

Covington City Council
329 Washington Street
Covington IN 47932
January 5, 2026
6:00 p.m.

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

Present from the Public: Marlea Crain, Nancy Wallace, Margo Lewis, Carol Owens, Jeremy Claypool, Candy Persinger. Keith Asbury, Gene Fye, Tyler Roarks.

Minutes from the December 15, 2025 Council meeting and Board of Works were approved. Jeremy Claypool Post Commander of the Covington VFW was present to ask Mayor Crain and the City Council for a proclamation for May 8, 2026 for VFW Loyalty Day. Mayor Crain stated he will have a proclamation ready for that day and present it at the VFW on the all day celebration they will hold on May 8, 2026. Jeremy stated the new VFW has been open now for 3 years and is doing very well and happy with the public response they have received. Officer Brewer Thanked the VFW for the Shop with a Cop donation after the auction they held for it.

Mayor Crain introduced 2026-1 for Water Tap Fees that was voted on December 15, 2025 but needed an ordinance to be signed. Councilmember Smith stated this will close the gap on losses for installing the taps. Councilmember Smith made the motion Councilmember Copenhaver 2nd motion carried 5-0. New Tap fees will be ¾" \$800.00 and 1" or larger \$1,200.00 Ordinance 2026-2 Waste Water Tap increases voted on December 15, 2026 but needed an ordinance to be signed. Councilmember Copenhaver made the motion Councilmember Smith 2nd Motion carried 5-0. New Fees will be \$800.00

Resolution 2026-1 A Resolution of the City of Covington adopting the Fountain County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for 2026. Councilmember Bolser made the motion to accept Councilmember Easter 2nd Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Crain introduced the Memorandum of Understanding with IMEA The City entered into this agreement last year and it worked out well for the City (see attached paper included in the minutes.) The Electric Department feels this is very beneficial for their training.

Councilmember Smith made the motion to resign the agreement Councilmember Bolser 2nd Motion carried 5-0.

Bart Crowder will have Fire Department year end reports at the next meeting. Supt Myers said Allen Strawser will be at the lab to see what all it needs, counter tops, cabinets and bathröcm work and Supt Myers will ask about the little building at the Pool that was

discussed at a previous meeting last year and never followed up on. The backflow preventer at waste water plant needs to be installed and they need electric work and new generator at the wells. Marck Dewlen needs to paint the #3 well.

Gene Fye questioned why the electric department had the phone taken away for M-Thur. call time. They wanted to know if a Holiday falls during the week will KC still take the phone. A discussion was held on the issue with a lot of questions being asked. Councilmember Randles wants to meet with KC, Greg, Tyler, Gene and the Mayor on this issue and an agreement can be brought to the Council for the decision on what to do with Holiday OT and when KC is on Vacation.

Chief Foster stated the Police Department had 3,475 calls for the year 1,082 traffic stops he stated Frauc numbers are up theft is up and advises citizens to lock everything up. Officer Brewer stated 2026 Golf Cart stickers are now available at the Police Department and you will get a copy of the rules on the trail with the Golf Carts and ebikes. The Police Department received a grant from the Foundation for a UTV that will help with the trail and other things. Officer Brewer Thanked the Foundation and Grubb Implement.

Council Reports;

Councilmember Copenhaver has had several complaints on houses that need to be cleaned up and trash cans removed from streets after pick up. Councilmember Copenhaver will get Clerk-Treasurer Knecht a list of properties and letters will be delivered by the City Police Department. Trash can are to be put back at houses after the day they are picked up and not left at the street per Ordinance 2025-9.

Councilmember Randles stated he cleaned up the area around the Welcome to Covington signs and said need new lighting is needed as none of the solar lights work. Councilmember Randles said the alley behind Napa, Jakes Farms and Courthouse Cafe needs to be cleaned up. The Building behind Parting Glass needs cleaned up also with all junk removed from alley.

Councilmember Easter Thanked the Electric department for removing her tree in the line by her

Mayor Crain announced 2026 Appointments:

- Mayor Pro-Tem Brad Smith
- Board of Works Kathy Easter, Paula Copenhaver, Brad Crain
- Collector of Utilities Linda Knecht
- Meter Reacer Matt Keele
- Director of Utilities K.C. Smith

Water Pumping & Wastewater Supt. Greg Myers

Chief of Police Shannon Foster

Fire Chief Garth Kagels

Animal Control Officer Kedric Sowers

City Attorney Taylor Powell

Zoning Administrator Jerry Crain

Council Liaisons:

Electric Dept. Paula Copenhaver

Street Dept Chad Bolser

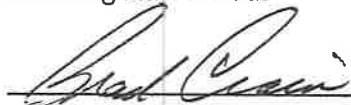
Water & Waste Water Randy Randles

Police & Fire Brad Smith

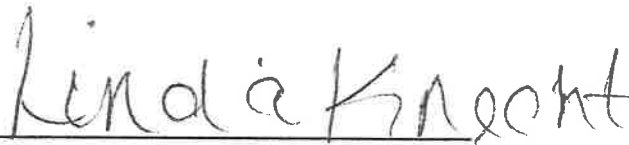
Park & Rec Kathy Easter

Paula Copenhaver Republican County Chairman stated the opening dates for filing for City and County positions is January 7, 2026 if anyone has any questions feel free to contact her. Brad Smith stated deadlines for CFA-1, CFA-4 for current office holders are January 12th.

Meeting Adourned.



Mayor



Clerk-Treasurer

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmember Copenhaver, Easter

Councilmember Easter made the motion to pay all claims and Mayor Crain 2nd Motion carried 3-0.

Councilmember Copenhaver made the motion to allow waste water adjustment for Barb Moffett Councilmember Easter 2nd Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned



Mayor



Clerk-Treasurer

Board of Works
January 20, 2026
4:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmember Easter, Copenhaver

Clerk-Treasurer Knecht requested to transfer \$150,000.00 from Electric Operating to Electric Depreciation and transfer \$150,000.00 from Water Operating to Water Depreciation for payment on the City Garage. Councilmember Easter made the motion Councilmember Copenhaver 2nd Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk-Treasurer Knecht presented a waste water adjustment for Thomas Anders Councilmember Copenhaver made motion to approve Councilmember Easter 2nd motion carried Motion 3-0. Councilmember Copenhaver made the motion to pay all claims Councilmember Easter 2nd

Meeting Adjourned.

Brad Cram

Mayor

Linda Knecht

Clerk-Treasurer