

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting of January 14, 2021

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in an online, public forum via Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Call to Order:

Chairman Jeff Houck 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:

Approval of Minutes

210114-01 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of December 10, 2020 and the Special Meetings of January 5, 2021 and January 7, 2021. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC HEARING – Proposed Re-Zoning

Jeff Houck advised that the Board of Trustees will now begin a public hearing for the proposed change in zoning classification for Summit County Parcel 1907846, Manchester Rd. He asked that anyone wishing to speak during this hearing be sworn in at this time.

He explained that this request involves the rezoning of currently zoned B-3 General Business property to C/I Commercial/Industrial. The proposal is for additional office and warehouse space for an expansion of business services for ANR Electric located at 3783 State Rd., Akron, OH 44319. The Coventry Township Zoning Commission has initiated a proposed change in the zoning classification for this parcel based on the application submitted by Dave Pelligra & Architects, Inc. and ANR Electric. The Summit County Planning Commission voted to approve the change in zoning classification for this parcel at the November 19th, 2020 monthly meeting. The Coventry Township Zoning Commission voted to approve the change in zoning classification at the December 15th, 2020 public meeting.

David Pelligra, Architect explained that they began the rezoning process in September. This property had been for sale since 2014 and ANR feels they have a good use. It was determined that a variance was not a good option.

George Beckham explained that when reviewing this request initially, he was concerned over storage use. In his tenure as Zoning Inspector, he worked really hard to keep storage units off of Manchester Road because he felt that storage facilities in general do not do a whole lot for the community. In this case, he's looked at what he wants to do, mainly allowing use of the space for small businesses to get started which takes small contractors out of our neighborhoods. He feels it is a good fit.

There was no opposition to the rezoning request from the public.

210114-02 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a change in zoning classification for Summit County Parcel 1907846, Manchester Rd., Akron, OH 44319, from B-3 General Business to C/I Commercial/Industrial. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

New Business:

Zoning Text Change – Article 28 and Article 6.01 B7

Jeff Houck explained that this request involves initiating a process per Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 519.12 to make text revisions to Article 28.03 1B and Article 6.01 B7 to make the approval of Short-Term Rentals an administrative function of the Zoning Office versus the current process of requiring an approval by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

210114-03 Edward Diebold made a motion to initiate a text change of the Coventry Township Zoning Resolution to Article 28.03 1B and Article 6.01 B7as follows:

- Article 28.03 1B - Delete text "Coventry Township Board of Zoning Appeals approval" to read "A permit will be issued by Coventry Township Zoning within 30 days of receipt of a complete short-term rental permit application, and:"
- Article 6.01 B7 "Short Term rentals" as listed as a Conditional Use would be moved to Article 6.01 A3 and listed as a Permitted Use per Article 28.

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

George Beckham explained that this was discussed at length during last month's meeting. We are making some changes to make this process work better. Edward Diebold stated we are making it simpler and easier to comply.

Board appointment: Two representatives from the Board of Trustees to the Volunteer Fire and Dependent Fund for the 2020 calendar year.

210114-04 Edward Diebold made a motion that Jeff Houck and George Beckham be appointed as the representatives to the Volunteer Firefighters Dependent Fund for 2021. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Parks Improvements – Cottage Grove Field

210114-05 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 to Sentry Fence to furnish and install additional fencing and/or gate at Cottage Grove Park. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Edward Diebold explained that we are continuing improvements trying to keep ATV's and snowmobiles out of the park.

Parks Improvements – Logan Field

210114-06 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order to Four Points Architectural Services, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for the scope of services outlined in their proposal dated January 8, 2021 to conduct a feasibility study for renovation/addition to the Logan Field House. 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 he has met with an architect and with youth baseball to begin working on scope and mock-up for a new field-house. George Beckham stated that 4-Points is a local architecture firm and is a good choice in companies to work with. Jeff Houck stated that he his excited for this to move forward.

Summit County Combined General Health District – MOU – Screening for NPDES Permit 2021-2025

210114-07 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Summit County Combined General Health District and Coventry Township which outlines services and fees charged for compliance under the Minimum Control Measure #3 for the general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit from 1/1/2021 – 12/31/2025, and authorizing Administrator, Anna Bryant to execute the agreement. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Reports by Department Heads

John Dolensky, Fire Chief reported 1,877 alarms in 2020. There were 75 doses of Narcan in 2020. He requested approval of the following motions:

2020 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

210114-08 Jeff Houck made a motion to enter into a contract with Gatchell Grant Resources, LLC to apply on behalf of Coventry Township Fire Department for the 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) at the cost of \$795 and a fee of 8% (if awarded the grant, not to exceed \$3,500). The grant

application is for a micro-grant not to exceed \$50,000 for a large turnout gear washer/extractor, turnout gear dryer, and a respirator fit tester. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

George Beckham asked if this would be replacing existing? Chief Dolensky explained that they will be converting the existing gear dryer to a hose dryer. The problem they run into is that after a fire, they need to wash and dry their equipment and hose at the same time. The respirator fit tester is needed to replace an old one that doesn't work well.

Fire Department Obsolete Equipment - Auction

Edward Diebold explained that the 1999 Dive Trailer was replaced earlier this year with a new trailer. This equipment is no longer needed by the Fire Department and can be sold at auction.

210114-09 Jeff Houck made a motion to declare the 1999 Dive Trailer as obsolete and to authorize it to be sold via online Auction through Edinburg Auction Sales, and to remove it from inventory upon sale. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent advised the Board that he is working on the 2021 Road Resurfacing Plan which includes drainage improvements in those areas as well. He doesn't have the list yet, but is working with the County Engineer on numbers. They are continuing their annual vehicle maintenance program for all Road Department vehicles. In the next week or so, they will be assisting with digging for new water lines for the new well to supply the Town Hall and Admin/Fire Department. He also will be taking down the Christmas decorations from the clock tower in the next week or so. ANR did install some outlets so we are hoping to expand and improve for next year.

Mike Harrison, Zoning Inspector reported that he has issued 6 zoning permits. 3650 Birdland was approved for a residential addition and a requested variance for 221 Rohner was tabled until next month by the BZA. Properties that are set for demolition are undergoing asbestos inspections.

Report by the Fiscal Officer:

Lori Seeman (excused - out of town)

210114-10 Jeff Houck made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 72436 to 72549 as certified by Fiscal Officer, Lori Seeman, and subject to audit. (A listing of the warrants will be made a part of these minutes.) Edward Diebold 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

210114-11 Jeff Houck made a motion to amend the 2021 Certificate of Estimated Resources as follows:

- Fund 2902 - Ohio EMS Grant Reimbursement: \$134,025.71
- Fund 2021 - Gasoline Tax - Increase Revenue Amount: \$10,000.00

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 stated he had nothing additional to report.

Edward Diebold wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated he is hoping 2021 will get things back to normal. Our Fire Department and Road Department worked hard over the holidays. We had vehicles down and sick personnel, and still did a great job. He thanked them.

Jeff Houck advised residents of the County's COVID call center. He stated that Summit County is still in the red for COVID and urged everyone to still be super careful even with vaccines being given. He noticed that when he is out and about it seems that most people are compliant which is encouraging. He also noted that the second round of small business paycheck protection loans are available to anyone interested.

Public Comments:

Jeff Houck reminded everyone of the public comment policy and the 5 minute time limit for comments.

Dan Whisman – 3590 Birdland: Mr. Whisman asked if there had been any movement on the request to vacate the fire lane between his property and the Hinton property. Brief discussion over the delay in receiving a revised petition due to COVID. Discussion over the driveway and retaining wall built by the Hinton’s and how that might affect the vacation. Mr. Whisman is wanting half of that property, and they have built on more than half of it at this point. The Board was not aware that the Whisman’s were contesting what the Hinton’s had built and will need to take that into consideration. We will be consulting with the Township attorney before moving forward.

Executive Session

Jeff Houck made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to prepare for, conduct, or review negotiations or bargaining sessions of the IAFF Local 2286 Contract as well as to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned to executive session at 7:50 p.m.

Convened executive session at 7:50 p.m.

Discussion:

Motion to adjourn executive session:

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

Adjourned executive session at 7:53 p.m.

Reconvened regular session at 7:53 p.m.

Fire Department - SAFER Staffing

210114-12 Jeff Houck made a motion to hire Tyler Booth as a Full-Time SAFER Fire-Medic effective January 27, 2021. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.


Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

George Beckham 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 7:55 p.m.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer