

**COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting of February 13, 2020**

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Coventry Town Hall.

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Edward Diebold called the meeting to order and asked Administrator, Anna Bryant to record the following Trustees present: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. All Trustees were recorded present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Old Business:**

Edward Diebold advised that the Board met with ODNR yesterday to discuss the dam property. He advised Carol Eubanks that the kiosk will be placed at the clock tower until a permanent location near the gatehouse is finalized.

**Approval of Minutes**

200213-01 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of January 9, 2020. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**New Business:**

**2020 NOPEC Energized Community (NEC) Grant**

Anna Bryant explained this grant is provided by NOPEC to help communities implement energy savings or energy infrastructure measures. Over the last several years we have used this money to replace all of the windows in the Administration/Fire Department building. The last phase of this project was completed last month, so the 2020 grant will reimburse the Township for that cost.

200213-02 Edward Diebold made a motion to authorize the filing of an application for the 2020 NEC Grant for \$9,880.00 to be used to reimburse the Township for the purchase and installation of energy efficient windows at the Administration and Fire Department building. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Reports by Department Heads**

**Sgt. Sanchez from the Summit County Sheriff's Office** reported that there were 667 calls for service and 44 arrests over the last month. They have been doing some extra enforcement in school zones, but overall there hasn't been any unusual activity in the Township.

**Dave Koontz, Summit County Engineer Representative** reported on County activity in the Township. Barbicas Construction will begin work on the Portage Lakes Drive resurfacing project in mid-March. Brief discussion was held over possible conflict with the school's 5K fundraiser in May. He gave a brief update on ODNR's N. Reservoir Dam project. Carol Eubanks asked about the house being torn down next to the spillway, wondering if the spillway would be widened. He did not believe it would be any wider. That is one of two houses set to be demolished as part of the project. George Beckham asked about the increased culvert size on Waterloo Road and how that might affect Brewster Creek. Dave Koontz stated that he would look into the project.

**John Dolensky, Fire Chief** reported there were 173 alarms in January which is an increase over the beginning of last year. 3 doses of Narcan were given in January. He announced the retirement of Lt. Bob Stokes after 37 years of service. He will be missed. He requested approval of the following motion on behalf of the schools for a 5K Run/Walk event that will require closure of Portage Lakes Drive. This approval will be passed on to the County for their final approval.

**May 16<sup>th</sup> Road Closure - 5K Run/Walk Event**

200213-03 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the closure of all intersections and the roadway along Portage Lakes, between and including Coventry High School (west drive) and Ponciana Avenue; for a 5K Run/Walk fund raising event on the morning of Saturday, May 16, 2020 between the

hours of 7:45 am and 9:30 am. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent** reported that he has ordered half of the current salt contracted amount. We haven't used as much as in past years. Currently the road department is going through our sign inventory, checking reflectivity standards and changing out those that need it. They will be working on clearing sight-lines, trimming where needed as the weather allows.

### **2019 Annual Highway System Mileage Certification**

200213-04 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the 2019 Annual Highway System Mileage Certification as received from the Ohio Department of Transportation for 54.78 miles of Township Roads. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Drainage Repairs**

Lael Stouffer explained that this is a local provider, and just a routine purchase order that is done every year. As the weather allows, they will begin working to repair drainage issues throughout the Township.

200213-05 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$ 15,000 to Discount Drainage to purchase materials needed to perform drainage repairs within the township road easements. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Vehicle & Equipment - Repairs/Maintenance**

Lael Stouffer explained that this is to cover repairs and maintenance of all road department vehicles and equipment. This is in accordance with the previously approved appropriation schedule.

200213-06 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a blanket certificate for repairs and maintenance of road department vehicles and equipment in the amount of \$ 25,000. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Bill Meyerhoff, Zoning Inspector** reported that he attended the OTA Winter Conference with Anna and Jeff last month, attending workshops related to zoning. He stated he learned a lot and is looking forward to implementing new protocols. He announced the next Zoning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> and the next BZA meeting will be Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. He is currently working on our storm water management program with Summit Soil and Water Conservation District. He explained that it is important to stay on top of storm water management in the Township.

### **Nuisance Abatements**

Ted & Nancy Utlak from 632 Woodview explained how the nuisance property at 638 Woodview Dr. is affecting them and their neighborhood. They shared photos with the Board.

200213-07 Edward Diebold made a motion to declare the silver van located on the property at 638 Woodview a junk vehicle pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 505.871 and to authorize Zoning Inspector Bill Meyerhoff to oversee its removal. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

200213-08 Jeff Houck made a motion to declare 134 Lowe Drive a nuisance per ORC 505.871 and to authorize Zoning Inspector, Bill Meyerhoff to abate the construction debris located on the property. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Anna Bryant, Administrator** reported that she is currently in the process of reviewing our Township liability insurance renewal through OTARMA as well as the proposal for our health care renewal from Burnham & Flowers. We are looking at a 5% increase vs. the original 8% that was projected. She advised the Board that motions for both of those will be on the March agenda.

**Chris Davis, Coventry School Board Representative** advised residents on the upcoming school operating levy and requested everyone's support. He gave out contact information for anyone who has questions. He announced upcoming events and current academic and athletic achievements. Pam Wayland asked if the income tax would be put back on the ballot. There was brief discussion over school funding.

### **Report by the Fiscal Officer:**

**Lori Seeman** advised that the period to date financial reports have been presented to the Board.

200213-09 Edward Diebold made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 71265 to 71401 as certified by Fiscal Officer, Lori Seeman, and subject to audit. (A listing of the warrants will be made a part of these minutes.) Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Reallocation of Funds – Supplemental Appropriations**

200213-10 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a reallocation of funds or supplemental appropriations for the month of January as listed in the *Appropriation Supplemental* report as submitted to the Board. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Amendment – 2020 Certificate of Estimated Resources**

200213-11 Jeff Houck made a motion to file a request to amend the Certificate of Estimated Resources for 2020 with Summit County Auditor's Office in the amount of \$2,765.00 to reflect money received for the Fire Department EMS Grant. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Reports by Trustees:**

**George Beckham** reported that he has been working with the area known as SAHARA on community well issues. He has been trying to identify exactly where they are and which properties they serve. Many of the water lines are failing, which causes our roads to fail, tying up our road crew and costing taxpayer money to repair. He has been in contact with the City of Akron and will be looking at feasibility of running water lines to that neighborhood. He will be looking at doing another Summit County Land Bank grant to remove dilapidated homes in the Township. Since the Land Bank began, 600 homes have been removed in the County, 6 of them were in the Township. He advised anyone with a vacant/dilapidated home near them to please contact him so it can be put on a list for consideration. He announced that longtime resident and PLAC President/representative, Lynn Stamp passed away last week. Her biggest accomplishment was the expansion of the Portage Lakes Advisory Council. She worked tirelessly to network through the State and local organizations to hear our concerns over the quality of the Lakes.

**Edward Diebold** announced the Portage Lakes Polar Bear Jump will take place Saturday, Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> at the State Park Beach and will benefit the Akron Rotary Camp and Ronald McDonald House. He thanked Mike Garver with Ruhlin for leveling the Clock Tower pad, it looks great. He stated he will miss Lynn – she was a fighter who did so much for our community, our hearts go out to her family. He stated that we will be looking to fill the vacant seat on PLAC, and will be accepting letters of interest until Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at Noon. He reminded everyone that Valentine's Day is tomorrow.

**Jeff Houck** stated that being a new Trustee, he learned a lot by attending the OTA Winter Conference last month. He was able to attend the General Assembly and heard a great presentation on how small government performs better than any other form of government. There is promising information on the State of Ohio as far as income growth, our corporate site prep/selection is second only to Texas –Akron is number one in Ohio for site selection. There are really some great things going on. He urged everyone to take a look at important issues that are on the upcoming ballot.

### **Public Comments:**

Pam Wayland – Edgepark Dr.: Agreed with Jeff about the Township being the most efficient form of government. She thanked Lael and the Road crew for doing a great job over the winter. She thanked Ed and the Road crew for the Christmas lights on the Clock Tower, she loved them. She asked about economic development and what can be done to bring more businesses in to the Township. Edward Diebold explained that he has a seat at the table with Akron. There was some further discussion over taxing, and brief mention of short term rental regulations. She stated that Lynn will really be missed, she worked with her at the polls for over thirty years. She voiced her opinion over the Coventry Township mailing address, asking that it be changed back to Akron.

### **Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:**

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the meeting. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:03.

*Edward D. Duda*

Chairman

*Lori Seeman*

Fiscal Officer