COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MONTHLY WORK SESSION NOVEMBER 25, 2025

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly work session on Tuesday, November 25, 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 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Present were: Chairwoman/Secretary Melissa Kearney, Vice-Chairman/DPW Director F. Marshall Peirce, Supervisor William Willson, Supervisor Wanda Andreoli, Supervisor William Beavers, and Attorney Joel Wolff.

Also present: Police Chief Jeff Lamm and Building Inspector Dave Lamm.

Agenda: Accepted as presented.

<u>Announcements</u>: Executive sessions were held on November 14, 2025 and November 25, 2025 to discuss personnel.

Public Comment: No public comment.

<u>Minutes</u>: The draft minutes of November 6, 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:

M. Schank probation ended on November 20, 2025: Michael Schank has completed his probationary period and has been recommended for full-time regular employment, he will receive a \$1.00 per hour raise for the completion of his probation. This will be approved at the meeting.

<u>Promote A. Alt to full-time regular employment</u>: Alexander Alt has been recommended as a full-time employee by the DPW Director. He has proven to be a valuable employee. Since he has been employed with the township for over six months, he has already completed his probation, and his benefits will begin immediately. He will also receive a \$1.00 per hour raise and this will be approved at the meeting.

Advertise the January re-organization meeting and the January monthly meeting: The re-organization meeting will be held on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:00pm. A brief discussion ensued on holding the monthly meeting for January on Tuesday, January 6, 2026. This may have already been advertised so it will not need to be advertised in the paper once again, but it will be advertised on the website and Savvy Citizen. Secretary Kearney will verify the dates have already been advertised.

2026 <u>Budget</u>: The proposed 2026 budget has been advertised for public review and will need to be adopted in December. A brief discussion was held on the amount budgeted for health insurance compared to the huge increase in premiums. This line item may need to be adjusted prior to adoption, Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney will speak with the treasurer on this. This will be addressed at the monthly meeting.

Zoning Code Enforcement Officer: The report will be available for the meeting next week.

Application received for zone change: An application for a zone change has been received from Amazon Services.com. The parcel is currently shown as an MP-RV zone on our current zoning map; however, it appears that it has previously been changed to an M-1 zone, but the map was never changed to address this. Atty. Wolff spoke briefly about a conversation he had with the attorney from Amazon who noticed the error. He suggested an application for a curative amendment, but they applied for a zone change. Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney advised she found (2) separate ordinances that appear to have changed this area to an M-1 zone. These ordinances will be entered as exhibits at the hearing. A public hearing date will need to be scheduled.

<u>Building Inspector:</u> The report will be available for the meeting next week. Dave Lamm gave an FYI to the board advising he believes the Peoples Bank will be holding a grand opening on December 15th.

Planning Commission: The monthly report will be available for the meeting next week.

Engineer: The monthly report will be available for the meeting next week.

<u>Bond release Dollar General/Auto Zone</u>: Mary Lou has visited the site and sent a letter recommending full release of the security for the Dollar General/Auto Zone project. This will be voted on at the meeting next week.

Solicitor: A real estate tax appeal was received from Hengfu Ni and Jie Zhao of Golden Oaks. Atty. Wolff is asking the board to approve his entry of appearance for the appeal.

<u>Director of Public Works</u>: Supervisor/DPW Director Peirce advised the Freightliner chassis is in Towanda and will be worked on beginning next week.

Roadmaster: No report.

Moffat Maintenance: Christmas decoration has begun.

<u>Police Department</u>: Chief Lamm asked that the speed timing device contract be added to the agenda for the meeting. The cost of the contract is \$1,692.00 for the year from YCG. He also reported he has been looking at used police vehicles since the police interceptor was involved in an accident and he believes it may be totaled. A brief discussion ensued on the vehicle's insurance and emergency purchasing since we will be down a police patrol car.

Recreation Committee: No report.

Sewage Enforcement Officer: No report.

New Business: None.

Old Business:

<u>Rental of old police station</u>: The owner of North Pocono Yoga has rescinded her interest in renting the old police station because of other yoga studios in the same vicinity. Supervisor Andreoli will reach out to a realtor for their thoughts, and Chairwoman/Secretary Kearney will also reach out to other realtors as well. This will be available for the beginning of 2026.

<u>Status of Municibid auctions</u>: As of this afternoon, the Dodge charger has met its reserve, but the Tandem dump truck has not. Both auctions end tomorrow morning. Since the reserve has been met on the charger, the winning bidder will be notified. We will see where the dump truck finishes.

<u>Birdhouse Eagle Scout project</u>: The Eagle scout project of installing birdhouses on the estate grounds has been completed. Pictures have been provided to the board for their review. The scout is asking for permission to install (8) more birdhouses on the grounds. The board has approved this. Supervisor Beavers advised he was given a few arborvitae trees to be planted on the grounds. They will be given to recreation committee member, Karl Wegforth, for planting.

<u>Fines and penalties for township ordinances</u>: Chairwoman Kearney reminded the board to continue their review of the fines and penalties for the township ordinances. This will be addressed at the beginning of the year.

<u>Correspondence</u>: A letter of interest has been received from Paula Perry for the appeals board that will need to be formed. This will be discussed at the meeting next week. A thank you letter has been received from the N.P. Library for our donation of \$1,500 this year.

<u>Supervisor Comments</u>: Chairwoman Kearney reminded everyone there will be (2) public hearings held next week prior the meeting. The 1^{st} hearing will be held at 6:00pm to consider the application from Rohrer Bus Co., and the 2^{nd} hearing will be held at 6:30pm to consider the application of Tramdock Properties, LLC. (Joe Bonacci). She also reminded the board there will be no work session in December.

Public Comment: No public present.

Adjournment: The work session was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Melissa Kearney, Secretary Approved: 12,2.25 Inchilo