

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
General Workshop of October 10, 2024

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met for a General Workshop on Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 5:30 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 Fiscal Officer, Dave Gissinger to record the following Trustees present: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, (absent/excused). Two Trustees were recorded as present. (Administrator, Anna Davis is absent/excused for vacation)

Also in attendance were: Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger; Fire Chief, Adam Rockich; Zoning and Administrative Assistant, Coreina Spencer (taking notes for Administrator Davis).

Topics for Discussion:

1. Parks: George Beckham explained that Township Counsel is conducting a pre-acceptance interview with the lowest bidder sometime this week. He would like to hold a Special Meeting tentatively on the 24th to give his recommendation.
2. Sheriff's Office: Discussion over the 40-hour Deputy position. (Gorham's last day was last week) Chief Rockich heard that it was not going to be filled. We need to find out if that was a rumor or fact. We are paying for it, so if it is true will we be reimbursed? There was also discussion over the request for the Township to cover summer months for the School Resource Officer to patrol the community. We can cover that with block money.
3. Fire Department: Chief Rockich advised of a \$5,000 expense for dry suits on the regular agenda. He discussed dispatch costs and the proposed increase by Green, with whom we are currently contracted. He is researching the option of switching to the County system which would be an immediate savings of around \$50,000. Both options have pros and cons, so he is in the process of weighing both options. He discussed issues with the current service we are receiving and the benefits of the County's system. George Beckham asked when our contract is up with Green. Chief Rockich stated it is up in January of 2025, and he could request a 3-month extension.
4. Zoning: George Beckham explained that Kevin Kimmel sent an email notifying us that he will be resigning from the BZA at the end of 2024, so at that time we can move Sean Fremon up. And then we can also move Ralph Waszak up to regular member, there is a motion on the regular agenda for tonight to fill Paul Neugebauer's seat. We will have two alternate positions to fill for the beginning of 2025 – announcement on agenda in zoning report. There was discussion over the need to pay the zoning boards for the third quarter meetings by looking at Laura's records for July, August, and September. Rob Henwood asked about any specific items the Board would like to see each month as far as reporting. George Beckham stated he wanted a list of permits and nuisance complaints with names, addresses, and status reports. There was further discussion over the permitting process and how to accept payment.
5. Light Up the Clock Tower: A discussion was held over the amount of funds the Township can commit. Dave Gissinger said we could do \$5-\$10,000. There was discussion over fireworks and donations as well as alcohol permits. Edward Diebold stated he would like to just bring in third-party people to handle it all. There was discussion over the vendors who were there last year that will donate goods and volunteers again for this year. The goal this year will be to make the Clock Tower the "tree" with lights instead of installing a tree.
6. Employee Appreciation Christmas Lunch: December 14th at Lala's, 11 am to 2 pm if it's ok with Jeff. If we can't do it at Lala's we can do it at the Community Center.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

George Beckham made a motion to adjourn the general workshop. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, (absent/excused). Motion carried 2-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Georg Bedhen
Chairman


Fiscal Officer