

COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 1, 2022

The March 1, 2022 Monthly Meeting of the Covington Township Board of Supervisors was called to order with a Pledge of Allegiance at 6:59 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township, PA 18444, by Chairwoman Melissa Kearney.

Present: Chairwoman Melissa Kearney, Vice Chairwoman Vicki Williams, Supervisor William Willson, Supervisor Wanda Andreoli present at 7:06 p.m. (for treasurer's report), Attorney Joel Wolff, and Secretary Melinda Musso.

Absent: Supervisor Marshall Peirce

Also present: Police Chief Robert Bastek, Engineer Mary Lou Butler, Zoning Officer Ronald Donati, Building Inspector David Lamm, and Road Master Thomas Hall.

AGENDA: As presented

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Executive Session was held on February 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. regarding personnel for PTO and comp time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Scott Van Fleet requested the township review documents he supplied and issue an official letter on the Board's position regarding a property that's being allowed to operate a junk yard.

MINUTES:

Minutes were presented from February 1, 2022 Monthly Meeting and February 22, 2022 Work Session. ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to accept the minutes.

BILLS:

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to pay the bills.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

Chairwoman Kearney advised there mistakes on agendas regarding a new law that was passed last year and the Board will address these issues first.

ZHB Attorney fees at \$150.00/hour: ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to pay the Zoning Hearing Board attorney \$150.00 per hour.

ICC membership renewal \$145.00: ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to buy the membership renewal at \$145.00.

Buzzsaw purchase at \$14,093.34: ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to purchase the Buzzsaw.

Ford Interceptor purchase for \$35,279.00 plus \$500.00 for delivery: ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to purchase the Ford Interceptor.

D.P.W. & Road Master spending limits: There was a discussion regarding spending limits being used for repairs that need to happen immediately. ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to set a spending limit for the Director of Public Works for \$5,000.00 and the Road Master for \$1,000.00 to be used for repairs or emergency funding.

Police Vehicles re: cap on repairs: There was a discussion regarding the spending limit being used for repairs that need to happen immediately. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to cap the police vehicle repairs to \$1,000.00.

Appoint attorney re: zoning issues: There was a discussion regarding an issue that has gone on for years, the benefits of having an outside attorney review documents for unbiased advice, and the affect this has had on another resident's business. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Williams), and carried to look into getting an alternate attorney to look at zoning issues between the Van Fleet and Yerke properties.

Resolution 2022-06 Revised PTO Time: Chairwoman Kearney read Resolution 2022-06.

Roz Davis inquired about the difference in the time off policy There was a discussion regarding the old handbook being confusing and how employees will still receive twelve paid holidays. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to accept Resolution 2022-06.

Advertise to hire one (1) full-time Road Department worker and two (2) part-time (summer) Road

Department workers: ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to advertise to hire one full time and two part-time Road Department workers.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to accept the Planning Commission's report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

David Lamm reviewed his monthly report. There was a discussion on whether the Zoning Officer or Building Inspector is responsible for processing demolition permits since it's not in the current fee schedule and the Building Inspector will continue doing them as he has in the past.

Mr. Lamm informed the Board that books need to be purchased regarding new codes that went into effect in February. The Board agreed to purchase them online, then Mr. Lamm will reimburse the township.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to accept the Building Inspector's report as submitted.

ZONING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Mr. Donati reviewed his monthly report. There was a discussion on properties in violation of the zoning ordinance. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Zoning Code Enforcement Officer's report as submitted.

SOLICITOR:

MDH/Safe Haven Land Development: Attorney Wolff gave the background on this property with name changes. There was further discussion on if there was anything preventing permits to be issued.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to authorize Chairwoman Melissa Kearney to sign the addendum to the developer's agreement.

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to accept the Solicitor's Report as submitted.

ENGINEER:

Mary Lou Butler reviewed her monthly report. There was discussion on a low volume maintenance grant application, the possibility of the road crew doing the swale work needed, and meeting with the conservation district.

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to sign and submit a low volume maintenance grant application.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to accept the Engineer's report.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Thumb: Tom Hall explained this thumb and would like to sell the one purchased last month. There was a discussion on the cost and bidding requirements. ON MOTION duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Willson), and carried to purchase thumb for \$3,800.00. ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to sell the old thumb.

Roller bids: There was a discussion on bid specifications, advertising, and opening of bids. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to bid roller.

ROADMASTER:

Tom Hall reviewed his monthly report. ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to approve the Roadmaster's monthly report, who also reported on the Director of Public Works report.

MOFFAT MAINTENANCE:

Monthly report was reviewed by Chairwoman Kearney. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to accept the Moffat Maintenance report as submitted.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Monthly report was reviewed by Chief Bastek.

Light estimate re: 2022 Ford Interceptor: ON MOTION duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams), and carried to purchase a light estimate for \$7,095.00.

Speed timing estimates re: 2022 Ford Interceptor: ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to purchase a speed timing device for \$1,233.10.

Police vehicle decals: ON MOTION duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams), and carried to have the decals replaced on three police cars for \$600 per car.

Copier estimates: There was a discussion on the quotes, how much copying is done, and the possibility of getting another machine through our copier service. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to call Edwards Business Solutions and possibly enter into a contract for the police station.

Replacement of 2013 Dodge Charger: There was a discussion on purchasing another 2022 Ford Interceptor for the same cost and then sell the 2013 Dodge Charger and Ford Taurus. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to have Chief Bastek contact the car dealer to place a hold on another 2022 Ford Interceptor with the option to buy or not buy for two months.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Police Department's monthly report as submitted.

RECREATION COMMITTEE: No report submitted.

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: No report submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donation to Covington EMS: ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Williams), and carried with one abstention (Willson) to donate \$12,500.00 to Covington EMS out of ARPA funds. Supervisor Willson stated he is abstaining due to being an ambulance driver.

OLD BUSINESS:

Knox Box: ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Williams), and carried to advertise for a public hearing on March 29, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. for the Knox Box Ordinance.

Appoint Senior Center Coordinator & establish pay rate: Chairwoman Kearney advised this position has been advertised and they are still looking for someone.

Appoint Recreation Committee members (2): Chairwoman Kearney advised they haven't met and nothing has been done.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

Supervisor Willson advised they are still working on a fire alarm system and short-term rental ordinance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Roz Davis asked about the garbage on a property on Route 307 that Supervisor Andreoli brought to the Board's attention last week. Mr. Donati advised he will address this.

Scott Van Fleet complimented the road workers on doing a great job. Supervisor Andreoli agreed and has heard the same.

ADJOURNMENT:

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Kearney), and carried to adjourn at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Musso, Secretary

Approved: