

COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Covington Township Municipal building, Moffat Estate, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township, PA 18444. Chairwoman Kearney opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Present were: Chairwoman/Secretary Melissa Kearney, Vice-Chairwoman Vicki Williams, Supervisor Wanda Andreoli, Supervisor/DPW Director Marshall Peirce, and Attorney Joel Wolff.

Also present were: Building Inspector David Lamm, Engineer Mary Lou Butler, Roadmaster Donald Cook, and Police Chief Jeff Lamm.

Absent: Supervisor William Willson.

Agenda: ON MOTION, duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to approve the agenda as presented.

Announcements: An executive session was held earlier to discuss the police department and union negotiations.

Public Comment: Diane Cehelsky, resident of Bay Drive Covington Township, questioned the status of Bay Drive. It was reported a meeting was held with the contractor, and we are just waiting for them to schedule the work. Mary Lou will send an email looking for an update, but it was discussed that it would be repaired this year.

Minutes: ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to accept the minutes of the August 6, 2024 public hearing for Ordinance #2024-01, August 6, 2024 public hearing for Ordinance #2024-02, August 6, 2024 regular meeting, and August 27, 2024, work session as presented.

Bills: Chairwoman Kearney questioned Roadmaster Cook on the CHS, Inc. invoice just wondering what this invoice was for; Roadmaster Cook reported it was for the concrete block. ON THE QUESTION, Chairwoman Kearney advised the bill list shows invoices for KBA Engineering for SEO services, however, she would like to hold the checks because she would like to schedule a meeting with KBA to discuss their billing. ON MOTION, duly made (Peirce), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to pay the bills as presented. Chairwoman Kearney abstained from the check for her mileage.

Treasurer's Report: ON MOTION, duly made (Peirce), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Administrative Actions:

Approve MMO for Non-uniform pension plan: ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to approve the payment of \$17,791.00 for the MMO for the non-uniform pension plan. Last years MMO contribution was \$64,091. Attorney Wolff explained in the past, the pension plan was underfunded, and it may be caught up at this time which may account for the difference.

Approve MMO for Uniform pension plan: ON MOTION, duly made (Peirce), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to approve the payment of \$10,998.00 for the MMO for the uniform pension plan. Chairwoman Kearney advised a meeting is being scheduled for the employees and representatives of PMRS.

Resolution #2024-04, LSA grant for Union Mill Road: Mary Lou Butler read Resolution #2024-04 which will allow the township to apply for the LSA grant (Monroe County) in the amount of \$476,575.00 for Union Mill Road. ON MOTION, duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to adopt Resolution #2024-04, LSA grant (Monroe County) for Union Mill Road in the amount of \$476,575.00.

Authorize signatures and submittal of LSA grant: ON MOTION, duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to authorize the signatures and submittal of the LSA grant. Mary Lou advised there is no match for this grant.

Advertise budget workshop dates: A brief discussion was held to decide some dates for the budget workshops. ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to advertise the dates of September 23, 2024, October 7, 2024, and October 21, 2024 as the dates for the budget workshops. The workshops will be held at 4:00pm.

Planning Commission: There were no meetings held during the month of August for the planning commission.

Engineer: Mary Lou Butler reported she submitted the low volume road grant and the next round of the LSA statewide is due November 30th. A decision will be made at next month's meeting after the awards are announced to see if we are awarded anything from last year's submission for the fire truck. Mary Lou also reviewed the status of the contingencies for the People's Bank land development. ON MOTION, duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to approve the engineer's monthly report.

Solicitor: Atty. Wolff spoke with Mr. Walsh from the Peoples Bank project; however, nothing has been received at this point. Atty. Hazen has prepared the grass clippings ordinance and once Atty. Wolff reviews it, he will forward it to the board for their review. ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to accept the solicitor's monthly report.

Building Inspector: Dave Lamm reviewed his monthly report. ON MOTION, duly made (Kearney), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to accept the building inspector's monthly report.

Zoning Code Enforcement Officer: The ZCEO report was reviewed. It was also reported that the ZCEO and zoning secretary met with the new attorney to discuss the outstanding issues. ON MOTION, duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to accept the zoning code enforcement officer's monthly report.

Director of Public Works: Supervisor/DPW Director Peirce reported he met with Pocono Spray Patching to discuss the repair of the parking areas of the police station/senior center and the Moffat parking area only. A quote was received in the amount of \$4,890.00 to tar cracks and spray patch areas in the police station/senior center and Moffat parking area only. Upon completion of these repairs this year, we would need to seal the parking areas next year. The area in front of the garage at the Moffat is too far gone and will need to be dug up and re-paved. ON MOTION, duly made (Peirce), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to approve the quote in the amount of \$4,890.00 for Pocono Spray Patching. A brief discussion was held on the increase in recycling fees being imposed by the recycling center, going from \$40.00 to \$120.00 for commingle. The painting on the exterior of the windows of the mansion has been completed, and there is still some pressure washing of the awnings that needs to be done. The roofs for both the garage and the mansion need to be looked at. There is moss growing on the garage roof and the mansion roof had 3 leaks during the last rainstorm. ON MOTION, duly made (Williams), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to accept the DPW Director/Roadmaster's monthly report.

Roadmaster: Roadmaster Donald Cook reported they have been working on the senior center deck, Kosinski Road water repairs, truck maintenance, and the recycling gate. The recycling gate arrived damaged (cosmetic only), but operational and the company will replace the damaged panel. The township will use the damaged panel to block the side of the driveway where the jersey walls currently are. Roadmaster Cook also reported the recycling center roof has 1 leak, and the garage roof has 3 leaks. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney will reach out to the contractor who recently replaced the roofs. Roadmaster Cook would also like the board to consider selling the tar buggy in the spring. ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to accept the Roadmaster's monthly report.

Moffat Maintenance: The conservancy will be making their annual inspection of the estate on Monday, September 9, 2024. Supervisor/DPW Director Peirce will meet with the conservancy.

Police Department: Chief Lamm reviewed his monthly report, advising the police department has been conducting multiple traffic stops. The portable breathalyzer tests have been received and are being

utilized, the tasers have also arrived and training will be completed with them. The new office computers have also been installed. Chief Lamm reviewed a list of items he has received as donations to the department. Chairwoman Kearney mentioned she gave permission to Chief Lamm to purchase bullet proof sheet rock and bullet proof glass (ready for installation) at a discounted rate. Chief Lamm is asking for permission to order new patches and badges. The patches are approximately \$346.00, and the badges are approximately \$1,277.00. ON MOTION, duly made (Kearney), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to allow Chief Lamm to order 100 new patches and (9) new badges (1, chief and 8 officer) for the police department. The work on the new police station is scheduled to begin on Wednesday evening. A brief discussion was held on the installation of a small bathroom with a shower stall in the kitchen area making the kitchen smaller. ON MOTION, duly made (Kearney), seconded (Andreoli) and carried (4-0) to install a small bathroom in the new police station. Chief Lamm also thanked the board for their support. He will send thank you notes to everyone who has donated to the department, as he has received almost \$15,000 worth of donated items so far. ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to accept the police chief's monthly report.

Recreation Committee: Supervisor Andreoli reviewed the reports for July, August, and September for the recreation committee. She advised the fishing derby went well, and all children received a prize. Special thanks to JC Bait for their donations. They are planning an End of Summer event to be held on Sept. 21, 2024, from 11-5. They are asking for a budget for the End of Summer event and any left-over monies will be applied to the Christmas event which will be held on December 7th and 8th. ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to approve a budget of \$2,000.00. ON MOTION, duly made (Williams), seconded (Peirce) and carried (4-0) to accept the recreation committee's monthly report.

Sewage Enforcement Officer: The monthly report was received. ON MOTION, duly made (Andreoli), seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to accept the SEO's monthly report.

New Business: Supervisor/DPW Director Peirce reported the zoning car (old police car) needs approximately \$5,000.00 worth of work. It went for an inspection and the catalytic converter has a crack along with a few other items. A brief discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of repairing the vehicle. ON MOTION, duly made (Kearney), seconded (Peirce) and carried (4-0) to approve the repairs for the zoning car.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence: A discussion was held on the email received regarding the conditions of Moffat Park. The mulch will be replaced next Spring; rubber mulch may be considered. Police patrols of the park will also be increased. A brief discussion was also held regarding cameras near the playground. The NP Library also sent a letter requesting a donation. Chris Kelly of the NP Library will be attending the meeting in October. The NPDES permit for the Aqua Pennsylvania project has also been received. This will cut across Center Street and will take place next year. PSATS is hosting a regional forum in Tannersville. A flyer was also received regarding Rail Car Incident Response training in September.

Supervisor Comments: None.

Public Comment: Chief Lamm advised the VFW in Daleville will be holding a 9-1-1 Ceremony on Wednesday, September 11th at 6:00pm. The public is welcome and the police department will be represented.

Adjournment: ON MOTION duly made (Andreoli) seconded (Williams) and carried (4-0) to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Melissa Kearney, Secretary

Approved: 10-1-2024

