

**Village of Covington Ohio
Record of Proceedings
Covington Village Council Meeting
November 12, 2007**

Covington Village Council met in regular session on Monday, November 12, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Government Center with the following members present: Luther Landis, R. Scott Tobias, Doris Beeman, George Karayannis, Donna K. Dewey, and Gary Bell. Mayor Lowell Yingst presided at the meeting. Grant Kerber, Law Director, was also present.

Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

Minutes of October 25th were approved as written.

Motion was made by Bell and seconded by Dewey to transfer \$40,000 from the Income Tax fund to the General Fund. Roll call: all ayes.

Motion was made by Tobias and seconded by Beeman to transfer \$10,000 from General Fund to Street Fund. Roll call: all ayes,

Motion was made by Bell and seconded by Beeman for payment of bills. Roll call: all ayes.

The Mayor said vote had been taken at the last meeting concerning metal doors vs. wood doors on Covington-Newberry Historical Museum; however, there was not a full Council present.

Bell said consensus of Lands and Building Committee was to permit replacement of wood doors with metal doors. It won't change the status of the building on the Ohio Historical Register and doors will be painted to match décor of rest of building.

Dewey said she felt it will affect the integrity of the building.

Tobias said he felt feasibility study should be done before any maintenance work is done on the building as recommended by Glen Harper of the Ohio Historical Society.

The Mayor said Harper did not say definitely they couldn't put up metal doors.

Tobias said Harper recommends raising money to replace wooden doors.

Dewey said she has talked to other people and there have been large contributions made to the museum. She would like to support their feelings and has a hard time not thinking metal doors would take away from the integrity of building.

Karayannis said he supports the autonomy of the Historical Society and suggests directing them to get a professional certified preservation architect to give his/her opinion on a five year plan. He felt third party's opinion would be accepted.

Landis said he thought they were talking about garage doors and asked why change it? Entry doors are the topic; garage doors have been replaced with wooden doors.

Tobias said there is funding mechanism to go through to get wooden doors.

Karayannis said doors should be included in the five year plan.

Dewey asked if it was feasible to have current wooden doors repaired.

Carolyn Blankenship, member of the Cov-Newberry Historical Museum, said doors have been repaired but more by amateurs. She said you don't replace, you repair. Doors there are interior doors and someone needs to be hired who know what they are doing.

Kerber said disapprove – approve requires approval on Village Council.

Motion was made by Bell and seconded by Karayannis to permit metal doors to replace the three wooden doors. Roll call; Karayannis, yes; Dewey, no; Bell, yes; Landis, no; Tobias, no; Beeman, no.

Karayannis said just replace with wood doors – get professional to advise.

The Mayor informed Council Ronald Clark has submitted his resignation to Board of Public Affairs effective immediately citing health problems. Board has accepted his resignation with regret.

Mayor has talked to Kerber who advised Mayor can appoint someone to fill unexpired term with Council approval. David Roecker was elected to serve on the Board but can also be appointed to fill the unexpired term of Clark.

Motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Beeman to enter into contract with Public Defender for 2008. Roll call: all ayes. but Landis who voted no.

Karayannis moved for continuity of Village operation the Fiscal Officer be directed to looking into computerizing Village operations.

Fiscal Officer has been checking into this and recommends software be purchased from Oho Software Services at a cost of \$6,600. Village operations were tried with UAN several years ago; however, they couldn't relate to Water/Sewer fund being major funds and then sent a librarian to help teach system. She was not accustomed to Village accounting.

Some other communities in the area are also going with Ohio Software Services. Ohio Software Services has a tech they send to help convert system that is included in software package.

Karayannis withdrew his motion.

Motion was made by Bell and seconded by Karayannis to proceed with Oho Software Services accounting system. Roll call: all ayes.

Dewey reported Police & Fire Committee met at 6:00 prior to Council. Police Chief Harmon will give report under his department report.

Planning & Zoning Board will meet on Wednesday, November 14, at 7:00 p.m.

Chief Harmon recommended Patrolman Phil Osting pass his one year probation period.

Motion was made by Bell and seconded by Tobias accepting Harmon's recommendation of Phil Osting passing one year probation. Roll call: all ayes.

Harmon said Tim Lunsford has been inactive since his resignation as full time officer in May; thus, Harmon recommended terminating Lunsford's position with the Auxiliary. Roll call: all ayes.

Harmon reported Time Warner Cable had been here concerning wireless services for Government Building. With them, antenna/router would have to be purchased, static IP line obtained and then a monthly fee of \$39.99. Harmon has talked to Dean Wetfall who has police Dept computer work and he can install router at a cost of \$130.00 plus his hourly rate of \$60.00 for installation with all filters so no one could gain access to Village operations.

Harmon reported he would like to replace current hand guns at a cost of \$5,416.92 from Vance's Law Enforcement that includes trade in. \$3,000 of this cost has been donated through the Eagles donation to the Community Chest. Harmon said he has new handguns in the budget for 2008. But since it takes awhile to get them ordered. Auxiliary said they will furnish ammunition for next year.

Police officers have been using the Glock 40 for the past five years. Prior to that they used Sig Sauer 45. Harmon is asking for new Glock 45's that are larger caliber with high capacity magazines.

Tobias asked how many rounds had been shot from guns. Harmon said approximately 5,000 rounds per year. Glock doesn't recommend anything as to life time of guns. They have had few problems with current guns just replaced some springs.

Motion was made by Dewey to permit Chief Harmon to order eight new guns and holsters at a cost of \$2,416.92 from the Village. Roll call: Dewey, yes; Landis, yes; Tobias, no; Beeman, no; Karayannis, abstain; Belle, yes, Dewey, yes;

Kerber advised Karayannis he couldn't abstain unless there was a personal interest involved. Karayannis then voted yes for purchase of new guns.

The Mayor thanked the Street Dept and all others who helped with the Candlelight Christmas our. Plans are being made to move forward with it next year.

The Mayor said he and Chief Harmon had met with Kerry officials who had asked for traffic control since they have converted railroad property at the rear of Kerry into parking lot.

Motion was made by Beeman and seconded by Dewey to place Ord. 07-10A on First Reading for stop signs at East end of Hazel Street and West end of Hazel Street. Roll call: all ayes.

Motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Tobias Ord. 07-10A pass First Reading. Roll Call: all ayes.

Motion was made by Bell and seconded by Karayannis for an Executive Session at 7:55 to discuss Personnel Compensation. Roll call: all ayes.

Motion was made by Bell and seconded by Beeman to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene in regular session at 8:55 with no action taken at this time as result of Executive Session. Roll call: all ayes.

Motion was made by Dewey to adjourn at 8:55.