



Newsletter - January 10, 2020

Mayor Justin Hanson



***You may contact your
Alderman/Alderwoman by
clicking on the email links below.***

District 1 Vice Mayor Johnetta Yarbrough
Alderwoman Minnie Bommer

1122jwyatt@gmail.com
alderwomandist1@gmail.com

District 2 Alderman Jeff Morris
Alderman Keith Phelps

aldermanjeffmorris@gmail.com
kphelps@jamiesonandfisher.com

District 3 Alderman C.H. Sullivan
Alderman Danny Wallace

aldermanchsullivan@gmail.com
aldermanwallace@gmail.com



1st Tuesdays - Public Works Committee
Jeff Morris - Chairman, Minnie Bommer, Danny Wallace

2nd Tuesdays - General Welfare and Public Relations Committee
Minnie Bommer - Chairwoman, Keith Phelps, C.H. Sullivan

3rd Tuesdays - Finance and Administration Committee
C.H. Sullivan - Chairman, All Aldermen/Alderwomen attend

4th Tuesdays - Public Safety Committee
Keith Phelps - Chairman, C.H. Sullivan, Johnetta Yarbrough

All regularly scheduled committee meetings are at 4:00 pm in the Lower Level Conference Room at Covington City Hall at 200 W. Washington St. All Board of Mayor and Aldermen meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings of each month at 5:30 pm in the Board Room on the 2nd floor at Covington City Hall. ALL are open to the public. Official meeting minutes and agendas can be found by visiting www.covingtontn.com.

Public Works Committee Meeting – January 7, 2019

Present: Mayor Justin Hanson, Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Alderman Danny Wallace, Alderman C.H. Sullivan, Alderwoman Johnetta Yarbrough, Director David Gray, Tina Dunn, Nic Shaw, Rebecca Ray, Echo Day, Calvin Johnson, Lessie Fisher, James Dowell, David Gwinn

Mayor elected chair due to Chairman Morris being absent

AMI (Automated Meter Infrastructure) Meeting

- Discussed most recent meeting
- Since the meeting we have had a propagation study, where collectors are going to be located
- We have acquired our FCC (Federal Communications Commissions) license and site survey will begin in February
- Completion possibly end of this year or early 2021

Update on 2018 CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) / Application for 2020 CDBG Grant

- 2018 CDBG, one more small project to finish up.
- Have had public meeting to close out 2018 and public meeting to open 2020
- 2020 grants awarded in September

2020 SDG (Site Development Grant)

- TNECD (Tennessee Economic & Community Development) announced that we were awarded \$420,000 for water rehab at Rialto Industrial Park
- Will be used to replace asbestos line within the park

Gasifier Update

- Still waiting on one air quality permit
- Had meeting with TDEC (Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation), CPW (Covington Public Works), City Attorney, and Lloyd Lipman's company
- Because feed stock is medical waste, there are more items that need to be done
- EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) wanted to clarify whether it was gasification or incineration. It is gasification.

Additional Lighting North Covington Housing Authority

- Chief Lindsey requested that we add lighting between properties
- Must set poles and run wires from the street
- Christi Billings took to her board and they are willing to pay \$118/mo to have lights
- Our cost is only \$300 up front
- Motion made to move forward with request, approved. Report accepted

Discussed litter in median within city limits

Codes Division Report

- Working with Fire Department, Sam Simmons is doing beer inspections while Jason Jenkins is out
- Home Program update, 9 applicants
- Clean Up / Fix Up, new marketing and branding, Saturday, April 4th
- Attorney Witherington is going to draft a memo regarding citations and summons
- Old Maley funeral home off square has been sold and the couple may invest in other properties
- Director Fisher submitted Code Compliance Department report
- Gave update on Zaxby's and car wash
- Update on proposed moratorium
- Update on Round 3 blight. Bledsoe latest property to come down. Temporary hold on further properties being torn until State completes investigation on asbestos removal procedures.

Motion to accept report, approved.

No further business, meeting adjourned

Official meeting minutes and agendas can be found by visiting www.covingtontn.com.

City of Covington 2019 Year in Review

Over the past months, I have heard from many residents that they have a renewed sense of pride in our community. There is a feeling that things are moving forward, and it makes me proud to serve as your Mayor! Great things were accomplished in 2019. We began the year with goals to invest in and improve public safety and other essential services. We challenged our department heads to set new objectives, and the result of their work has led to improved quality of life for our residents. We have used grant dollars to help us complete some major projects this year, and we have secured additional grants to continue making improvements.

Below are some of the highlights from the past year. I challenge you to get involved, stay informed, and partner with us to continue moving forward! I have been blessed to serve as your Mayor and I can't wait to see all that we can accomplish in 2020!

- Mayor Justin Hanson



We continue to improve our essential services (police, fire, public works, and quality of life) all while reducing debt and our overall annual budget and not raising taxes. You can view our annual audits at www.covingtontn.com.

Public Safety



We are committed to keeping our community safe! In July, Richard Griggs was voted as the new Chief of the Covington Fire Department and in August, Larry Lindsey was voted as the new Chief of the Covington Police Department. We are proud to serve with these gentlemen!



Chief Larry Lindsey reported that crime in Covington was down for 2019. We have seen a 50% reduction in burglary, an 11% reduction in larceny, a 34% decrease in assault, and a 20% decrease in domestic violence cases. Year to date we have hired 12 new officers and 2 more officers will begin the Memphis Police Academy in February. We still have much work to do, but we are taking steps in the right direction to make Covington a safer place to live.



In November the Covington Fire Department announced that their Insurance Services Office (ISO) public protection classification improved from a Class 4 to a Class 2. This improved classification will benefit the community, as it may potentially lower both home and property insurance rates. An ISO Class 2 rating is a great accomplishment for the department!

City of Covington 2019 Year in Review

Quality of Life



As part of our continued effort to remove blighted properties and to revitalize our neighborhoods, approximately 20 properties were torn down in 2019. Demolishing these properties not only makes the neighborhood safer but also increases the value for the property owners. We are looking for ways to continue these improvements.



In February the City of Covington completed improvements at beautiful Frazier Park, made possible by a TDOT grant of \$721,988.50 with a \$214,000 local match. Improvements include connectivity (sidewalks) from the Community Center on Jackson Street through the park, to Boys & Girls Club, Head Start, and Children & Family Services. The work also included ADA compliance (ramps and crosswalks), improved drainage, and lighting.



In April, the City of Covington made it very easy to pay your taxes, utilities, business licenses, permits, citations, and other things by offering online bill pay. Now you can take care of those things from the convenience of your computer or mobile device. Visit www.covingtontn.com to learn more!



Covington Parks and Rec secured a Project Diabetes grant of \$242,220 with no city match to install a bicycle park and pump track. This grant will also allow us to purchase loaner bikes and helmets for kids who don't have them and hire a full-time park maintenance worker to help kids who do not know how to ride. The bicycle park will be built at the Newman Property at Cobb Parr Park in 2020.



Because it is the main thoroughfare into and out of our City, it is important that we work to enhance the Highway 51 corridor. We are in the process of tightening zoning rules and regulations along Highway 51 so that we can be proactive for new businesses coming to Covington.



In September, several repaving projects were completed within the City. We are also working with TDOT to secure additional funds to continue larger scale paving projects in 2020-2021. According to TDOT, Highway 51 from Winn Ave. to Hope St. will be repaved between March - June 2020. This will be a huge improvement for our Highway 51 corridor!

City of Covington 2019 Year in Review

Jobs and the Economy



New business growth is very important to any city and indicates that entrepreneurs are confident in their ability to do well here. We are happy to report that over 30 business owners made the decision to open their businesses here in 2019, and still more that decided to expand their business in Covington! Business growth benefits us all and we will continue to support local business owners!



In September Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, TN Department of Economic and Community Development, Commissioner Bob Rolfe and VF Corporation announced that the company is locating a new manufacturing facility in Covington while investing nearly \$7.5 million and creating over 220 new jobs in West Tennessee. The new VF facility is located in the same building as Sugaright in the north industrial park.



The City of Covington partnered with Tipton County and the Industrial Development Board to purchase 65 acres at the Rialto Industrial Park. This additional acreage, adjacent to the existing 85 acres, makes this property very marketable to potential industrial developers.



Industry expansion/development and further job creation are crucial to our local economy. The City of Covington received a \$420,000 grant from the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) for continued water line replacement and improvement in our Rialto Industrial Park.

These are just some of the great things the City of Covington team members accomplished this year! We also celebrated our Covington Chargers, supported each other in some difficulties, and challenged ourselves to do better when we could. If we continue to work together, we can achieve amazing things in 2020!



We would like to congratulate Ms. LeAnn Stewart for being named the Covington Parks and Recreation Department's Teammate of the Year! Also nominated were Lily Yates and Sherl Rose. The nominees were selected by the Parks and Rec managers for their dedication and hard work. We appreciate Director Joe Mack and his team for the great work they're doing to further improve the quality of life here in Covington and Tipton County!

CONGRATS

TO ALL OUR MEMBER HOSPITALS WHO WERE SELECTED AS RECIPIENTS OF THE

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S
2019 "BEST FOR BABIES"

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2019 "BEST FOR BABIES"

Baptist Memorial Hospital - Tipton • Bristol Regional Medical Center
Children's Hospital at Erlanger - East • Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center
Franklin Woods Community Hospital • Jackson-Madison County General Hospital
LeConte Medical Center • Maury Regional Medical Center
Methodist Le Bonheur Germantown Hospital • Methodist Medical Center
Parkwest Medical Center - Covenant Health • Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital
Saint Thomas Rutherford Hospital • Tennova Healthcare - Clarksville
Tennova Healthcare - Cleveland • TriStar Centennial Medical Center
TriStar Hendersonville Medical Center • Williamson Medical Center

**Congratulations
Baptist - Tipton!**

Hello

2020

**Tipton County
Community
Chorus**

**First
meeting
of the
new
year.**

**January
13th at
6:00 PM**

**IS 2020 THE
YEAR TO START?**

Message us on facebook
for more information.

Clopton Line Dancers
or TCCA Line Dancers

Now Available

**WI-FI
PRINTING**

Did you know that you can now print documents directly from your own phone, tablet or laptop? You no longer need to log in to a computer in the library

It's so easy to do; just follow these easy instructions:

- Go to <https://printer.net/dscctcp/print> or download the app Printeron
- Upload your document.
- Click on the desired printer. Black & White or Color
- Go to the front desk of the Library/LRC and pay as you normally would.



COVINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

101 Tennessee Avenue - Covington, TN 38019 - 901-476-2578



[Visit us on our Facebook page](#)

WINTER FIRE FACTS

Nearly half (46.8%) of all fatal fires occur between November and February.

January leads all other months in residential fires, heating fires and fatal fires.

When the temperature drops below 32 degrees, Tennesseans are 40% more likely to have a home fire than if it were above 32 degrees.

Heating equipment is the leading cause of home fire deaths nationally and the second leading known cause in Tennessee.



Click below to learn more!

EVERY

62 minutes

Tennessee has a structure fire.



Be a Guardian of Your Community.

BE A COVINGTON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

www.VolunteerFireTN.org

1-844-Vol-Tenn (1-844-865-8366)



COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



[Visit us on our Facebook page](#)

Tuesday night, Covington Police Department, Covington Fire Department, Tipton County Sheriff's Department, and many other surrounding agencies remembered Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Calvin Jenks with the annual Sea of Blue which marked the 13th anniversary of his end of watch. Trooper Jenks was performing a routine traffic stop when he lost his life. We are honored to participate in this memorial each year. Norm Jenks, Calvin's father, said about his son, "He was relentless in doing what was right." Thank you for your service, Trooper Jenks.



LOCK IT
OR LOSE IT

Covington Police Department (901) 475-1261

REMOVE Your Valuables LOCK Your Vehicles



In early November, Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper LeJulian Roy was injured in an on-duty accident which very easily could have taken his life. We were pleased to visit with Trooper Roy this week and rejoice over his amazing recovery. LeJulian is thankful for the prayers and support he has received from this community. We appreciate his service and look forward to seeing his recovery continue!



5000 eight graders are attending!

The inaugural P2P West Tennessee will take place at the Ripley Power and Light Building in Ripley, TN on March 4th and 5th 2020 from 8:00am-3:00pm both days. All public, private and home schooled 8th graders in Tipton, Haywood, Lauderdale, Crockett, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Lake, Madison, and Obion counties are invited to attend this two day event! Community leaders, mayors, Tipton County officials and HTL Advantage gathered this week to learn more about this event.

Pathways2Possibilities (P2P) is a hands-on, interactive career exploration experience, designed to help 8th graders link their passions to a paycheck. ***We are looking for area businesses to partner with P2P!***

There are three opportunities for you to join the P2P team:

Event Sponsor—email rray@covingtontn.com to request sponsorship levels

Pathway Professional—facilitate hands-on activities with the students at the event

Community Volunteer—event day activities, such as passing out materials, monitoring flow, signing in visitors, parking assistance, etc.

This is a great approach for developing our future workforce! Send us an [email](#) or call 901-476-9613 ext.117 to get more information on this exciting event!!

[VISIT THE FACEBOOK EVENT PAGE BY CLICKING HERE!](#)





We would like to congratulate Ms. Debbie Craig on 10 years of service as accounting clerk with the City of Covington Utility Department. It is a pleasure serving with you, Debbie!



Tipton Christian Academy would like to invite you to join them for their Open House and Ribbon Cutting January 26th at the Upper School Building. Open House is from 2-4 p.m. and the Ribbon Cutting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m.



Reminder - Property taxes are now due! There are several ways to pay:

Pay easily online at <https://paycovingtontn.com/taxes.html#/>

Pay by Phone: 1-844-867-1859 This is an automated line so you must have the receipt number to complete the payment. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover accepted

Pay in Person at City Hall, 200 W. Washington St., Covington, TN 38019

ATTENTION UTILITY CUSTOMERS!

The City of Covington Utilities Department offers 4 easy ways to pay your bills:

Pay at City Hall:

Drive thru & office hours are 8 am - 4:30p.m. Monday - Friday

Pay by Phone:

Call 1-844-876-2911 (You must provide your account #)

Pay Online:

Visit www.covingtontn.com and click "**Online Bill Pay**"

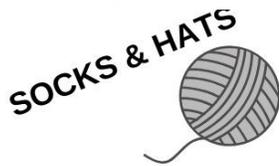
Automated Draft:

Form to draft payment from your bank account can be filled out at City Hall.

As per rules that went into effect on July 1, 2015, the City of Covington is **strictly enforcing** due dates, cutoff dates, and late/reconnect fees for our utility customers. All payments must be received **BEFORE 4:30 p.m. on the last day to pay**. Any payment received **AFTER 4:30 p.m.** on the last day to pay will be subject to a \$50 charge. This charge must be paid in order to ensure services are not disconnected or to re-connect services in the event that they have been disconnected. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS.** Please refer to the chart below for Last Day to Pay dates and Disconnect Date:

BILL DUE DATE	LAST DAY TO PAY	DISCONNECT DATE
13th of the month	23rd of the month	24th of the month
24th of the month	3rd of the month	4th of the month

JANUARY EVENTS @ YOUR LIBRARY



TIPTON COUNTY STITCH-ALONG
JAN. 18th 10-12:00 PM
 Crochet & Knitting Group bring a project to work on, or if you want to learn, bring the following supplies:
 Skein of Red Hear Super Saver yarn size H crochet hook or size 10 knitting needles

COLORING CLUB
JAN. 21st @ 12:00PM

BOOK CLUB
The Turn of the Key
 by Ruth Ware
JAN. 21st @ 1:00 P.M.



Movie Days

Ages 18 & Up
 @ 1:00 PM

Overcomer - JAN. 3rd [PG] 119 mins
Downton Abbey - JAN. 14th [PG] 122 mins.
Cool Runnings - JAN. 24th [PG] 98 mins.
Judy - JAN. 28th [PG-13] 118 mins.



JAN. 11th @ 1:00 PM

TAB is a group of teens ages 12-17, who meet once a month to help plan teen activities, select new materials, and volunteer.

Wi-Fi Printing is now Available!



Download the App Printer on or
<https://printer.net/dscctcpl/print>
BW \$0.10
COLOR \$0.25

GENEALOGY HELP
 w/ River City Chapter of
 the Daughters of the
 American Revolution
JAN. 13th 9:30-11:30AM



ANIME CLUB

JAN. 11th @ 2:00 PM *AGES 12-17*



Friends of the Library Meeting
JAN. 23rd @ 7:00 P.M.

New members are welcome!



Ancestry Library Edition is available
 @your library



Check-out **FREE** e-magazines

www.rbdigital.com/50emagazine/service/magazines/



Check out e-books for FREE

Tennessee R.E.A.D.S., powered by OverDrive, is a collection of downloadable ebooks and audiobooks that you can access with an valid library card



LEGO CLUB

AGES 11 & UNDER

JAN. 2nd @ 1:00 PM
JAN. 18th @ 11:00 AM
JAN. 23rd @ 4:00 PM

HOMESCHOOL BOOK CLUB

JAN. 16th
K-3 - 1:00 PM & 3rd & Up 1:15 PM
The Bravest Dog Ever (K-3)
 by Natalie Standiford

The One Hundred and One Dalmations (3rd & Up)
 by Dobbie Smith
 Copies are available at the front desk for checkout

Donate your old LEGO's to our
LEGO Club!

Mother Goose Story Time
Ages 0-2
Every Thursday @ 9:00AM

Preschool Story Time
Every Wednesday & Thursday
@ 10:00AM

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
Ages 0-PreK
 Sign-up at the Library
READ BOOKS, WIN PRIZES



MAKE IT @ YOUR LIBRARY

JAN. 30th @ 4:00 PM



AGES 11 & UNDER



Yoga Storytime

JAN. 11th @ 11:00 AM

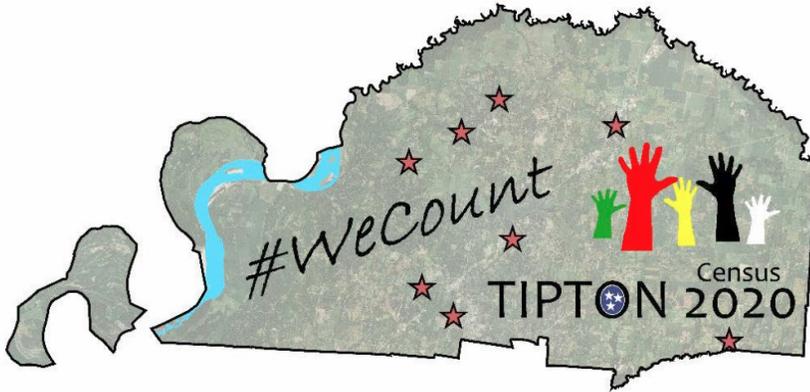
MOVIE DAY

JAN. 2nd @ 4:00 PM

CHILL OUT SCOOBY DOO!

[NR] 90 mins





Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States®
**Census
2020**

#2020census

This information is designed to help citizens of Tipton County to understand the importance of participating in the 2020 Census by completing and submitting the questionnaire. Every municipality and the County are committed to ensuring that all individuals living in Tipton County on April 1, 2020, are counted in the Census. Our ultimate goal is to ensure that in Tipton County, we:

COUNT EVERYONE ONCE, ONLY ONCE, AND IN THE RIGHT PLACE.



Each year, the Federal Government distributes \$675 billion dollars in federal funds based on an area's population per the Census count. Our county will receive money to support school lunches, housing, food stamps, all manner of grants, and many other programs based on the Census. The 2020 Census will be the basis of these distributions for the next ten years. Our Constitution requires that all residents of the United States are to be counted in the Census every ten years.



The Census Count is used to determine how many representatives our district has in Congress, and can also potentially affect your county district representation.



Historically, the under-counted persons who did not participate in the Census were children under the age of five, immigrants, and people with a lower income.



A complete and accurate Census is paramount to equity, opportunity, and addressing the many issues faced by our region and the nation.



Local Census Partners: • Tipton County Government • City of Covington • Town of Mason • Town of Atoka • Board of Education • Tipton County Library • City of Munford • Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce • South Tipton Chamber of Commerce • UT AG Extension • Town of Brighton • First Utility District • STEMC • The Leader • City of Gilt Edge • Town of Burlison • Town of Garland • Community Organizations • Businesses • Local Philanthropic Organizations • Munford Memorial Library • Churches • UT/TSU

www.tiptonco.com/census2020