

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

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Coventry Town Hall, 68 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319.

Call to Order:

Chairman Jeff Houck called the meeting to order and asked Administrator, Anna Bryant to record the following Trustees present: George Beckham, (absent); Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Two Trustees were recorded present. George Beckham – excused/on vacation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Proclamation – 100-Year-Old Birthday

210708-01 Jeff Houck made a motion to proclaim July 15, 2021 as “Mary Franz Day” honoring and Celebrating her 100th birthday. The Proclamation will read as follows:

WHEREAS, Ms. Mary Franz been a life-long loyal supporter of the Coventry Township community; and,

WHEREAS, The Coventry Township Board of Trustees wish to celebrate Ms. Mary Franz upon the occasion of her centenary birthday; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Coventry Township Board of Trustees hereby offers its admiration, congratulations and very best wishes to Mary Franz; and,

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that in consideration of the above, Coventry Township, by and through its Board of Trustees does hereby proclaim July 15, 2021 as Mary Franz Day in honor of her 100th Birthday.

Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Old Business:

Approval of Minutes

210708-02 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of June 10, 2021 and the Special Meeting of June 16, 2021. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Sheriff Fatheree – Introduction

New Sheriff, Kandy Fatheree introduced herself to the Board and Coventry residents. She explained she is changing some things about how the Sheriff’s Office operates. She introduced Deputy Bowen as our new 8-hour car. There are several new Deputies in the community. Jeff Houck welcomed her to office and state she appreciates the relationship the Township has with the Sheriff’s Office.

New Business:

Levy Issues – Placement on the November 2nd General Election Ballot

Jeff Houck explained we have received the Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue from the County Fiscal Officer and are now ready to submit the levies to the Board of Elections for placement on the November 2, 2021 General Election Ballot.

- **POLICING LEVY**

210708-03 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the resolution for the Replacement of an existing 4 mill Policing Levy with an increase of 1 mill, for 5 years for Coventry Township,

effective January 1, 2022, first Collection to be 2023 for placement on the November 2, 2021 General Election Ballot. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Edward Diebold noted that we have increased coverage in our current contract and will need the additional revenue from this levy to sustain that service.

- **ROAD LEVY**

210708-04 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the resolution for the Replacement of an existing 2.5 mill Road Improvement – Current Expense Levy, for 5 years for Coventry Township, effective January 1, 2022, first Collection to be 2023 for placement on the November 2, 2021 General Election Ballot. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Edward Diebold explained that this will bring the levy up to current property values that were just revaluated. We will be able to make capital improvements and continued road improvements.

- **FIRE LEVY**

210708-05 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the resolution for the Replacement of an existing a 2.25 mill Fire & EMS current expense levy, with an increase of 1 mill, for 5 years for Coventry Township, effective January 1, 2022, first Collection to be 2023 for placement on the November 2, 2021 General Election Ballot. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

N. Reservoir – Letter to State Representatives

Edward Diebold stated that this is a hot topic and he has spoken to Mike Studeny from the State Park Office. He asked him to relay that he appreciates the support of the residents and fundraising. There will be a weed treatment in front of the shoreline on North Reservoir in the next few weeks. They can not treat the whole lake at one time. It would be detrimental to the health of the lake and the wildlife. Discussion from residents in attendance regarding the treatment. Jeff Noble from PLAC also spoke to explain the stance of PLAC as well as the State. He stated that this is an evolving issue and the cause is unknown, so there is no good way to address it. The State is working behind the scenes to come up with a solution. He also discussed the dredging project and buoys asking everyone to avoid the area.

Notice to Legislative Authority – Liquor License Transfer – 3333 Manchester Rd.

Jeff Houck explained that the Board of Trustees has received notice from the Ohio Department Liquor Control for a request to transfer a D2 liquor license permit from Pinolo, Inc. dba Titos Mexican Grill, 3333 Manchester Rd., Ste. 14, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319 to Titos Coventry, LLC, 3333 Manchester Rd., Ste. 14, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319. A decision to request a hearing or not request a hearing must be postmarked no later than July 16, 2021.

210708-06 Jeff Houck made a motion to not request a hearing for the transfer a D2 liquor license permit from Pinolo, Inc. dba Titos Mexican Grill, 3333 Manchester Rd., Ste. 14, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319 to Titos Coventry, LLC, 3333 Manchester Rd., Ste. 14, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Reports by Department Heads

Summit County Sheriff – Sgt. Mike Sanchez reported that there were 834 calls for service in June, with a total of 4,894 calls year to date. Deputy Bowen was introduced as our new 8-hour car that will be in service from 1-9 Tuesdays through Saturdays. Discussion was held over the road closure and having extra patrol in that area.

Summit County Engineer Representative – David Koontz updated the Board on County Engineer activity over the last month. He stated that the Portage Lakes Drive closure is on schedule. The box culvert has been poured however the bridge is in worse shape than anticipated. They will do a less

extensive repair now and come back in a few years to complete the replacement. Jeff Houck reiterated that the current cut-through is for EMS access only.

John Dolensky, Fire Chief reported that there have been 1,093 calls to date which is 121 more than this same date last year. He requested the following motions:

Fire Department – Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance

210708-07 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a Blanket Certificate in the amount of \$15,000.00 to cover the costs of vehicle and equipment maintenance for the second half of the year. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Fire Department - SAFER Staffing

Jeff Houck explained 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 fourth FireMedic to each shift.

210610-08 Edward Diebold made a motion to hire Carson M. Drach as Full-Time SAFER FireMedic effective July 28, 2021. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent reported that they are 95% complete with the preliminary drainage work for this year's paving project. He thanked the neighborhood for their patience while contractors and road crew were working.

N. Bender/Killian Road Culvert Project

Jeff Houck explained that during construction of the new building at Bender and Killian it was discovered that the existing culvert would need to be replaced. Lael Stouffer explained that this particular culvert handles drainage for a large area and would cause significant issues if left to fail. It will be less costly to replace before the property owner paves his parking lot.

210708-09 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a Blanket Certificate in the amount of \$37,000.00 to cover the costs for engineering, materials and labor to complete the culvert replacement project at N. Bender and Killian Road. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Mike Harrison, Zoning Inspector reported that 14 zoning permits were issued in the last month. There was no Zoning Commission meeting in June due to vacations. The next BZA Hearing will be August 3rd and the proposed Mod-Wash on Manchester Road is under review by the County for drainage.

Anna Bryant, Administrator announced that we are accepting applications for a full-time Administrative Assistant – job description and printable application is available on our website or indeed.com. She went on to note that Bill Straub – longtime Township resident passed away on June 27th at the age of 87. Bill was a valued member of the community, serving as a Coventry Township Trustee from 1974 - 1977, a member on the Zoning Board of Appeals and Treasurer for the Portage Lakes Advisory Council. We wish his family our most sincere condolences.

Report by the Fiscal Officer:

Lori Seeman announced that the Period to date financial reports will be in the Board of Trustee mailboxes. She thanked Anna Bryant for stepping in and helping with payroll and payables while we are short-staffed.

210708-10 Jeff Houck made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 73041 to 73134 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: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Advancement of Funds – SAFER Grant

Lori Seeman explained that we have not yet received any reimbursements but I am expecting to receive one in the next couple of weeks. We have depleted the first advance.

210708-11 Jeff Houck made a motion to Advance \$10,000.00 to Fund 2931 – Safer Grant from the General Fund. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

2022 Alternate Tax Budget

Lori Seeman explained that this is due to the County every year and is available in her office for review by appointment if anyone

210708-12 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the 2022 Alternate Tax Budget. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Amendment to the Certificate of Estimated Resources

210708-12 Edward Diebold made a motion to add \$7,014.29 received from Assistance to Firefighter Grant to the Certificate of Estimated Resources, Fund 2902. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Reports by Trustees:

Edward Diebold wished everyone a happy Independence Day and stated that the makeshift boat parade was nice. We are working on parks improvements and hope to have some preliminary plans for Logan soon. We are finalizing the lease for the dam property with the State and are excited to develop that for the community. He thanked the Fire Department, Sheriff’s Office and Road Department. We run lean and mean.

Jeff Houck also thanked our safety services for keeping everyone safe during the fireworks displays over the 4th. He announced that the efforts to scuttle the Broadband expansion to communities was stopped. He encouraged everyone to get their vaccine and take efforts to stay safe during the pandemic.

Public Comments:

Jim Welton – Dollar Drive: asked how emergency services will be handled during construction on Portage Lakes Drive. John Dolensky explained that they are able to use the access road for EMS, and whenever access is limited they will have to go around. There is Mutual Aid response for fire calls that come in, so Green or New Franklin may arrive before us on those emergencies.

Pam Wayland – Edgepark Drive: discussed the road closure and confusion over broadband. Jeff Houck explained community-based broadband and stated that no community has opposed this.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.


Chairman


Fiscal Officer