

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
General Workshop of April 8, 2021

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met for a general workshop on Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in an online, public forum via Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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. Trustees were recorded present.

Also in attendance were: Fiscal Officer, Lori Seeman; Deputy Fire Chief, Adam Rockich; Road Superintendent, Lael Stouffer; Zoning Inspector, Mike Harrison;

Topics for Discussion:

1. Portage Lakes Drive – Engineer’s proposed closure at N. Turkeyfoot: Deputy Chief Rockich updated the Board on an upcoming situation involving the closure of N. Turkeyfoot at Portage Lakes Drive. We have just been notified of this issue and will be working with the Engineer’s office to try to decrease the amount of time the road is closed, or will be trying to have at least one lane open to emergency response. Detouring around this for 45 days or more will significantly impact response times to a large portion of the Township. Staging options and cost for additional staffing was discussed.
2. Requests to vacate: Anna Bryant informed the Board that she sent an email to meeting with the adjacent owners regarding the Onaway/Birdland property. She will be meeting with them along with Irv and George to discuss property survey. Hoping to come to some resolution with these owners soon. She also stated that the survey sent to Ms. Rogers and Mrs. Pukas for the Malley/Mong property has not been turned back in. Jeff Houck advised the Board that he spoke to Mr. Woods regarding the Alma fire lane and informed him he would need to prove he has access to the lake.
3. Nuisance Properties
 - a. 604 Pear –Jeff Houck commented that the property is not looking so hot. Mike Harrison explained that Mr. Sebe is waiting for his point of sale well inspection. He does have his building permit and it’s not looking better or worse. George Beckham stated this has been dragging on for three months now. Jeff Houck stated that he is hopeful there is a lot of behind the scenes stuff going on. Anna Bryant reminded them that they did give a June or July 1st deadline for the exterior work. She will verify from the minutes and let Mike know.
 - b. 730 Chenoweth – motion to declare nuisance on regular agenda: Discussion was held over the condition of this property. Mike Harrison explained his attempts to notify the property owner who is in prison. George Beckham explained that this property has been a nuisance for years and has flipped owners multiple times. It also sits in a low point so Lael Stouffer mentioned flooding issues.
4. NOPEC Energized Community Grant (grant filing deadline 6/30/21): Anna Bryant reminded the Board of funding available to be used on any township energy improvement project. HVAC improvements are needed at the Road Department, so these funds could help cover that cost.
5. Broadband availability: Jeff Houck stated that he is looking into money available for broadband expansion and upgrades. There is a strong feeling that if we don’t make broadband available as a utility for everyone that communities/residents will be left behind. Infrastructure upgrades and programs to get it into peoples’ houses that can’t afford it could be developed. Brief discussion over FairlawnGig and other municipalities that offer broadband. Jeff stated that he would continue to research this issue.
6. Parks Improvements – Logan Fieldhouse project: Edward Diebold stated that he has the sketch from the architect that shows a new building in front of the old one. He will forward the drawings to everyone.

7. New Franklin Tudor House – Memorial Day event: George Beckham briefly mentioned the event being held at the Tudor House and stated anyone interested could man a booth to distribute Township information.
8. Employee Appreciation: Jeff Houck advised that Lala's would be making pizzas for all of the employees on Wednesday, April 14th in appreciation for their hard work.
9. SAFER Grant – Advancement of Funds: Lori Seeman explained that she has to do an advance to cover the SAFER Grant until we receive the funding. She was advised by Local Government Services to do it that way.
10. Commercial Building – Killian and Bender: George Beckham explained that this building received a use variance while Bill Meyerhoff was zoning inspector and he wasn't able to stop the construction when the permit came up for renewal. Brief discussion over the building and neighborhood.
11. Clock Tower 5k Race: Adam Rockich asked the Board if they had been advised of the 5K Race taking place on May 8th. No one else was aware of the race. Brief discussion over previous races that were planned and the approval procedure to close Portage Lakes Drive. Adam Rockich stated that from his understanding it had already been approved by the County.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the General Workshop. 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 6:45 p.m.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer