

**COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS  
MONTHLY WORK SESSION  
NOVEMBER 26, 2024**

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly work session on Tuesday, November 26, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the Covington Township Municipal building, Moffat Estate, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township, PA 18444.

There were present: Chairwoman/Secretary Melissa Kearney, Vice Chairwoman Vicki Williams, Supervisor/DPW Director F. Marshall Peirce, Supervisor William Willson, Supervisor Wanda Andreoli and Attorney Joel Wolff.

Also present: Police Chief Jeff Lamm.

**Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.

**Announcements:** An executive session was held earlier this evening at 6:30pm to discuss personnel raises for 2025.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Minutes:** Draft minutes for the November 5, 2024 monthly meeting were given to the board for review. Any revisions or corrections should be given to the secretary prior to the meeting next Tuesday.

**Bills:** The bill list will be available at next week's meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer's report will be available at next week's meeting.

**Administrative Actions:**

**Proposed 2025 Budget:** The proposed 2025 budget has been advertised for the required 20 days and is available on the website. If there are no oppositions to the proposed budget, resolutions will be adopted for the budget and tax rate for 2025 at the meeting next week. There is no proposed tax hike for 2025.

**Health Insurance plan change:** A proposal has been received from Geisinger Health Insurance, through Cummings Insurance Agency, which will reduce the cost of the health insurance plan but provide the same coverage for all employees. This will need to be formally accepted at next month's meeting.

**Occhipinti Lease Renewal:** The terms for the lease renewal for the Occhipinti Dance Studio have been agreed upon. The new lease will be for 3-years and will include a rental amount of \$1,800 per month beginning in July 2025, \$1,900 per month beginning in July 2026, and \$2,000 per month beginning in July 2027. All other parts of the lease will remain the same. Michelle Occhipinti questioned, via email, the term of the lease, questioning why it was only 3 years. A brief discussion ensued regarding the length of the lease.

**Planning Commission:** The planning commission's monthly report will be available next week.

**Building Inspector:** The building inspector's monthly report will be available next week.

**Zoning Code Enforcement Officer:** The ZCEO's monthly report will be available next week. On the agenda for next week will also be the GIS mapping the ZCEO has asked for. This GIS mapping will be helpful in showing the zoning along with other information for the township properties. At last month's meeting, Mary Lou Butler advised her company uses GIS mapping and sent a link to the ZCEO, but that was for a different system. The ZCEO feels the system he is asking for will be much better. The cost of this will be \$1,300 for the software and installation with an additional \$100 for training.

**Solicitor:** Atty. Wolff advised a tax appeal has been received for the LBA NCC-Company XXIII, LLC, which is in the Industrial Park. He will be asking the board to allow him to enter his appearance for this tax appeal.

**Director of Public Works:** Supervisor/DPW Director Peirce will be meeting with Swartz Electric tomorrow afternoon to discuss the lighting in the parking lot near the dance studio. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney asked that the electrician also look at the lines that are down on the Estate property. Supervisor Andreoli also asked about having the light on the sign adjusted to not be so

blinding when coming from Moscow. Supervisor/DPW Director Peirce also discussed the recent storm, and advised five (5) trucks were plowing, which included both road employees and supervisors. Compliments were received from residents of the township regarding the township's maintenance of the roads during the most recent storm.

**Roadmaster:** The monthly report will be available next week.

**Moffat Maintenance:** Nothing to report.

**Police Department:** The monthly report will be available next week. Estimates were received for the decommissioning of 14-3 (2017 Dodge Charger) and the installation of the equipment on the new police car, when purchased. A brief discussion ensued on the motion that was taken at last month's monthly meeting regarding the purchase of a new police car. After the meeting, it was discovered that the dealer, the car was being purchased from, was not a costars dealer. Upon this revelation, an advertisement, with bid specs, was immediately placed in the newspaper, posted on the front door of the mansion, and placed on the website advising the township is accepting sealed bids for a used police car. Any bids received will be opened at next week's monthly meeting.

**Recreation Committee:** Supervisor Andreoli reported everything is in order for the Christmas at the Mansion Event. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney asked if the peanut butter bird feeders can be made up in the pavilion due to the back porch not being cleaned. Also, a brief discussion ensued on the parking of the cars and insurance for the tractor and hayride.

**Sewage Enforcement Officer:** The monthly report will be available next week.

**New Business:** The sewer authority is asking the board if they would adopt a resolution to allow the members of the sewer authority to receive compensation for their time. The salaries would come from their budget, as they are their own entity, but as the governing body, the township would need to adopt a resolution. The secretary is researching this and will report back next week. A discussion was also held on the planning commission's compensation and their meetings. A discussion will be held with the planning commission advising them that meetings cannot be cancelled unless they are properly advertised.

**Old Business:** At previous meetings, a discussion was held regarding the assessed value of the township compared to the amount of taxes we receive. The assessment breakdown was received from the county, which shows that 7.7 million dollars' worth of properties, out of the 69.3 million dollars the township is assessed at, are not taxed. Also in the past, a discussion was held on the Center Street bridge. Chief Lamm reported the bridge is rated for 88 thousand pounds so it cannot be posted. It was discussed that if the road surface is improved, all previous agreements are null and void. A discussion was held on the potential posting and bonding of the road prior to improving its surface.

**Correspondence:** The heating fuel quote for the NP COG was received from Plociniak Fuel Services. As of November 6<sup>th</sup> the rack price for heating oil was \$2.34 plus .05 for profit.

**Supervisor Comments:** The office will be closed on Thursday and Friday this week in observance of Thanksgiving.

**Adjournment:** The work session adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted:  
Melissa Kearney, Secretary

Approved: 12-3-2024  
