



**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
JANUARY 25TH, 2023
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

Members Present: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor
Brian Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner
Lionel Laratte, Commissioner
Dee Merriam, Commissioner

Staff Present: Patrick Bryant, City Manager
Shannon Powell, Asst. City Manager
Ellen Powell, Communications Manager
Anthony Cappuccio, Deputy Police Chief
Gina Hill, City Clerk
Stephen Quinn, City Attorney

Item #1 Meeting Called to Order

Item #2 Adoption of Agenda
Commissioner Laratte moved to adopt. Commissioner Merriam seconded. All ayes.

Item #3 **Covington Highway Study Presentation**
Assistant City Manager Powell gave some background on the Covington Highway area and its relationship to the city. She added that there are three large properties that could change hands on that stretch in the future. She then introduced Marco Ancheita with Lord Aeck Sargent (LAS). He gave the presentation which highlighted potential uses for the properties along Covington Highway. He also discussed features of the actual road and traffic as well as Marta's role. Some uses chosen most often in a public survey included recreation and senior housing, for example. The group also talked about the housing trend of cottage courts and other types of homes. Mr. Ancheita answered questions and the conversation continued about the various options for the future. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher explained the reasons this study was conducted.

Item #4 **US 278 Right of Way Decisions**
City Manager Bryant said that Parcel 10, currently occupied by Banjo Coffee, is that last piece of right-of-way needed by the city to move forward with the US 278 Complete Street project. He explained that the property owner has been unresponsive and the next step would be eminent domain procedures. Mr.

Bryant described the process moving forward. The next BOMC regular meeting will need to begin at 6:01pm instead of 5:30pm because of this and there was discussion about how to alert the public to the change. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher pointed out some of the financial aspects of the process and an appraisal was mentioned by Mr. Bryant. Members of the BOMC were supportive.

Item #5

Public Comment

Paul Dorroh, Mel Hatfield, and Shelly Groves all made comments about the future of Covington Highway.

Item #6

Executive Session – Real Estate

Commissioner Laratte moved to enter executive session. Commissioner Merriam seconded. All ayes.

Commissioner Shortell moved to exit executive session. Commissioner Laratte seconded. All ayes.

Item #7

Adjournment

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moved to adjourn. Commissioner Shortell seconded. All ayes.

APPROVED FEBRUARY 8th, 2023



Gina Hill, City Clerk