

COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – MAY 3, 2022

The May 3, 2022 Monthly Meeting of the Covington Township Board of Supervisors was called to order with a Pledge of Allegiance at 7:01 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 Marshall Peirce, Supervisor William Willson, Supervisor Wanda Andreoli present at 7:20 p.m. (during Electronic Record Retention), Attorney Samantha Hazen, and Secretary Melinda Musso.

Absent: Attorney Joel Wolff

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

AGENDA:

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to accept the agenda as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Executive session was held on May 3, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. for personnel and legal issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

MINUTES:

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Peirce), and carried to approve April 5, 2022 Monthly Meeting Minutes as presented.

BILLS:

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

TREASURER’S REPORT:

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Peirce), and carried to accept the Treasurer’s Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

Resignation: John Pavlicek as of April 11, 2022: ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the resignation of John Pavlicek as of April 11, 2022.

Hire: Justin Musgrave as of April 18, 2022: ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to hire Justin Musgrave as of April 18, 2022 at \$18.00 per hour

Hire Pavilion Manager: ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to hire Melissa Kearney as the Pavilion Manager. Chairwoman Kearney abstained from the vote. The wages will be determined by the township auditors.

Hire: Part-time Seasonal Employee: ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to hire Douglas Smith, part-time seasonal employee for the Road Department at \$14.00 per hour.

Re-bid roller: There was a brief discussion and Supervisor Peirce suggested changing the wording to not more than \$50,000.00. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to re-bid the roller for not more than \$50,000.00.

Application for Conditional Use Hearing re: Seidita Realty, LLC: There was a discussion on the request to change from a one family dwelling to a two-family dwelling. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Kearney), and carried to advertise and hold a condition use hearing on May 31, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Electronic Record Retention: There was a discussion regarding the process, cost, and details related to going digital. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Williams), and carried to get quotes for electronic record retention.

PLANNING COMMISSION: No report submitted

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

David Lamm reviewed his report. ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to accept the Building Inspector’s report as submitted.

ZONING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Ronald Donati reviewed his report and there was a discussion on some properties for violations. ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to accept the Zoning Code Enforcement Officer’s report.

ENGINEER:

Mary Lou Butler reviewed her report.

2022 Roadway Improvements – Langan Road: This is ready for bidding. ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to advertise the bid for the Langan Road Project. There will be a pre-bid meeting on May 19th at 11:00 a.m. but it is not mandatory. The bid opening will be at the June meeting with bids submitted by 3pm.

Langan Road Improvements Invoice: Mrs. Butler requested approval to submit to DCED. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to pay \$14,750.00 of the Langan Road Improvement Invoice. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to submit to DCED for reimbursement.

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

SOLICITOR: Attorney Samantha Hazen had nothing new to report.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:

N.P. COG meeting report: Mr. Peirce discussed an intermunicipal services agreement that our local municipalities can sign and help each other out. Mr. Peirce also discussed an ordinance that would give volunteer fire and ambulance personnel forgiveness on their local tax. There was further discussion about proposing this to the school district. This is currently being done in other districts across the state.

Roller rental: Mr. Peirce requested this to be tabled for now.

Road bonding Ordinance: Mr. Peirce informed the Board that there's a lot of trucks going to Tanfield's & Wagner's on Center Street from Route 435 instead of entering via Jubilee Road. There was a discussion about having the attorney write a letter to the businesses asking them to instruct drivers to enter Center Street from Jubilee Road. There was further discussion on getting Center Street bonded.

Electronics Recycling Event: There was a discussion on scheduling an electronics recycling event in September, the cost to the township, and fees for residents. ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to hold an electronics recycling event tentatively during the week of September 11, 2022.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to accept the Director of Public Works Report as presented.

ROADMASTER:

Tom Hall reviewed his monthly report. There was a discussion on regulations for driveways being installed on a property line. ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Roadmaster's report.

MOFFAT MAINTENANCE:

Chairwoman Kearney read the Moffat Maintenance report. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to get a handicapped porta-lav at the playground. ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Moffat Maintenance report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Bastek reviewed his monthly report.

Purchase a new police vehicle & equipment estimates: Chief Bastek advised the vehicle would cost \$35,779.00 including delivery. The necessary equipment would be \$7,195.00. This vehicle would replace the 2014 Dodge.

Repairs to 2014 Dodge Charger: Chief Bastek reviewed an estimate for repairs in the amount of \$1,339.95 plus the cost of new tires and was informed by the garage it wasn't worth fixing.

There was a lengthy discussion on the proposed new vehicle, 2014 Dodge Charge, and then selling the 2013 Ford on Municibid.

ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Willson), and carried to fix the 2014 Dodge Charger for \$1,339.95 and buy tires.

ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Willson), and carried to table buying a new car with equipment and put a line item in next year's budget for \$50,000.00 for this.

Ammunition: ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to amend the agenda and add ammunition to the agenda. There was a discussion on the cost of the needed ammunition for \$3,290.37.

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to buy ammunition.

Supervisor Peirce mentioned getting on a list for next year since vehicle production is taking a long time. There was a discussion on people parking along Center Street for school games.

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

RECREATION COMMITTEE: No report submitted

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: No report submitted

NEW BUSINESS:

Road Inspections: Chairwoman Kearney discussed having a road inspection with the Director of Public Works and Road Master. This will be held on Saturday, May 21st at 11:00 a.m.

Mary Lou Butler mentioned if there's other roads that may need work, there are multimodal grant possibilities for other road projects. She would need to know by June in order to have the papers needed for July.

OLD BUSINESS:

America 250 PA Resolution: Resolution read by Chairwoman Kearney. ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to adopt 2022-09 America 250 PA.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Covington Independent Fire Co., Inc. – EMS Monthly Report for March & April 2022: This was made available to the public.

4-28-22 Joyce, Carmody & Moran, P.C. re: Registered Bidders for 5-2-22 Judicial Tax Sale:

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

Supervisor Peirce discussed Nammo Pocal having an application for a lot combination and suggested that a land development be done on all properties first. There was a discussion on there being no stormwater management performed and water issues. Marylou Butler asked if their lot combination can be contingent upon approval of land development. There was a lengthy discussion on Nammo Pocal skipping the land development process before the construction of three new buildings. Supervisor Peirce suggested the township attorney look into this and speak to Attorney Hailstone on the Planning Commission.

Supervisor Peirce asked Ron Donati to give each supervisor a Zoning Ordinance book.

Supervisor Willson informed the Board that he attended the Hometown Health Ribbon Cutting Event and Chief Bastek attended the grand opening at the Wright Center.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Lamm reminded the Board about Roger Altemier with Union Mill Road. There was a brief discussion about having the solicitor reach out.

Roz Davis suggested the Board can save taxpayers \$10,000.00 per year by hiring a part-time treasurer for six hours, two days a week at \$18.00 per hour to be in office. Ms. Davis discussed meeting attendance, saving taxpayers money, and how this is no reflection on any job performance.

ADJOURNMENT:

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli), and carried to adjourn at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Musso, Secretary

Approved: