

**COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting of November 12, 2020**

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2020 in an online, public forum via Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions.

**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**

**Announcements:**

Edward Diebold made the following announcements:

- **Leaf & Tire Drop Off: SATURDAY, NOV. 21<sup>ST</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at COTTAGE GROVE PARK.** Residents only please – tires and bagged leaves will only be taken during the specified collection times – NO DUMPING.
- **Boston Avenue – 1-way request:** Per advisement of the Summit County Engineer, the current traffic pattern will remain. The Board will be reaching out to Angola Avenue residents to discuss obtaining additional right-of-way.

**Old Business:**

**Approval of Minutes**

201112-01 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the workshop and Regular Meeting of October 8, 2020 and special meetings of October 23, 2020 and November 4, 2020. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**New Business:**

**Summit County Solid Waste Management Plan Update – 2021-2036**

Marcie Kress from ReWorks gave a brief presentation on the Plan update that they have to renew and file with the EPA every 15 years. She explained that the new plan would not increase fees and all services we now have would continue. The biggest changes would be in the relocation of their offices and the establishment of a new service center.

201112-02 George Beckham made a motion to adopt a Resolution approving the 2021-2036 Summit County Solid Waste Management Plan. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Cottage Grove Park Improvements – Fencing**

201112-03 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 to Sentry Fence for additional fencing and gate upgrades at Cottage Grove Park as outlined in their November 10, 2020 estimate. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Edward Diebold explained that they are installing the new fencing and it's looking great so far. He is really happy for the neighborhood and the public that enjoy use of that park.

**Reports by Department Heads**

**John Dolensky, Fire Chief** reported that there were 182 alarms in October – 106 were EMS and 76 were non-EMS/Service related. 11 doses of Narcan were dispensed, which is an increase from the summer months. He reminded residents that it is never legal to burn leaves or put them in the lakes.

He advised that complaints need to be made while the burning is occurring. The Fire Department will come out to take a report and then file it with Akron Air Quality who issues the fine.

**Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent** reported that the first leaf and tire drop off on November 7<sup>th</sup> was very successful, collecting approximately 125 yards of leaves. The Road Department has winterized the parks and assisted with trenching for the new admin/fire/town hall well. Storm culvert work is still scheduled and all of the trucks are going through their DOT maintenance for winter. They are prepping for transition to winter work, installing the plows on trucks. Edward Diebold mentioned that he is aware that the loader is not in good shape. Lael Stouffer explained that it is twenty years old and will need to be replaced. He stated that it has been overhauled a few times already and is one of his most used pieces of equipment. He will be starting the process of replacing it. Jeff Houck asked how the salt supply is. Lael Stouffer explained that they are in good shape as far as salt. He will have a motion for the December meeting for his annual purchase of salt through C.U.E.

**Mike Harrison, Zoning Inspector** reported that he has taken the next step on three properties for demolition. He announced there will be four hearings scheduled for next week's Board of Zoning Appeals meeting one of which is for a short-term rental permit. The next BZA meeting after that will be on December 4<sup>th</sup>. In the last month he has issued 6 permits. He is continuing to work on nuisance abatements and short-term rental compliance.

### **Nuisance Abatement – 604 Pear Drive**

Edward Diebold explained that the zoning inspector has received complaints regarding the structure at this property. Coventry Fire Department responded to a house fire at this address in August. The Summit County Building Department has formally condemned the housing unit. The property was inspected by the zoning inspector and Summit County Public Health. The health department issued a letter of support for demolition of the structure. If the trustees pass this motion, a lien search will be conducted and all lienholders will be notified of this action and notified that they may ask for a public hearing on the matter. Once required lienholder notification has taken place and all conditions of ORC 505.86 are met, the trustees can approve a contractor for demolition. Bids from demolition contractors are pending. The township could use grant funding from the Summit County Land Bank for the demolition of this structure. Any township money spent will be assessed to the property tax.

201112-04 Edward Diebold made a motion to declare the structure at 604 Pear Dr. a nuisance, and order that the nuisance be abated upon meeting the conditions of the Ohio Revised Code 505.86 by razing the structure. 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 on lighting improvements that have been made on the exterior of the Fire Department and Community Center. She also advised the Board that the WiFi upgrades have been completed throughout the Township offices and access has been added to the Town Hall. We are in the process of beginning the new well project with Donamarc and are waiting for permit approval from the County.

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

**Lori Seeman** advised the Board that their period to date financial reports will be in the Board of Trustee mailboxes.

201112-05 Jeff Houck made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 72182 to 72298 as certified by Fiscal Officer, Lori Seeman, and subject to audit. (A listing of the warrants will be made a part of these minutes.) George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Resolution for Advancement of Funds from the County Fiscal Office**

Lori Seeman explained that this motion allows the Township to operate during the first quarter of 2021.

201112-06 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the Resolution for Advancement of Funds for Tax Year 2020 from the County Fiscal Officer. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **CARES Act Funding – County Payroll Appropriation**

201112-07 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a Resolution establishing the appropriation of CARES Act Funds for Payroll Support and declaring an emergency. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Lori Seeman explained that since we can't "encumber" payroll, a motion is needed to appropriate the funds we received.

### **Budgetary – Repayment of Advances**

Lori Seeman explained that this motion is to repay interfund advances that were never repaid back in 2015.

201112-08 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a repayment of Interfund Advances from 2015 that were never repaid to the General Fund as follows:

- Advance #1074 - \$2,500 from Fund 2945 to Fund 1000
- Advance #1075 - \$8,000 from Fund 2401 to Fund 1000
- Advance #1076 - \$3,265.68 from Fund 2191 to Fund 1000
- Advance #1077 - \$62,000.00 from Fund 2191 to Fund 1000

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

### **Budgetary – Amendment to the Certificate of Estimated Resources**

201112-08 Jeff Houck made a motion to amend the 2020 Certificate of Estimated Resources as follows:

- Fund 2902 – FEMA Grant \$5,758.30
- Fund 2272 – HB 614 Local Coronavirus Relief: \$393,510.33
- Fund 2272 – Governor Controlling Board: \$159,369.81
- Fund 2273 – Summit County COVID-19 PSGP: \$228,295.65
- Fund 2273 - Summit County COVID-19 PSGP, Policing Rebate: \$82,500.00
- Fund 2194 – Post Fund Adjustment per 2019 Audit: \$366,684.00
- Fund 2181 – Remove Revenue per Audit (no longer a valid fund): -\$7,000.00

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

### **Reports by Trustees:**

**Jeff Houck** explained that he has had the privilege of getting more involved with the Fire Department over the last few weeks and is impressed with the complexity of the department. It has definitely been a learning experience and makes him appreciate the men and every thing they do. The Board is also still working on some right of way issues throughout the Township and hope to resolve those soon.

**George Beckham** reported that he attended the leaf and tire drop off event last Saturday and felt it was well attended. The Cottage Grove neighborhood has implemented a new "Neighborhood Watch" program with the Sheriff's Office which he feels is beneficial to the area.

**Edward Diebold** thanked the voters for passage of the General Fund Levy. It's good to be at a point where we can do a replacement. He is happy with the Cottage Grove park improvements so far. It's great to see the neighborhood really taking ownership of that area. He announced that the Kiwanis Santa Delivery has been canceled for the first time in history. It's really disappointing to not be able

to participate this year. The Clock Tower will be decorated for Christmas. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and stated that he his already looking forward to 2021.

**Public Comments:**

- Brian Merkel – 638 Woodview: Addressed the Board regarding speeding issues on Woodview. Residents living in Coventry Crossings use this back entrance/exit and fly through the neighborhood to get to Swartz. It has been going on for years and is just getting worse. Another neighbor also spoke of the issues and asked what the Township can do to slow people down, or deter them from using that access to the allotment. George Beckham explained that we are having this issue in other areas of the Township as well and have been in communication with the County Engineer to look at options. At the end of the day, we really need a Deputy to issue citations. Edward Diebold stated he would ask Chief Whitfield to have patrol stepped up in that area.

**Executive Session**

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

Adjourned to executive session at 7:45 p.m.

Convened executive session at 7:45 p.m.

**Discussion:**

**Motion to adjourn executive session:**

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

Adjourned executive session at 8:45 p.m.

Reconvened regular session at 8:45 p.m.

**Discussion/Motions pertaining to Executive Session**

Discussion over setting up a meeting with Chief Whitfield to discuss the Sheriff's contract.

**Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:**

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Jeff Houck 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 8:45 p.m.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer