

Covington City Council
329 Washington Street
Covington IN 47932

June 3, 2024

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

Absent: Attorney Powell

Present from the public: Marlea Crain, Nancy Wallace, Margo Lewis, Carol Owens, Juli Root,
Henry Schmitt, Jerry Pope, Wanda Miller, Lisa Coburn Jerry & Mary Martin, Linda McLain

Minutes from Council meeting & Board of Works May 6, 2024 and Board of Works May 22, 2024
were approved.

Henry Schmitt from the Celebration Group was present stating the carnival will run Friday June 28-July 4 the carnival will arrive June 23rd, he doesn't want Pavilion 2,3,4 rented out during that period. The carnival is going digital this year so everyone needs to be aware of it, they will not issue tickets. Mega bracelets & regular bracelets will still be available and they will have a QR code that has to be scanned, the booklets will have information on the new digital tickets and be explained and should be available by June 13th Fireworks will be the same show as last year by the same company, Henry will give Clerk-Treasurer Knecht all the certificates of insurance to get to the City Insurance company later this week.

Wanda Miller and Lisa Coburn have formed a small committee at the new sub-division on River Road that was recently annexed into the City. Questions pertaining to mowing ordinances, Golf cart ordinances and the entrance into the sub division were their concerns. Mayor Crain will check into signage for the entrance to the subdivision and installing a STOP sign on Eagle Drive.

Linda McLain was present to request permission to hold an event at the Pocket Park on August 3, 2024 8:00 p.m.-10:30 p.m. for Windy Ridge Winery and Brewery and a couple of Food Trucks, all councilmembers were fine with them having the event on that day.

Supt. KC Smith has hired Keegan Freed for the street department and Park Department effective May 28, 2024. During the recent fire hydrant flush he found 5 fire hydrants that need replaced and will start on this soon. KC Smith requested the City look into purchasing or renting a Falcon Hot Box so we will have asphalt to repair pot holes around town, the quote is \$46,000.00 the Council wants to have another quote so we can compare prices, and maybe checking into renting the equipment. Supt KC Smith will let the fire department know what fire hydrants they are going replace.

Supt. Myers said the City pool is up and running after a few leaks were fixed, the filters will be back flushed this week. A new motor has been ordered for the blowers and Supt. Myers wanted to know if he could get the AC ordered for the Lab at the Sewer Plant.

Police Chief Shannon Foster stated he hired Nathaniel Hennessey effective June 17 2024 he will ride with the officers and will have to attend the Police Academy once the date has been given to him. Chief Foster wants to get the salaries raised for the Police Department as he had a hard time hiring a new officer due to what the City pays our officers. He would like to add longevity to the pay also as a lot of Police departments have gone to this. Chief Foster handed out information to all the councilmembers for them to look over. He stated that we have 4 officers that work for this community but can't afford to live in Covington. Chief Foster stated he feels the council needs to vote on an increase immediately so we can keep our officers. Councilmember Smith said he agrees that we need to apply for grants as the department becomes compliant we will be able to apply for grants for funding to get help. Councilmember Copenhaver wants to look into the budget and see where we can come up with the money, she Thanked the Police Department to their dedication to their jobs and expressed her appreciation for them. Chief Foster said the Police budget needs extra money in a lot of areas for the equipment they have to purchase. Mayor Crain stated he will include all the councilmembers in the budget process this year with a date to be determined to start on this.

Councilmember Randles: He has been approached about the amount of stray cats in town, he feels that the City should be responsible for getting rid of them somehow, Chief Foster said there is a lot of expense in getting rid of them and no place to take them.

Councilmember Smith: Asked where the City is with the Waste Water rate study being done by Therber, Barnes & Thornburg, Clerk-Treasurer Knecht has submitted the information to them and Mayor Crain said the study should be done soon. Councilmember Smith Thanked Juli Root and Mayor Crain for a great street Fair again this year.

Councilmember Copenhaver asked about ordering new fire hydrants and KC Smith stated he would order them, she also asked about sound proofing the Police Department and Chief Foster will look into it.

Meeting adjourned.

Brad Crain
Mayor

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Linda Knecht
Clerk-Treasurer

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmembers Randles, Easter

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

Meeting adjourned.

Brad Crain
Mayor

Linda Knecht
Clerk-Treasurer

June 17, 2024

Board of Works

Present: Mayor Crain, Councilmembers: Easter
Absent: Councilmember Randles

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

Meeting Adjourned

Brad Crain
Mayor

Linda Knecht
Clerk-Treasurer