ORDINANCE # 2026-16
INTRODUCED BY VIERRET
DATE INTRODUCED 06-02-2026
ITEM NUMBER 2026-06-01
PUBLIC HEARING 07-07-2026
ADOPTED/TABLED 07-07-2026
EFFECTIVE 07-22-2026
BOOK # PAGE #
RECORDATION #
AMENDED BY ORDINANCE #
DATE AMENDED

ADOPTION

INTRODUCTION

CITY OF COVINGTON
STATE OF LOUISIANA

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2026-16

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON ADDING THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS TO THE COVINGTON CODE OF ORDINANCES: CHAPTER 98 UTILITIES ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL SEC. 98- 6 PRIVATE WATER SERVICE

Whereas, the Covington Code of Ordinances Chapter 98, Section 98 – 1 through 98-5 set forth general regulations regarding water use; and

Whereas, the Code of Ordinances requires all properties in the City Limits to tie into the municipal water system, including the requirement to extend water mains, and precludes private water service, except for limited irrigation wells; and

Whereas, situations have arisen where various factors result in the tie-in to the municipal water system and/or the extension of water mains being impractical, unreasonable and/or financially unfeasible; and

Whereas, the Covington Public Works Department requires flexibility in determining whether a water tie-in should be waived under certain adverse conditions:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Covington, at its regular session convened, that the Covington Code of Ordinances Chapter 98 Utilities Article I In General be amended to add Section 98 – 6, as follows:

Sec. 98- 6. Private Water Service.

A property owner may seek a waiver of the requirement that their property connect to the city water service. The request must be submitted in writing to the Department of Public Works with an explanation of the proposal, a justification for the request, and a plan (s) or schematics (s) of the proposed well. The request must receive approval of the Department of Public Works, the City Engineer, and the Chief Building official before the waiver is

warranted. Factors to be considered include, but are not limited to, the topography of the property, the distance from the improvements on the property to the municipal water line, the practicality of extending a water main and any other factors that would affect the reasonableness, feasibility and practicality of a municipal water tie-in. In the event a waiver is granted, the property owner may install a private well in compliance with all applicable municipal and state laws. The owner shall supply subsequently operate the system in compliance with all applicable municipal and state laws in perpetuity.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions herein which can be given effect without the invalid provision and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

WHEREUPON, this ordinance having been submitted in writing, having been read by title and adopted at a public meeting of the City Council of the City of Covington, State of Louisiana, was then submitted to an official vote as a whole, the vote thereon being as follows:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION by Verret, seconded by Inman.

YEAS: 5 **ABSENT:** 2

NAYS: 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of July, 2026.

/s/ _____
MARK W. VERRET
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

/s/ Jo Ann D. Rucker
JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK

Presented to the Mayor on this 8th day of July, 2026, at 9:00 o'clock A.M.

/s/ Jo Ann D. Rucker
JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK

Approved ✓ or Vetoed ___ by the Mayor on this 9th day of July, 2026.

/s/ [signature]
~~MARK R. JOHNSON~~ Erin Stair
~~MAYOR~~ Acting Mayor

Received from the Mayor on this 9th day of July, 2026, at 9:20 o'clock A.M.

/s/ Jo Ann D. Rucker
JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK