a good idea to issue stickers for all electric bikes just like the golf carts and expressed everyone needs to renew the golf cart stickers every year.

Council reports.

Councilmember Smith stated he is still in agreement with the ordinance that the Council passed in September since the city can't pass anything about the electric bikes being on streets but says the ordinance can be enforced on the trail he does believe with allowing class 1 and 2 electric bikes to be on the trail and so moved.

Councilmember Copenhaver stated she had 1 person contact her about the passing of the ordinance and said instead of posting on social media contact her or any of the councilmembers about your concerns as the council is elected to serve you. Councilmember Copenhaver suggested times on the trail for electric bikes and times that walkers will know when the electric bikes are on the trail and it will be safer, maybe host an electric bike event on the trail that the kids can do. Bikes must abide by the same rules as a car, pedestrians have the right of way and bikes must yield to pedestrians as should cars. Bike lanes were also discussed along the trail. Ethan Harkleroad would like to start a community committee to meet with the council with what the community wants are concerning the electric bikes/scooters and the general safety of the children. Councilmember Copenhaver isn't in favor of amending the ordinance tonight but the Council will meet Tuesday October 14th at 6:00 p.m. to look into amending the current passed ordinance.

Councilmember Easter would like to have the ordinance amended also as she has a lot of friends who ride electric bikes. She also stated please contact a councilmember with concerns instead of social media.

Councilmember Randles stated he has a different perspective since he is in the City Park and sees the electric bikes and motorized scooters and said they are a danger and it's more than 2 or 3 kids. Councilmember Randles stated the parents need to teach the kids the rules of the road for the electric bikes and scooters they are purchasing. Allen Strawser said we need to evolve as far as the class 1 and 2 electric bikes.

Tuesday October 14, 2025 the council will meet to vote on a new ordinance amending the current ordinance to allow Class 1 and 2 electric bikes banning Class 3.

403

Councilmember Smith thanked the City employees for their work at the Apple festival with bringing tables, trash cans, benches etc. and removing them after the festival was over he said the Covington Business Association appreciates all the hard work also.

Councilmember Smith welcomed Chad Bolser as the newest member of the Covington City Council due to the resignation of Justin Martin due to moving out of town in September 2025.

Meeting Adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk-Treasurer

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmember Smith

Councilmember Smith made the motion to pay all claims Mayor Crain 2nd Motion carried 2-0.

Clerk-Treasurer Knecht gave the Board of Works 2 letters for waste water adjustments for Nancy Callahan and Cheryl Harris Councilmember Smith made the motion to allow the adjustments and Mayor Crain 2nd Motion carried 2-0

Clerk-Treasurer Knecht stated we need to transfer \$40,000 from Waste Water construction in Progress to waste water Depreciation for the purchase of the waste water truck.

Councilmember Smith made the motion Mayor Crain 2nd Motion carried 2-0.



Mayor



Clerk-Treasurer