

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
General Workshop of November 9, 2023

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met for a General Workshop on Thursday, November 9, 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 as present.

Also in attendance were: Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger; Fire Chief, Adam Rockich; and Zoning Inspector, Laura Cowles.

Topics for Discussion:

1. Clock Tower Tree Lighting Event: Anna Bryant advised that the road closure authorization has been received from Summit County. Signs will be posted by the Summit County Engineer's Office and Lael will coordinate that like last year. We are covering the cost of Deputies, port-o-lets, and \$2,000 toward the Sully's bill (same as last year) The BC is on the agenda for approval. She advised that she also signed the F-Permit forms and sent them back to McKayla. Adam Rockich stated that the fireworks are good to go.
2. Policing Contract: Dave Gissinger stated that the numbers are good and there's a possibility we could add more coverage. He will email to ask what one more 24-hour or 40-hour car would add to the contract. Saving the funds to use for block coverage or special events is also an option.
3. Community Wells: A brief discussion was held regarding establishing a policy that no private utilities may be installed under Township roads. Discussion over remaining community wells and communication with residents that they will be shut down as Akron water comes through. Anna Bryant will send a letter out on behalf of the Board to inform everyone that if they are on a community well, it will be turned off if it runs through any Township right-of-way. The letter will also serve as a reminder that applications are due by 12/31/23.
4. Parks/Twp. Maintenance: The parks levy issue was passed by the voters earlier in the week.
 - a. Parks Board: George Beckham explained that we had a parks board years ago and he would like to re-establish it. A brief discussion was held over putting out a notice for applicants. Anna Bryant stated representatives from the youth organizations should be considered if possible.
 - b. E. Res. Dam Improvements (CIP Funds): Anna Bryant advised that she and George Beckham have a meeting with the landscape designer next week.
 - c. Logan (ARPA Funds): We are waiting on finalized bid documents from 4 Points. George Beckham stated we have options for tying into Akron water. There was a brief discussion over the soil test findings and the impact to the budget.
5. Zoning: Laura Cowles discussed board openings in both the Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. We will request applicants turn in letters of interest by December 15th and then will appoint new members beginning in January. We also will have an opening on PLAC with Paul Neugebauer stepping down at the end of the year. In December, there will be a public hearing for a rezone and text change as well as motions for vehicle clean-up and housing demos. Laura Cowles advised the Board that she is looking into the Summit MetroParks program for Wild Backyards. It's an educational program that focuses on native, non-invasive plants. She stated that she feels there is potential to add some options into the zoning code.
6. Christmas Party – Lala's December 9th Anna Bryant finalized the time for the party as 11 am to 1 pm at Lala's. Anyone with Santa gifts should get them over to the admin office before the end of the day Friday, Dec. 8th. She stated she will send out the invite to employees this week.

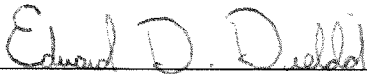
7. Fire Department

- a. Rescue Truck: Adam Rockich discussed loan and financing options. The FDA has a low-interest loan that could be utilized. A brief discussion was held about doing a capital improvement levy, but with the current climate, it would be hard to pass. Dave Gissinger commented that the General Fund could handle a 10 to 15-year loan.
 - b. Fuel BC's: Adam stated that last year at this time, the General Fund had to support the road and fire departments for fuel expenses. This year, we have about \$4,000 left. We may be ok but could still need a little bit to get us through.
 - c. New Ambulances: Adam Rockich stated that there was a delay with the ambulances due to a paint issue in Florida. They will be red with silver striping instead of grey. He will pick up the units next Tuesday and he hopes to have them in service by the first week of December.
 - d. Road Dept. Lower garage – structural issues: Adam Rockich stated that he met with Lewis Construction and they are recommending demo of the existing building. It needs too much work to repair, and will cost too much money. We will need a retaining wall to support the FD parking lot and will need to plan on transitioning out of this space soon.
8. Community Engagement Proposal: Anna Bryant briefly discussed a proposal from a resident, Corrinne Herrick who reached out to offer newsletter, social media, and website support. She recently began working with the schools and would give us a discounted rate. A consistent message to residents, and bringing back newsletters in the form of online subscriptions would be a way to pass information on to the community. Anna Bryant stated that she's just throwing this out there for consideration at a later date.
9. Phone and Copier System Upgrades: Anna Bryant stated she and Kelly Thornton have been working on looking at some upgrades. Our phone system and the Administration copier leases are coming up soon. Anna Bryant stated she would have more information in the next month or so.
10. PLD – Street Light Upgrades: There has been a request to update the Portage Lakes Drive street lamps to LED to brighten up the area. The globes on a lot of the lights are mismatched as well. Anna Bryant is getting pricing from Ohio Edison and will have more information in December.
11. Year-End: Dave Gissinger advised that temporary appropriations will need to be approved in December. Departments should also start closing out BC's and converting anything needed to PO's to get through year-end. There was a brief discussion over use of any remaining ARPA funds after the Logan Field project.
12. OTA – Winter Conference – Feb. 7th-9th: Anna Bryant asked if anyone was planning on attending the Winter Conference and noted it takes place on a meeting week. Discussion to move the Trustees' meeting was held and will be discussed further in December.


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 6:55 p.m.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer