

**COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**General Workshop of April 14, 2022**

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met for a general workshop on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Coventry Township Hall, 68 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319.

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.

Also in attendance were: Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger; Deputy Fire Chief, Adam Rockich; Road Superintendent, Lael Stouffer and Zoning Inspector, Mike Harrison.

**Topics for Discussion:**

1. Chief Retirement – Anna Bryant explained that the announcement and hand-off to Adam Rockich will be at the beginning of the regular meeting. Adam Rockich stated that Fire Department personnel will also be attending.
2. Surface Water District – Brief discussion held over the TASC Meeting. The County Executive is handling this and basically, every resident in the County will have to pay an annual fee. It's still in process.
3. ROW Acquisition – Boston/Angola/Grupe/Covelin – Discussion over the deeds and map from the County. Both corners need to be addressed. Lael Stouffer will contact Tim Boley.
4. Town Hall – Sheriff's Office – Anna Bryant advised the Board that the Use Agreement has been approved by Irv and the County's attorney. Once the motion is passed and the agreement signed, it will go to County Council for approval. She also advised that in conjunction with this move, she is requesting a PO for Community Center Improvements/Repairs. The May meeting will be held at the Community Center.
5. 5K Races – Adam Rockich advised that the Fire Department will be on standby for the Akron FOP race on April 23<sup>rd</sup> on the towpath 08-10 with a med unit and 2 people. Coventry Schools will have their clock tower and back race on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 8-10 am. We'll supply multiple FD personnel and vehicles, Road dept. road closed sign. Both races will be billed for our personnel and equipment. George Beckham discussed a request to hang a banner at the Clock Tower to advertise the clock tower race. Pros and cons of allowing this were discussed. It was decided to continue with our practice of not allowing any signage.
6. Power load and Power cot systems - Adam Rockich explained that it would be approximately \$95,679.72 to provide two power cots and load systems for the new medic units. If received earlier than the medic units, power cots could be trained on and put in service before the medic units. We have multiple people with back problems. We have already had one person go out on a worker's comp claim for permanent disability. One injury would pay for the two systems. Asking for ARPA funds consideration. 6-month lead time to order. Brief discussion held over ARPA funds. George Beckham voiced his opinion that funds should be spent on more publicly visible expenditures such as the Logan Fieldhouse, other park improvements, etc. Discussion over the use of General Funds or other funding options.
7. MOU with Summit County Sheriff for radio Channel use: Adam Rockich explained that last year the Sheriff went to encrypted radio channels for security purposes. Since this change, Coventry FD is no longer able to talk with patrol cars. Encryption of all Coventry radios would cost in the range of \$60 - \$68K, this is a one-time cost, all new radios can be ordered with encryption in them. Not having the ability to talk directly with patrol units has delayed responding to crashes etc, when the on-scene sheriffs can't contact directly with responding FD units. Asking for consideration of ARPA funds for the encryption amount only. On top of encryption, we are required to do a lower-level security layer and reprogramming that is going to cost the FD approximately \$6,000. If we do not do the lower level upgrade our radios will not function in 2025. We could save some costs by doing encryption, Link-layer upgrades, and reprogramming all at the same time. Link-layer is scheduled for a price increase July 1<sup>st</sup> of 2022. He also stated that there is \$20-\$25,000 already appropriated for this expense. We don't have to do all the radios at once, but it would be easier to do so.

8. FD RFM's on Agenda – Adam Rockich asked the Board if there were any questions for him regarding motions on the regular agenda.
  - Kemper stitches and screens large uniform order
  - MNJ technology cover Twp. monthly fees for IT support
  - AFG grant overage for gear washer and dryer – extra \$4,000
  - Atlantic emergency services, Ladder truck emergency repair call-related incident (\$4,000 in damages)
  - Lifescan – firefighter physical annual contract obligation
  - Bulk EMS supply order
  - Boiler replacement to the FD side of the building.
  
9. Mowing – Lael Stouffer advised that we opened sealed bids on April 4<sup>th</sup> with Ground Pro being the lowest bid. He called all references and completed a site visit and feels like they are a great option for the season. Anna Bryant verified with the Board that mowing of the dam property will come out of Parks funds. Discussion over an additional mow per week through spring/early summer. It was decided to use up to the 30 mows and then request additional later in the season if needed.
  
10. Clock Tower – Anna Bryant advised that we are waiting on an updated quote from Verdin to replace the mechanism which is completely outdated. George Beckham will reach out to the state to see how we go about obtaining the CIP funds so we can get started on the landscaping and walking path.
  
11. Broadband – Jeff Houck explained that he has been in contact with the County Executive's Office. They are currently re-doing the RFPs. We want to be under the protection of the County's fiber ring for cyber security.
  
12. Yard Waste Events – Dates – Anna Bryant advised that they will be May 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> from 9-3 at Cottage Grove Park.
  
13. BWC and OTARMA Renewals on Agenda – Anna Bryant advised that these are routine motions to renew our liability coverage and BWC Group Rating Program. Seeing slight increases in both.
  
14. Flynn Drive/Boat Drive – Request for Engineering Assistance – Lael Stouffer explained that Flynn Drive currently has a hole in the road from the storm sewer failing. The location of the hole prevents him from doing the work internally. It has to be fixed. He wants to fix the whole road because otherwise it will just fail again in another spot and we'll be constantly chasing it. We did apply for a grant last fall from ODOT for this road which we didn't receive. He explained that his budget is maxed out so funding will have to come from the General Fund. Discussion over cost. Lael Stouffer explained that the Engineer's Office will come back with a recommendation and then we can take it to bid.
  
15. Zoning Boards – Joint Workshop – Mike Harrison explained that there's been some interest in a joint zoning board meeting. He wanted to know if all of the trustees would want to attend or if just one representative would go. George Beckham will attend. It will be an opportunity to review best practices and meet with attorneys.
  
16. Blue Coats Training Grant – Adam Rockich explained that we have an opportunity for a 100% grant to re-do the training room. He'll be submitting an application requesting \$20,000.

**Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:**

George Beckham 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 6:35 p.m.

*George Techon*

Chairman

*[Signature]*

Fiscal Officer

