

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting of May 9, 2024

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in Regular session on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Coventry Township Community Center, 335 E. Willowview 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 as present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Old Business:

Approval of Minutes

240509-01 George Beckham made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of April 11, 2024. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business:

Zoning Public Hearing:

George Beckham announced that the Board of Trustees will open a public hearing to consider amendments to the Zoning Resolution. These amendments have been reviewed and approved by the Coventry Zoning Commission, as well as the Summit County Planning Commission. He asked anyone speaking either for, or against the proposed changes to be sworn in. nobody in the audience stood to be sworn in.

Article 30.00 Self-Service Storage Facilities Regulations: George Beckham announced the first proposed text amendment, Article 30.00 Self-Service Storage Facilities Regulations to be added to the Coventry Township Zoning Resolution. Zoning Inspector Laura Cowles explained that we have never had any regulations in our code regarding storage facilities, so it's always been a grey area. This amendment creates clear regulations, which makes them safer and ensures they stay in good condition. George Beckham commented that the Zoning Commission has spent a good amount of time on this. He confirmed with Laura Cowles that they will only be allowed in Commercial/Industrial Districts.

240509-02 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the addition of Article 30.00 Self-Service Storage Facilities Regulations to the Coventry Township Zoning Resolution as proposed and approved by the Coventry Zoning Commission and recommended by the Summit County Planning Commission. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Article 3.00 Zoning and Conditional Zoning Certificates: George Beckham announced the second proposed text amendment, Section 3.03 7. Commercial Trash Dumpsters and Enclosures as approved by the Zoning Commission and Summit County Planning to be added to the Coventry Township Zoning Resolution. He explained that this is added to "other Commercial Requirements" as a line item to set basic standards. Laura Cowles explained the Zoning Commission spent considerable time on this. As you go around the Township you realize there are a lot of exposed dumpsters. This will help clean up any new development, and bring any existing areas that make improvements into compliance. George Beckham felt it was interesting that they created setbacks for areas near a watercourse. It's a good start and it helps to clean things up. We get complaints about the dumpsters in our parks, so it's something everyone can improve on.

240509-03 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the addition of Section 3.03 7. Commercial Trash Dumpsters and Enclosures to the Coventry Township Zoning Resolution as proposed and approved by the Coventry Zoning Commission and recommended by Summit County Planning Commission. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

End public hearing

Parks Advisory Committee Report:

Lisa Fouser gave a brief presentation explaining the mission of the recently created Parks Advisory Committee. She stated this volunteer committee currently consists of five members interested in our parks'

safety, well-being, recreation, community involvement, financing, and maintenance. She feels the community is craving parks and is excited about this movement. George Beckham advised that one of the original members did step down, so he welcomed new member Tracy Dawson to the Board.

Portage Lakes Advisory Council Representative

240509-04 George Beckham made a motion to appoint Nancy Lesig as a representative for Coventry Township on the Portage Lakes Advisory Council to fill the seat vacated by the resignation of Paul Neugebauer. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Summit County Surface Water Management District Advisory Committee Representative

240509-05 George Beckham made a motion to appoint Jeff Houck as a representative for Coventry Township on the Summit County Surface Water Management District Advisory Committee in accordance with Summit County Codified Ordinance Chapter 942.04(f). Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, Abstain. Motion carried 2-0.

Reports by Department Heads:

Summit County Sheriff's Representative, Sgt. Lowe reported 850 calls for service in April compared to 823 last year, year to date calls are at 4,523 compared to 4,172 last year. We are trending up in all areas except for arrests which are down. We have only had 16 this year compared to 23 last year. Edward Diebold asked if there were any trends we should be aware of. Sgt. Lowe stated nothing out of the ordinary. They are still having some issues with the after-hours clubs. George Beckham thanked him again for the speed trailer and asked how we get it out here again. He advised him to email requests so we can get put on a list for specific dates. George Beckham stated it would be nice to have it on Portage Lakes Drive or Turkeyfoot around the summer holidays.

Summit County Engineer's Representative, Chuck Hauber reported he received the Portage Lakes Drive Request for Service Mid-Block CrossWalk Study. The study has been authorized, but there's no word on the time frame for completion. The Akron water project is out for bid. He advised anyone with questions to email Emmaline. Regarding the request for service for the "Right Turn Only" onto Rood out of KFC, that study showed the same thing it did initially and is not recommended by the County Engineer's Office. Putting any entrance will cause stacking on Rood and sight distance issues.

Fire Captain, Brian Langenek (Chief Rockich on Vacation) reported 193 calls for service in April compared to 175 last year. Of those 193 calls, 145 were EMS related and 48 were fire calls. There were 33 times that we were on 2nd alarms and 8 times on 3rd alarms. Mutual aid was received 7 times and provided 11 times. Tanker 1 is out of service. He announced that Fire and EMS will provide standby services at the Clocktower and Back 5k Race this coming Saturday and reminded everyone to expect road closures around the race times. He congratulated FireMedics Wilson and Detsch on completing Certified State Fire Inspector Testing.

2024 Dispatching Fees

Brian Langenek explained that the South Summit Council of Governments charges us a flat fee of \$19,907.50 per quarter. Services provided are 911 call taking. Last quarter's payment of 2024 will cover the first quarter of 2025. The exact amount is still unknown but should be in the same range. This covers EMD services and radio dispatching of alarms.

240509-06 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order for \$81,750.00 for dispatching fees paid to the South Summit Council of Governments in 2024. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Zoll Electronics Service Agreement

Brian Langenek explained that the warranty covers annual service, free battery replacement, shipping costs, and use of a loaner monitor should ours become damaged, or non-functional. Loaner monitors would be overnighted to decrease downtime for our ambulances.

240509-07 George Beckham made a motion to approve a purchase order for \$7,254.00 for 2 years of extended warranty program for our cardiac monitors. seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent (absent/excused)

Laura Cowles, Zoning Inspector reported that she issued 18 zoning certificates in April. Year to date, certificates are up by 20 over last year, so we are seeing a lot more construction in general. The next Board

of Zoning Appeals Meeting will be on June 4th with an application deadline of May 17th. The Zoning Commission will not meet in May.

Anna Bryant, Administrator stated that we have been busy working on projects in the parks, getting ready for summer. She requested the following motion:

Lockwood Park – Perimeter Fencing

240509-08 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order for Sentry Fence for \$36,200 as quoted for the removal and disposition of the existing chain link fence, and to furnish and install approximately 767 linear feet of six-foot high, PVC-coated chain link fence with a walk gate. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Resolutions of Necessity - Fire & EMS 6.75 Mill Levy

Anna Bryant explained that these motions are sent to the County Fiscal Officer to give us the information needed in order to decide which levy amount to request on the ballot for November. A certified yield is required by the Board of Elections to place a levy on the ballot.

240509-09 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a Resolution requesting the County Fiscal Officer to certify the yield for the Renewal of an existing 6.75 mill Fire & EMS Levy with an Increase of 2 mills to be placed on the November 5, 2024 General Election Ballot. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

240509-10 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a Resolution requesting the County Fiscal Officer to certify the yield for the Replacement of an existing 6.75 mill Fire & EMS Levy with a Decrease of .5 mills to be placed on the November 5, 2024 General Election Ballot. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

240509-11 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a Resolution requesting the County Fiscal Officer to certify the yield for the Replacement of an existing 6.75 mill Fire & EMS Levy with a Decrease of .25 mills to be placed on the November 5, 2024 General Election Ballot. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Report by the Fiscal Officer:

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

240509-12 George Beckham made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 76410 to 76521 as certified by Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger, and subject to audit. (A listing of the warrants will be made a part of these minutes.) Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0

Budgetary – Purchase Order

240509-13 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order for \$3,600 to Liniform Services for rugs and paper products at the Community Center and Administration Office. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0

Reports by Trustees:

Edward Diebold announced that the Logan Field House bids were opened on Tuesday and were more than 25% over our anticipated budget. We are reevaluating our plans and will find a way to make it happen. Lockwood Park renovations have been underway. The playground equipment installation is happening this week. He thanked the road department for all the hard work they have put into the park. They have done a lot to help save us some money over there. Anna Bryant thanked Dennis Ott for all his time and effort in finding the playground equipment. He went out and met with several companies to develop our best option. Edward Diebold wished a Happy Mothers' Day and Memorial Day to all.

Jeff Houck reported that the Digital Inclusion Project with the County has been moving forward to ensure that everyone has internet access. Training courses will be offered here at the Community Center over the next few months, so watch the website for more information. The County will also be putting out information on how to do digital speed tests, to test your internet access speeds. He also mentioned information on internet scams and fraud awareness. He stated that he attended the County Engineer's annual dinner and learned a lot on how all of the bridges in the County are ranked, which he found very interesting. Bridge ranking information can be found on the County Engineer's website, in case anyone is interested.

George Beckham welcomed Tracy Dawson to the Parks Advisory Committee. He announced the "To the Clock Tower and Back" 5K race on Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. to benefit the Coventry High School cross country team.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

Jeff Houck made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. 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 7:38 p.m.


Chairman


Fiscal Officer