

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting of March 10, 2022

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Coventry Town Hall, 68 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319.

Call to Order:

Chairman George Beckham 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

220310-01 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of February 10, 2022, and special meetings of February 24, 2022, and March 3, 2022. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business:

Public Hearing - Zoning Resolution Text Revision/Addition to Definitions Section and Article 23

George Beckham explained that the Coventry Township Zoning Commission (ZC) recommended text revisions to the zoning resolution (Definitions and Article 23) regarding portable storage containers at a public hearing on September 21st, 2021. The Summit County Planning Commission approved the proposed text revisions, with comments and recommendations, at the January 27th, 2022 monthly meeting. The zoning commission held a 2nd public hearing on February 15th, 2022 for a review of the revisions and has recommended approval before the Board of Trustees takes final action. The Board of Trustees may adopt or modify this text change. He stated that he did ask Mike Harrison to remove a name brand from the language to clarify. That was the only minor revision from the Board of Trustees. If approved, this text change becomes effective 30 days after action by the Board of Trustees. He asked if anyone would like to speak for or against these changes.

Mike Harrison explained that the Zoning Commission has been working on this text revision for some time to clear up language regarding temporary construction sheds and storage buildings. Terry Perona, a representative from the Zoning Commission commented that this has been a joint effort to clean up the Township. The additional language helps define "temporary" and "portable" within the code. Mike Harrison stated that these changes if approved will take effect in 30 days.

220310-02 George Beckham made a motion to approve the proposed text revisions/addition to Definitions Section, Residence District Regulations, and Article 23 of the Coventry Zoning Resolution as approved by the Coventry Township Zoning Commission, with modifications to the wording as discussed by the Board of Trustees. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

End public hearing

COSE - Request for Engineering Services

220310-03 Jeff Houck made a motion to request that the Summit County Engineer prepare a Standard Highway Easement for the Township to acquire a 20-foot by 20-foot triangle at the Northwest corner of Parcel 1909402, at the Southeast corner of Boston Ave. and Grupe Ave. The Township will negotiate the purchase with the owner. The Township agrees to pay the County Engineer for the cost of preparation and agrees to pay for the recording fees and other costs. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

George Beckham explained that there has been a situation with the directional flow of the road and a STOP sign that was placed on private property. This will correct the issue for the homeowner.

Reports by Department Heads

John Dolensky, Fire Chief reported that there have been 347 calls to date. There were 173 in February with 111 of them being EMS calls. 62 were fire or service related. He requested the following motions:

Grant Application- Division of Ohio State Fire Marshal

220310-04 Jeff Houck made a motion to apply for the Fire Department Equipment Grant offered through the Division of Ohio State Fire Marshal. The grant request was for a replacement hose washer and shipping in the amount of \$13,250. The grant program will pay for 100% of the costs associated with obtaining this equipment. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

John Dolensky explained that we have a slim chance of receiving this grant due to competition with other fire departments in lower-income areas, but it's worth applying for.

Grant Application- 2022-2023 EMS Training & Equipment Grant

220310-05 Edward Diebold made a motion to apply for the 2022-2023 Training and Equipment Grant administered by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of EMS. There are no matching funds required from Coventry Fire Department. These funds are made available to eligible EMS agencies in Ohio to purchase approved training and EMS equipment items. The funding from the State of Ohio is provided entirely from seat belt fines collected in Ohio. The deadline for the application is April 1, 2022. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

John Dolensky explained that we apply for this annually and usually receive around \$2,500.

Grant Award - 2022 Summit County Emergency Management Special Project Grant for the South Summit Fire Investigation Team

220310-06 George Beckham made a motion to accept the 2022 Summit County Emergency Management Special Project Grant for the South Summit Fire Investigation Team. The Investigation Team is comprised of members from the Barberton, New Franklin, Green, Coventry, Lakemore, Springfield, and Mogadore Fire Departments. Four separate tool caches are funded as well as one 360-degree camera for use by team callouts. The total grant amount is \$10,000. There are no matching funds required from Coventry Township. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent reported that the Township will be advertising for parks/grounds mowing this season. We will be accepting bid proposals from authorized contractors. An ad will go out early next week.

Mike Harrison, Zoning Inspector announced the Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on April 5th at 6 p.m. in the Community Center. The Zoning Commission will not have any public hearings this month but will meet in a workshop to consider map amendments. He issued 4 zoning permits in the last month.

Report by the Fiscal Officer:

David Gissinger advised that the period to date financial reports have been presented to the Board.

220310-07 George Beckham made a motion to receive all bills and salaries warrant numbers 73843 to 73930 as certified by Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger, 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.

2022 Permanent Appropriations Resolution

220310-08 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the 2022 Permanent Appropriations Resolution. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

George Beckham explained that we held a four-hour meeting to go through the appropriations line-by-line. Jeff Houck commented that the staff does a lot to prepare the budget for the year.

Reports by Trustees:

George Beckham reported that there is a Bill pending - Ohio House 563 that will remove all local control on Short Term Rentals. The State is basically saying if we regulate short-term, we have to regulate all rentals.

We'll be watching this to see what happens. He also mentioned that the State has loosened up the law on fireworks. It is now ok to do them 15 times a year. Previously it really was not enforced and so we'll just have to play it by ear. Lastly, he mentioned the passing of John McCutcheon this last January at the age of 62. John was a dispatcher for the Fire Department in the 1990s and a Summit County Deputy. His family has a long history with the Sheriff's Office and in law enforcement, that tradition is to be applauded.

Edward Diebold thanked Kelly and Heather Pariso for all of their work as well as all of the volunteers' help with the Polar Bear Jump. It was a great event as usual.

Jeff Houck reported that he and Anna Bryant attended the Annual Health Department District Advisory Council Meeting. He explained stats on COVID response from the County and stated that we will be seeing mask mandates going away. He also wanted to highlight a new program through the Health Department called the "Gatekeeper Program" which asks residents to volunteer and help report those in need to the Health Department, specifically older residents so the County can get them help and keep them safe at home. A link for that information will be placed on the Township website.

Public Comments:

- **Paul Neugebauer - PLAC:** Announced PLAC will have their annual Litter Clean-Up will be April 30th with more details to follow next month.

Executive Session

George Beckham made a motion to adjourn to executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned to executive session at 7:25 p.m.
Convened executive session at 7:35 p.m.

Discussion:

Motion to adjourn executive session:

George Beckham made a motion to adjourn the 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 7:45
Reconvened regular session at 7:45

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 7:45 p.m.


Chairman



Fiscal Officer

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