

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Meeting of February 25, 2025

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 9:03 a.m. in the Coventry ADA Room, 68 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Twp., OH 44319, to discuss the 2025 Permanent Appropriations, ambulance billing, dispatching fees a vehicle purchase, Fire department personnel matters, the 2025 pavement maintenance program and to go into Executive Session to discuss the sale of Township property and pending litigation with Township counsel.

Call to Order:

Chairman Edward Diebold called the meeting to order and asked Administrator Anna Davis to record the following Trustees present: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Two Trustees were recorded as present. Jeff Houck was absent/out of town.

Fiscal Officer David Gissinger, Fire Chief Adam Rockich, Road Superintendent Lael Stouffer, Zoning Inspector Rob Henwood, Township Attorney Irv Sugerman, and Township Attorney Matt VanSuch were also in attendance.

Executive Session

Edward Diebold moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss the sale of Township property and pending litigation with Township counsel. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Adjourned to executive session at 9:04 a.m.

Convened executive session at 9:04 a.m.

Discussion:

Motion to adjourn executive session:

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

Adjourned executive session at 9:23 a.m.

Reconvened regular session at 9:23 a.m.

Discussion/Motions pertaining to Executive Session

250225-01 George Beckham made a motion to disapprove the offer of Jeremy Kindel to buy Township property as presented and received by the zoning office on a pink "Post-It" note. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

250225-02 George Beckham made a motion to authorize Township legal counsel to pursue litigation in the Kindel matter as needed. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

2025 Permanent Appropriations

Discussion was held over various large expenditures that should be noted in the budget for the year:

- The March 13th General Workshop will be extended by one hour to accommodate the appropriations discussion. Anna Davis will advertise that it will start at 4 p.m. instead of 5 p.m.
- IT Computer server upgrades
- 171 Vaughn Road survey – Akron Water tie-in
- Potential cost to tie into Logan Field house and possible need for Vaughn Rd. property
- Admin/FD – retention walls & landscaping clean up
- Parks project/Upgrades
 - Community Center Interior and Exterior
 - Ingleside
 - Land clearing (Lael explained that he will be meeting with a forestry company for a quote).

Parks Truck & Snow Plow Purchase

Lael Stouffer explained that the parks department is purchasing a 2024 F250 Ford Truck from Valley Truck Centers. It will be equipped with a Western 8.5' Pro Plus Snow Plow, which just makes sense. It would be a waste of a truck not to equip it with one. This way, it can be used by the Fire Department or as an extra vehicle by the Road Department if needed. This truck will fit our 10-year plan for park mowing and put us well ahead.

250225-03 George Beckham made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$55,860.00 to Valley Truck Centers for a 2024 Ford F-250 to be used for Parks purposes. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

250225-04 George Beckham made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$8,750.00 to Judco, Inc. for a western 8.5' Pro-Plus Snow Plow for the new 2024 F250 Parks Truck. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Lifeforce Management - Ambulance Billing

Adam Rockich explained that Lifeforce Management provides ambulance billing services for the township. This amount covers their 7% fee on all recovered funds.

250225-05 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$30,000 for billing services provide by Lifeforce Management. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

2025 Dispatching Fees

Adam Rockich explained that the South Summit Council of Governments has raised fees to \$101,684.00 for 2025. He met with them yesterday, and they are not willing to change their rates at all. They do know that we may move to the County system. Summit County dispatch has quoted us a reduced rate for 2025 at \$72,188.93. They did provide a slight discount for the 1st year, a 100% capacity discount, which would decrease to a 75% capacity discount for 2026 and a 50% capacity discount for 2028. We are still in discussions to see which dispatch best suits our needs. Once a center has been chosen, the Services provided will be 911 call-taking, EMD services, and radio dispatching services for alarms. The last quarter payment of 2025 will cover the first quarter of 2026. He stated that he would be meeting with the County on Friday to look at any final logistics or hidden costs. There are some downsides, but the benefits are savings of \$65,000 the first year, receiving our calls faster, and the ability to upgrade to a Bryx station alerting system.

250225-06 George Beckham made a motion to approve a Blanket Certificate in the amount of \$105,000.00 for dispatching fees to be paid in 2025. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Fire Department Full-Time Hire

Adam Rockich explained that our previous candidate, whom we just hired, tore his ACL before he was able to start working. Due to surgery and a six—to nine-month recovery period, he is unable to get medical clearance. Conner was our next in line for the position.

250225-07 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the hiring of Conner Hostetler to the position of full-time firefighter with an effective date of March 19, 2025. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes, and Edward Diebold, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

George Beckham made a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. Edward Diebold 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 10:12 a.m.

Edward D. Dill

Chairman

Fiscal Officer