

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Meeting of April 4, 2023

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, April 4th at 9:00 a.m. in the Coventry Township ADA Room, 68 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Twp., OH 44319, to discuss Township grounds and mowing for 2023, budgetary matters and executive session to discuss a fire department personnel matter.

Call to Order:

Edward Diebold 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, (absent/excused). Two Trustees were recorded present.

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

Township Grounds Maintenance/Mowing 2023

Lael Stouffer presented proposals for mower/trailer equipment as well as a candidate for the new part-time parks maintenance/mowing position. He explained that Joe Marshall will be hired to mow and maintain the Township parks/grounds while Ground Pro will still be contracted to take care of the cemeteries. A brief discussion was held over part-time hours and the blanket certificate amount needed to purchase the equipment. These costs will come out of the Parks fund.

Mowing Equipment

230404-01 George Beckham made a motion to approve a blanket certificate in the amount of \$28,000.00 for the purchase of a Kubota mower, a box trailer and related equipment. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Part-Time Parks Maintenance/Mowing Position

Lael Stouffer explained that he interviewed Joe Marshall, who is a retired Phys-ed teacher from Cleveland Metro schools who currently lives in Springfield Township. He has mowing and landscape experience and was also offered a position at Firestone Golf Course, but opted to go with us. He also has another candidate to interview as a backup, or as a potential road department employee. This position will be overseen by the Road Superintendent, and as with other part-time positions, may be hired or fired at will. Joe will get started later this week.

230404-02 George Beckham made a motion to create the position of part-time Parks Maintenance/Mowing with an hourly rate of \$2.00 less than the hourly rate of a base FireMedic IAFF 2286, with hours not to exceed 1,500 per year. This position is subject to the discretion of the Road Superintendent. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Cemetery Mowing

230404-03 George Beckham made a motion to approve the proposed contract with Ground Pro, Inc. for mowing and trimming of Lockwood Cemetery and Pleasant Valley Cemetery for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Budgetary - Parks

Lael Stouffer outlined proposals from several contractors to begin work on the Lockwood Park renovation. Bertolini was the only contractor to get back to him for the demolition of the existing structures to include the tennis courts and fencing, and to rebuild the base for the new courts for \$40,000. Cardinal Asphalt will dot the pavement for \$41,000, Carpenter Asphalt Sealer will do the paint/stripping and sealing for the new courts for \$30,000 and Sentry Fence will re-install fencing around the courts and the park for a total estimate of \$64,000. He explained that the road department will re-grade the park and will install additional parking spaces as well as repair the existing walking path. We will need to go out for playground estimates once this work is completed so we can best figure out the location and layout for the new set. We will need to establish a BC for \$180,000 to do this project. Discussion was held over funds available in the Parks fund. Edward Diebold stated that we've been holding money back in that account for this reason, but it's taken several years to get

there. This is why we are requesting an increase in the parks levy this spring. It would be nice to be able to knock out a lot of these improvements that are needed in our parks.

Budgetary – Road Resurfacing

Lael Stouffer explained that the road resurfacing is coming back about \$45,000 over the engineer’s estimate. He asked about roads that are in the area where the water line may be run, and if the Board felt he should hold off on those streets for now. Edward Diebold stated he feels we should definitely wait and see if the roads that were on the alternate list can replace them. Lael Stouffer explained he would have to ask the Engineer’s Office and Melway Paving if that is possible. He will be asking for a favor at this point because the estimate has been set.

Fire Department Vehicle Maintenance

Adam Rockich explained various vehicle and equipment repairs that the fire department is facing this year. He requested the following motion.

230404-04 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a blanket certificate in the amount of \$20,000. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Executive Session

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn to an executive session to discuss a fire department personnel matter. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Adjourned to executive session at 10:18 a.m.

Convened executive session at 10:18 a.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; and Edward Diebold yes. Motion carried 2-0.


Adjourned executive session at 11:25 a.m.

Reconvened regular session at 11:25 a.m.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer