

**COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**General Workshop of July 13, 2023**

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met for a General Workshop on Tuesday, July 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Coventry Township Community Center, 335 E. Willowview Drive, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319.

Chairman 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, yes. All Trustees were recorded present.

Also in attendance were: Fire Chief, Adam Rockich; Road Superintendent, Lael Stouffer; and Zoning Inspector, Laura Cowles. Fiscal Officer, Dave Gissinger was on vacation.

**Topics for Discussion:**

1. Parks:

- a. Lockwood Park Remodel: Lael Stouffer discussed the status of the project and stated that it's going to cost more money than originally estimated. Currently, he is projecting that they will be about \$10,000 over budget. He explained that they basically ran into the worst-case scenario during demolition. Underneath the old court they found drainage pipes, trash and an old building foundation. He explained the next part of the process as well as the need for a retaining wall at the far end of the court. Bluegrass Landscape has consulted with him regarding the wall and submitted an estimate. He stated he is very comfortable with having them do the work which can begin as soon as paving is complete. There will be a three-week cure time for the asphalt before Carpenter can paint the court. He will be having Barberton Tree remove trees within the park and also several that are right on the property line. The property owner adjacent to the park has signed off on the removal of those trees. Jeff Houck commented that he is in favor of the tree removal. They'll only cause issues down the road and we're putting a lot of money into this park, so it makes sense to take them down now.
- b. Community Center: Anna Bryant and Lael Stouffer discussed the need for tree removal around the building at the Community Center. We had a large branch come down from one of the trees a few weeks ago and after evaluating the rest of the trees, it makes sense to take them all down. They are causing foundation and roof issues. Anna Bryant stated that once they're down, the landscape can be re-graded to divert water from the building and we can look at eventually bringing in new plants that won't get as big. It would be nice to make it cohesive with the Clock Tower landscape to tie our properties together.
- c. E. Reservoir Dam: Anna Bryant explained that she and George Beckham met with Bluegrass Landscape last week to discuss designs for the walking trail. TJ will send drawings and estimates over so we can discuss them at the next meeting.
- d. Logan Fieldhouse: Edward Diebold stated he doesn't have any updates, but 4Points is getting the bid documents together. He stated that his dad confirmed that was an old dump, so we definitely need to get some soil testing done in that area.
- e. Levy: George Beckham briefly discussed ways to get the word out about the levy.

2. Road Department: Lael Stouffer explained the change order for the pavement program. The streets where the water line may be extended have been removed.

3. Zoning

- a. KFC (Rood/Manchester Road Issue): Laura Cowles explained that the Engineer's office recommended that the Board not allow access to Rood Drive. KFC is still going ahead with their project.

- b. 37 Weil Drive – Akron Summit Properties: Laura Cowles explained that she and Irv Sugerma met the property owner and he is supposed to return the structure to a garage by September 1<sup>st</sup>. They will need permits from the County for demolition.
- c. Zoning 101: Laura Cowles explained that she is putting on a three-part workshop for residents and business owners to learn more about zoning requirements and processes in the Township. Anna Bryant stated that she will post the event on Facebook as well as on the website so participants can register.
- d. Hoarding Task Force: Laura Cowles explained that she has joined the Summit County Hoarding Task Force and announced that there will be an Expo at the Health Department on July 26<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 p.m. She is hoping to learn more about hoarding so she can better deal with zoning issues as they arise in the Township.

4. Fire Department

- a. Staffing – open position: Adam Rockich explained that he is considering several options for the open position in the fire department. He will be interviewing candidates over the next month or so.
  - b. Truck funding: Adam Rockich asked the Board if any of the ARP funding would be used toward the purchase of a new truck. He stated he would just like to know either way so he can plan. George Beckham stated that he would like that money to go toward parks and capital improvements, things that are more like legacy type projects. Adam Rockich stated that the current truck is over 25 years old, so it could be considered a capital purchase. There was some brief discussion over money that may be left over after the Logan Field project. Edward Diebold stated we need to get with Dave to see how much may be available.
  - c. HVAC: Adam Rockich advised the Board that the new units will be installed on July 26<sup>th</sup>.
5. Sidewalk/Trail Funding – AMATS: George Beckham explained that we were notified by the Engineer's Office that there is a grant available for sidewalks and trails. Typically, you have to have the plan finished to apply, however, this grant is for the development of the plans. He went on to explain areas that he felt we could apply for and develop. There was a brief discussion over the previous set of plans that were done by EDG to connect the high school with the middle school via Portage Lakes Drive and Cormany Road. The deadline for the grant application is coming up soon. He stated that he and Anna Bryant would meet with the folks from the County to discuss options.

6. Community Well/Akron Water

- a. Update on well decommissioning: George Beckham explained that Donamarc will be doing the work. The well is turned off and he needs to get together with Lael to coordinate. This has taken a back seat to other projects in the Township, but we will get it handled soon.
- b. Water line update – notify residents no EPA funding: A brief discussion was held over how we should handle the lack of funding from the EPA. George Beckham has spoken to Emmaline from the City of Akron and we can look at possibly doing several small projects where it is most needed. We can look into other funding sources as well.

**Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:**

Jeff Houck made a motion to adjourn the general workshop. George Beckham 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 6:30 p.m.

Edward D. Dield

Chairman



Fiscal Officer

