COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MONTHLY WORK SESSION APRIL 29, 2025

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly work session on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Covington Township Municipal building, Moffat Estate, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township, PA 18444. Chairwoman Kearney opened the work session at 7:03 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Present were: Chairwoman/Secretary Melissa Kearney, Supervisor William Willson, Supervisor Wanda Andreoli, Supervisor William Beavers, and Attorney Joel Wolff.

Also present: Police Chief Jeff Lamm, Building Inspector Dave Lamm and Engineer Mary Lou Butler.

Absent: Vice-Chairman/DPW Director F. Marshall Peirce

Agenda: Accepted as presented.

<u>Announcements</u>: Executive session was held on April 23, 2025, to discuss legal matters regarding land development.

<u>Public Comment</u>: Colyn Schane and Anthony Mengoni of Northeast Inspection Consultants were present to discuss the services their company offers. They presented on zoning code enforcement only.

Minutes: The draft minutes of the April 1, 2025 monthly meeting were given to the board for their review.

Bills: The bills will be available for the meeting.

<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: The treasurer's report will be available for the meeting.

Administrative Actions:

<u>Open Sealed bids for 2025 Roadway Project: Havenstrite Road</u>: The following sealed bids were received:

Wayco, Inc. ~ Base Bid #1: \$106,745.00/Base Bid #2: \$181,178.50 = \$287,923.50
Pennsy Supply, Inc. ~ Base Bid #1: \$141,157.50/Base Bid #2: \$231,550.00 = \$372,707.50
American Asphalt ~ Base Bid #1: \$119,680.00/Base Bid #2: \$198,070.00 = \$317,750.00
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc. ~ Base Bid #1: \$131,333.75/Base Bid #2: \$205,855.00 = \$337,188.75

Kobalt Construction, Inc. ~ Base Bid #1: \$187,050.00/Base Bid #2: \$349,700.00 = \$536,750.00 Fehlinger Construction Group, LLC ~ Base Bid #1: \$151,895.75/Base Bid #2: \$252,090.00 = \$403,985.75

H&K Group, Inc. ~ Base Bid #1: 172,252.60/Base Bid #2: \$391,763.30 = \$564,015.90

All bidders provided a bid bond. Mary Lou Butler will review the bids. The bid will be awarded at the monthly meeting on May 13, 2025. Chairwoman Kearney questioned what base bid #2 included. Mary Lou replied bid #1 is for Havenstrite Road, approximately 100 feet past the last house and base bid #2 is for the remainder of Havenstrite to the Madisonville line. She reported this portion is much longer than the original portion (bid #1). She also reviewed the monies remaining from the grant and asked Atty. Wolff is she would be able to provide the bid amounts to the contractors prior to the meeting.

Appoint Right to Know Officer/Alternate Right to Know Officer: Chairwoman Kearney advised Dawn Coco, former Right to Know Officer, resigned from this position so Supervisor Willson has been handling the Right to Know requests as the alternate Right to Know Officer. Chairwoman Kearney would like to discuss appointing Supervisor Bill Beavers as the Right to Know officer and asked the board to give this thought. Supervisor Willson commented that he has been working on the current Right to Know requests and feels he should be the Right to Know Officer. This will be discussed further.

<u>Resolution #2025-07: Amending Resolution #2025-03, Fire Co., EMS, and ALS Services</u>: Mike Chmielewski, director of Emergency Services for Covington Independent Fire Company spoke with

Chairwoman Kearney asking if the township would amend the current Resolution (#2025-03) to add a line regarding the dispatch of ALS Services for the township.

Resolution #2025-08: Application for County Re-Invest Grant: This grant will be utilized for the painting of the exterior of the police department. The amount of the grant will be \$5,000 with the application being due on April 30th. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney spoke with the county and asked if the application can be submitted prior to the deadline with the resolution being submitted after adoption at our next meeting; the reply was yes. The application will be submitted.

Zoning Code Enforcement Officer: This report will be available for the meeting.

Building Inspector: This report will be available for the meeting.

<u>Planning Commission</u>: A preliminary land development application has been received and will be added to their work session agenda.

Engineer: The report will be available for the meeting.

Solicitor: Nothing to report.

<u>Director of Public Works</u>: A list of potential road projects was given to the supervisors and Mary Lou for review of upcoming future projects. Mary Lou asked the board to think about what road they would like to submit for the Multi-modal grant. It is believed that Union Mill should be resubmitted, but this will be discussed.

Roadmaster: The report will be available for the meeting.

<u>Moffat Maintenance</u>: Chairwoman Kearney mentioned the following projects should be discussed for the Moffat estate: the windows, both interior and exterior, need to be cleaned; the shrubs at the entrance of the estate are dead and need to be replaced; and Josh Zielinski will be working on the playground mulch and picnic tables for his Eagle Scout project.

Police Department: The report will be available for the meeting.

Recreation Committee: The report will be available for the meeting.

Sewage Enforcement Officer: No report.

New Business:

Sewer Enforcement Officer and Zoning Code Enforcement Officer: Chairwoman Kearney would like to discuss hiring the current sewer enforcement officer and zoning code enforcement officer as township employees and terminate our agreement with KBA Engineering due to the inconsistency with billing and reporting. We would need to look at the fee schedule for the sewer enforcement officer. Both officers said they would be willing to work for the township directly, and the zoning code enforcement officer would work more hours per week if required.

Old Business:

<u>Applications for Treasurer/Assistant Secretary</u>; Applications have been received. There is one potential candidate; an interview will be scheduled prior to the monthly meeting.

<u>CDL Licensed DPW worker</u>: Applications have been received with interviews being scheduled prior to the next meeting.

Ordinance for Millage Based Business Privilege/Mercantile Tax: A date should be set to consider adopting this ordinance. With the new businesses entering the township, this is one way to bring additional tax monies into the township to help with the budget. All supervisors were asked to review the information provided to them for future comments.

<u>Ordinance for Supervisor Compensation</u>: Earlier this year, the state passed a law increasing the compensation for township supervisors. For a township of our size, the maximum compensation has

increased from \$1,875 per year to \$3,145 per year. This increase will only take effect for a supervisor's new term. The board should consider setting a date to potentially adopt this ordinance.

Ordinance on Debris in Township Roadways: Chairwoman Kearney asked the board to consider setting a date for the ordinance regarding debris in township roadways. The ordinance has been reviewed by the police chief and solicitor. There are no laws that would prohibit the township from adopting this ordinance.

Update on FEMA Go Grant: Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney updated the board on the status of FEMA GO Grant, advising that she was unable to complete the grant application due to issues with the grant portal.

Correspondence: A letter has been received from Milnes Engineering Company advising the township Eagle Lake Community Association will be applying for a permit to upgrade their sewage treatment plant. Comments and requests are to be submitted to the regional office of PADEP within 30 days. A letter with comments and requests will be sent to PADEP by the end of the week.

Supervisor Comments: Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney reminded all in attendance that the May meeting will be held on May 13th due to the PSATS conference being held next week. Also, payment has been received from the county in the amount of \$30,800 for the repairs to the wind turbine. This bill was paid late last year.

Public Comment: None.

Adjournment: The work session was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted: Melissa Kearney, Secretary

Approved: 5.13.25