

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting of April 8, 2021

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees will meet in regular session on Thursday, April 8, 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 will call the meeting to order and ask 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

210408-01 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of March 11, 2021 and the Special Meeting of March 23, 2021. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business:

Request to Vacate a Township Roadway – Onaway Ave., West of Birdland Ave.

210408-02 George Beckham made a motion to table a Resolution approving the request to vacate an unimproved public road easement in lieu of a property survey being done. This request was submitted by Robert R. III & Pamela S. Hinton, 3598 Birdland Avenue (1907648) to Summit County for action per ORC 5553.04 and ORC 5553.045. Said public road easement being located west of Birdland Avenue and known as part of Onaway Avenue located between Lots 20 and 21 of Ben Davis Heirs Allotment. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

NOTE: A cement driveway already built by the applicant may encroach onto a portion of the easement that the owner of Lot 20 is entitled per ORC 5553.045 and that a title search completed at the Township's request uncovered no rights to this easement by other Ben Davis Heirs Allotment owners.

2021 OTARMA Renewal – Township Property & Liability Insurance

Anna Bryant explained that we have received our renewal invoice for our Township Property & Liability Insurance for 2021-2022, effective April 28, 2021 in the amount of \$61,796. We will be receiving a capital distribution reimbursement of \$4,327.09 taking our actual cost down to \$57,468.9. This is a decrease of \$1,347 from last year's cost. We are working with our representative from Summit Insurance to further evaluate our coverages to see where we can continue to save.

210408-03 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the Township Property and Liability renewal effective date of April 28, 2021 with the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) through Summit Insurance in the amount of \$61,796.00. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program Renewal

210408-04 Edward Diebold made a motion to renew the Township's enrollment with CareWorks Comp for the Ohio Township Association 2022 Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program with a total due of \$4,285.00, which is a 44% discount off of the annual group premium based on our Workers' Comp claim experience (estimated savings of \$6,620). 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

Dave Koontz, Summit County Engineer Representative updated the Board on activity by the Engineer's Office over the last month. He advised that the North Reservoir Portage Lakes Drive closure is set for fall. The Portage Lakes Drive culvert replacement went out for bid on March 29th and is going through County

Council to be awarded. Sam Ross met with Deputy Chief Rockich to discuss the closure of the road which is estimated for 45 days. They are looking at all available options to shorten that time frame. Discussion was held over the detour and delays for emergency service that could occur if there isn't some type of access through the construction zone for emergency response.

John Dolensky, Fire Chief (out of town - vacation)

Bariatric Cot - Acceptance of Donation

Jeff Houck explained that per the Fire Chief, our current EMS cots are rated to carry up to 750 pounds and can handle the vast majority of our patients. However, this bariatric cot is rated to carry up to 1600 pounds will handle the occasional larger patient.

210408-05 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve, for the amount of \$0.00, the acceptance of the donation of a previously owned Stryker bariatric cot from American Medical Response (AMR); and to agree to indemnify and hold harmless AMR from any and all claims, liability and damages, from the use of this bariatric cot. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Stryker EMS Cots - Donation to Portage Lakes Career Center

Jeff Houck explained that these surplus EMS cots are rated to carry up to 500 pounds and have been in storage for several years. They will be used by the PLCC Fire Academy to train future emergency response personnel.

210408-06 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the donation of two (2) surplus Stryker EMS cots to the Portage Lakes Career Center, for the amount of \$0.00, if the Portage Lakes career Center agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Coventry Township and the Coventry Township Fire Department from any and all claims, liability and damages, from the use of this these cots. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Fire Department Uniforms

210408-07 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a Purchase Order in the amount of \$3,156.75 to Stitches and Screens for Fire Department uniform shirts. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Fire Department - SAFER Staffing

Jeff Houck noted that this follows the proper execution of the FEMA SAFER Grant. This grant increases safety for firefighters and the public by bringing our on duty staffing into compliance with national standards by adding a forth fire-medec to each shift.

210408-08 Jeff Houck made a motion to hire Rory A. Skolnik as a Full-Time SAFER Fire-Medic effective April 21, 2021. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Disposal of Surplus or Obsolete Fire Department Equipment

210408-09 Jeff Houck made a motion to sell miscellaneous surplus and/or obsolete fire department on govdeals.com; or to otherwise dispose of as determined by the Fire Chief. 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 requested the following motions:

Asphalt

Lael Stouffer explained that this motion is to support our road repairs for the township and is in accordance with the previously approved appropriation schedule.

210408-10 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve \$10,000 for the purchase and delivery of hot mix asphalt. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Clock Tower – Rock Embankment Vegetation Control

210408-11 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve 2 applications of vegetation control by Envirosapes at the Clock Tower rock embankment and along the public sidewalks at Portage Lakes Drive and South Turkeyfoot Road down to Cormany Road in the amount of \$4,304.44 for the 2021 season. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Lael Stouffer explained that this will not include the rocks along the actual dam. We have been doing this once a year, but are trying to be more proactive to keep the weeds under better control.

Parks – 2021 Mowing

210408-12 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the proposal from Envirosapes for up to 30 mowings for the 2021 Season as outlined below, for a total not to exceed \$34,623.00:

- Logan Park: \$ 10,350
- Cottage Grove Park: \$ 3,522
- Ingleside Park: \$ 4,240.50
- Administration: \$ 1,405.50
- Community Center: \$ 2,550
- Pleasant Valley Cemetery: \$ 2,100
- Lockwood Cemetery: \$ 8,805
- Lockwood Park: \$ 1,650

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

Lael Stouffer explained that the prices are virtually the same as last year and incorporates weed control. George Beckham asked if we need to mow every week? Lael Stouffer explained that we don't usually use all of the 30 mowings. They cut back on mowing if it's dry out.

2021 Road Resurfacing Project

Lael Stouffer explained that this year's program will resurface 6.5 miles of township roadways. Road Department funds will cover \$600,000 and the General Fund will cover \$75,000. All costs have been previously accounted for and approved during appropriations. Once the list is finalized, the streets will all be posted on the website. We don't have a timeline or start date yet.

210408-13 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a blanket certificate in the amount of \$675,000 for the 2021 Road Resurfacing Project. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Mike Harrison, Zoning Inspector reported that he has issued ten zoning permits since last month. The BZA met Tuesday and had 4 cases. Pick's conditional use variance was renewed for two years. There was also a deck and addition and a garage approved. The Zoning Commission will meet on April 20th on the text revisions to Article 28, Short Term Rentals.

Nuisance Abatement – 730 Chenoweth

Mike Harrison explained that he has received complaints regarding the conditions of this property and the outdoor storage of rubbish and inoperable vehicles. The owner of record has not responded to correspondence sent from the zoning inspector. Notification has been left at the property with instructions to call the zoning office to discuss the complaints. The zoning inspector has been unable to reach the owner of record or a representative of this property. If the trustees pass this motion, the zoning inspector will coordinate entering onto the property and abating the nuisance.

210408-14 Jeff Houck made a motion to declare the property at 730 Chenoweth Dr a nuisance and order that the nuisance be abated upon meeting the conditions of the Ohio Revised Code 505.87 and 505.173 by removing rubbish and junk vehicles from the property. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

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. She requested approval of the following motions:

210408-15 Edward Diebold made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 72740 to 72836 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.

Budgetary – Advance out from the General Fund

Lori Seeman explained that this will take care of the first few months of payroll and benefits of the new SAFER employees. Once we receive reimbursements, the General Fund will be repaid in full.

210408-16 Jeff Houck made a motion to Advance \$60,000.00 to Fund 2931 – Safer Grant from the General Fund. 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 on a situation at Dunkin Donuts regarding the line going out through the road causing traffic issues. ODOT offered to sent OSP, and the Sheriff was not sure if it was a ticket-able offense. This also happens at Starbucks on Arlington. He did speak to the owner who explained that drive-thru was 60% of his business before the pandemic, and now it is 90%. He tries to watch for it and direct people to the parking lot area around the building. There was some discussion about additional signage. He went on to discuss open burning issues in the Township stating that smoke can be a problem. When a neighbor calls the Fire Department they will go out and take a report which is then submitted to Akron Air Quality. Our additional Deputy on patrol is going well and should help out a lot while on duty Tuesdays through Saturdays. He attended the Summit County Planning Commission meeting regarding our Short-Term Rental text change – they did recommend approval, so it will go before the Coventry Zoning Commission and then to the Trustees for final approval. The Township Association meeting focused on the pandemic stimulus and what Townships can do to lobby for funds. It appears Townships were not included as an oversight in the bill.

Edward Diebold asked everyone to be aware of our waterways when cleaning up spring yard waste and to be sure not to place in our lakes. He thanked the Road and Fire Departments for their response during the strong storms we've had roll through our area recently. He appreciates their hard work to keep our roads open.


Jeff Houck reported that he attends the County meetings that give us updates every two weeks regarding COVID status in the County and State. The variants are out there but vaccinations are going well. Johnson and Johnson vaccine is going out to homebound residents. They are looking at allowing public events soon. There are still questions about the variants and vaccine length. He advised that he is looking into some grant funding for improving broadband availability and affordability, so he will be working on that.

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 7:42 p.m.


Chairman


Fiscal Officer