

**COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting of August 10, 2023**

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees will meet in regular session on Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Coventry Township Community Center, 335 E. Willowview Drive, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319.

**Call to Order:**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

**Homecoming Parade – Portage Lakes Initiative Foundation**

Anna Bryant explained that Mark Haag with the Portage Lakes Initiative Foundation has requested a road closure of Cormany and Portage Lakes Drive for approximately 1 hour to accommodate a Homecoming Parade. He has approved the parade route and time with Coventry Fire Chief, Adam Rockich and the Summit County Engineer's Office. Pending approval from the Board of Trustees, final approval will be made by the County Executive's Office.

230810-01 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a request to close Cormany Road and Portage Lakes Drive from Coventry Middle School to Coventry High School for a Homecoming Parade on Sunday, October 8, 2023 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and to send to Summit County for final approval. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

**Logan Fieldhouse Project**

Edward Diebold explained that we are finalizing plans for the Logan Fieldhouse Project with 4Points Architects. A soil study needs to be completed prior to anything going out for bid since the new structure will be in a different location than the existing building. Results from this testing will be returned within 5 weeks of signing the agreement.

230810-02 Edward Diebold made a motion to accept the proposal from Intertek-PSI for 3 soil boring samples and testing at Logan Field in an amount not to exceed \$4,900.00. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

**City of Akron – CSO Consent Decree 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment**

George Beckham explained that this has to do with the City's sewer upgrade and will help improve water quality for the surrounding communities of Lakemore, Springfield, and Peninsula.

230810-03 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a Resolution supporting the City of Akron's 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment to its CSO Consent Decree. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

**Reports by Department Heads**

**Sgt. Mike Lopez, Summit County Sheriff Representative** reported 874 calls for service in July which is up compared to 748 last year. There were 36 traffic accidents, 65 citations and 18 arrests. Numbers in all categories are up from last year. George Beckham asked about a part on Cargo Avenue which is an Airbnb issue. Neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Meredith explained that there were roughly 600 people on Cargo which is a small dead-end street. No parking fire lane was discussed as well as multiple issues with drugs and weapons at that house. Sgt. Lopez stated that he was not personally familiar with the case, but would look into it. Edward Diebold and George Beckham went on to briefly discuss the short-term rental regulations and stated that the Zoning Commission is looking at imposing a distance requirement. Adam Rockich further discussed the no-parking fire lane option and explained that he has been tasked with compiling a list of streets in the Township that should be considered for no-parking fire lane designation.

**Chuck Hauber, Summit County Engineer Representative** reported that KFC has been approved and all permits were received. He noted that Swartz Road resurfacing is scheduled to begin on August 21<sup>st</sup> and will go through Thanksgiving. They are widening the berm, but not the actual lanes.

**Adam Rockich, Fire Chief** reported 213 calls for service in the last month, 31 of those times we were already on another alarm at the same time. Having numerous calls at the same time definitely puts a strain on our manpower.

### **2023 BWC Safety Grant – Second Round Application**

Adam Rockich explained that Coventry Fire was approved for Safety equipment through the BWC earlier in the year. This is a 3 to 1 match, we did not max out the application and we can resubmit for a second extrication tool so that both of our medic units would be equipped with them. This device could aid in auto extrication, as well as forcible entry into a home for medical alarms. The device cost is \$13,995 with the BWC share of \$10,496.25 and the Township's share of \$3,498.75.

230810-04 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a request to apply for the 2023 BWC Safety Grant for a combination extrication tool for our second medic unit not in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

### **State of Ohio Retention and Resiliency Grant**

Adam Rockich explained that the State of Ohio has announced a retention and resiliency grant that focuses on keeping public safety employees on the job through retention bonuses. This will allow the department to offer a retention bonus for EMS personnel in the amount of \$4,000 per person. The employees, if they decide to accept will sign a two-year commitment letter to the township fire department. If they leave their position before that, they will be required to pay back the \$4,000.

230810-05 Edward Diebold made a motion to accept and execute The State of Ohio Retention and Resiliency Grant in the amount of \$56,000. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

**Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent** stated that the road crew has been busy working on resurfacing preparation. They have finished the culvert and subbase repairs. The contractor has started some leveling and he expects paving to start in the next few weeks.

### **2023 Road Resurfacing Program**

The 2023 Road Resurfacing Program will include Willowedge, Anstock, Derling, Chenoweth, Gougler, Krebs, Wheeling, and Doubler.

230810-06 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a blanket certificate in the amount of \$475,051.28 for the 2023 Road Resurfacing Program. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

### **2023 Road Resurfacing Program – Change Order**

Lael Stouffer explained that after the roads were milled they discovered some additional work that needed to be done in these areas.

230810-07 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve Change Order No. 1 From Melway Paving Company, Inc. for the 2023 SCE 422 Resurfacing Program to approve additional work on Derling Drive and Willowedge Drive. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

### **2022 Road Resurfacing Program – Fog Seal**

Lael Stouffer explained that the fog seal of the 2022 road resurfacing program was postponed until June of 2023 due to weather last fall.

230810-08 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order for Melway Paving in the amount of \$55,257.50 for the completion of the fog seal for roads under the 2022 resurfacing program. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

### **Tree & Brush Removal**

Lael Stouffer explained that this is to cover general maintenance and emergency tree removal in Coventry Township road right of ways.

230810-09 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a blanket certificate in the amount of \$ 10,000 for the purposes of tree and brush removal. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

**Laura Cowles, Zoning Inspector** reported that she issued 12 permits in the month of July, sent 10 code enforcement letters, and is winding down on property maintenance issues for the year as far as mowing. The next Board of Zoning Appeals meeting is scheduled for September 5<sup>th</sup>, however, there are no applications currently. The Zoning Commission will have a workshop meeting next Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. She reminded anyone interested in learning more about Coventry Zoning that her "Zoning 101" workshops will begin September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

**Anna Bryant, Administrator**

### **Community Center – Technology Upgrade**

Anna Bryant explained that the Community Center is being used more and more for meetings and presentations. We would like to purchase a smart board and related equipment to help us present information to the public in an easier way. We will also be adding Wi-Fi to this building – it has not had an Internet connection for years at this point. Wi-Fi will also allow for upgraded security monitoring and smart access in the near future. She requested the following motion:

230810-10 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a blanket certificate in the amount of \$ 4,000 for the purchase of a 55" Smartboard and stand for the Community Center. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

### **Report by the Fiscal Officer:**

**David Gissinger** advised that Period-to-date financial reports have been presented to the Board

230810-11 Edward Diebold made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 755487 to 75628 as certified by Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger, and subject to audit. (A listing of the warrants will be made a part of these minutes.) George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

### **Budgetary – Purchase Order Approval**

230810-12 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve purchase orders in excess of the Fiscal Officer's obligation authority as follows:

- Browse McDowell – Legal Fees – for \$36,000
- Ohio Edison – Street Lighting – for \$7,250
- Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation – Workers' Comp - \$7,210

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

### **Reports by Trustees:**

**George Beckham** discussed ongoing issues with short-term rentals in the Township. He explained that he is looking into some things we can maybe improve within the zoning code. We have a lot of small streets in the Township and he has tasked the Fire Chief with reviewing them for consideration as "no parking fire lane" designation. He has been working on a possible sidewalk grant that could potentially connect the schools to the Towpath Trail and our existing Portage Lakes Drive sidewalk. He noted that EPA funding was approved after they initially denied funding for the Akron Water Line extension project. It's great news that the project will be able to move forward. He advised that Akron will have a meeting for residents and officials in the next 4-6 weeks as they continue to work on engineering plans.

**Edward Diebold** thanked Anna Bryant again for the work she did on the Clock Tower Project it really looks great. He also thanked volunteers who have planted flowers and maintained the island at Lockwood corners as well as the Administration/Fire Department and S. Main and Portage Lakes Drive intersection.

**Public Comments:** None

**Executive Session**

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with IAFF Local 2286 and to consider the purchase of property for public purposes. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

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

Convened executive session at 7:38 p.m.

**Discussion:**

**Motion to adjourn executive session:**

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

Adjourned executive session at 8:10 p.m.

Reconvened regular session at 8:10 p.m.

**Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting:**

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the regular 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 8:10 p.m.



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Chairman



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Fiscal Officer