Wednesday Regular July 3, 2024

The Coshocton County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. with Mr. Dane Shryock and Mr. Gary Fischer. Also, in attendance was Mrs. Brooke Alverson, Clerk, Mrs. Mary Beck, County Administrator, Mr. Bob Bigrigg and Mr. Graham Beaumont, WTNS.

Approve Minutes

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to approve the minutes from last meeting as presented.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer Conkle

yea absent

Court Square-Golden Heart a Voice 4 the Voiceless

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to grant permission to Golden Heart a Voice 4 the Voiceless use of the Court Square on July 13, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. to host a community event with food trucks, vendors, kid's activities and musicians.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer Conkle yea

absent

Monthly Pay-In Report, June 2024

Received the Monthly Pay-In Report for the month of June 2024 from Ms. Camila Graham, Clerk of Courts.

Employee Hire, DJFS-Ms. Sarah Fowler

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to hire Ms. Sarah Fowler, as an Eligibility Referral Specialist 2 with the Coshocton County Department of Job and Family Services, effective July 29, 2024, at the request of Mr. Jed McCoy, DJFS Director.

Vote: Shryock

yock yea

Fischer Conkle

yea absent

Employee Hire, DJFS-Ms. Marie Shane

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to hire Ms. Maria Shane, as a Social Services Worker 2 with the Coshocton County Department of Job and Family Services, effective July 29, 2024, at the request of Mr. Jed McCoy, DJFS Director.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Conkle

absent

Monthly Mortgagee Report, June 2024

Received the Monthly Mortgagee Report for the month of June 2024 from Mrs. Susan Turner, Coshocton County Recorder.

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Road Vacation Petition, Buck Alley, Tuscarawas Township

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to accept the road petition from the Tuscarawas Township Trustees for the vacation of a portion of Buck Alley, Plat of the Town of Lewisville (N.K.A. Canal Lewisville) D.R. 6 page 405, in Tuscarawas Township, which runs adjacent to lots 186, 187, 188, and 189, beginning at Market Street and proceeding northerly to East Liberty Street, in the town of Lewisville, Tuscarawas Township.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Conkle

absent

Resolution 2024-035, District 14 Public Works Board Appointment

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign Resolution 2024-035, to appoint Mr. Frederick T. Wachtel as a representative for The Board of Coshocton County Commissioners on the District 14 Public Works Integrating Committee, for a three (3) year term to commence on December 1, 2024 and conclude on November 30, 2027.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Conkle

absent

Then and Now Certificates

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to approve the following Then and Now Certificates which have been certified by the County Auditor.

VENDOR	ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	DEPARTMENT
Pictometry International Corp	001-0110-526000	\$40,564.50	CCC
Pictometry International Corp	040-0110-526000	\$40,564.50	Auditor
JJT Motors Inc.	120-0100-525001	\$1,120.52	EMS

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Conkle

absent

Dog Warden Report

Received the Dog Wardens Report for the week ending July 1, 2024 with 9 dogs picked up by the warden, 1 dog brought in as a stray, 9 dogs euthanized, 12 dog license sold, 5 dogs sold, 7 dogs redeemed, 11 dogs surrendered per owner, 6 dogs surrendered to the dog wardens, 8 citations issued and 45 calls handled for a total of \$795.00 in fees collected.

Community Room Rental-Coshocton Cares

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to grant permission to Coshocton CARES use of the Commissioners Community Room on October 15, 2024 from 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. to host a college/career fair.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Conkle

absent

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EMA ARPA Grant

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign the Ohio EMA ARPA First Responder Grant-Hiring Awards Advance Disbursement of Funds Conditions & Processes in the amount of \$106,816.18, at the request of Mr. Todd Shroyer, EMS Director.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Conkle

absent

Mr. Jed McCoy, DJFS Director-Levy Discussion

At 9:00 a.m. Mr. Jed McCoy, Department of Job and Family Services Director attended the Commissioners meeting to discuss the financial needs within his office, which results in the need to request a renewal tax levy for the fall election. Currently, DJFS is up for a levy Renewal this year, however Mr. McCoy would like to talk about the option of a replacement levy rather than a renewal. DJFS had a record number cases in foster care this past month, costing over \$200,000. The average cost per child in foster care is \$1000/month. The current levy in place was put on in 1985 and has been renewed since then. Additionally, the valuations of the levy are from 1995, money earned in 1995 is hard to pay for services in 2024. Education within the public about tax levies and valuations is hard to get across to everyone, but it is important to understand and get that message across to as many people as possible A replacement levy would generate \$810,000 and a renewal levy would generate \$462,000. Mr. Shryock asked what McCoy's his plans were if the replacement levy failed. If the levy failed in the November 2024 election, McCoy would have the opportunity to try again in both the spring and fall elections. Mr. Shryock also asked about the possibility to renewal the original levy and try for an additional as well. Mr. McCoy has not thought about that, due to the failed additional levy from last year. If a renewal only is put in on the ballot, DJFS would need to rely on state/federal funds. Mr. Shryock stated that this board of Commissioners believes that the voters should decide what to pay in regards to levies, as it is not the board decision, the board only allow the levies to be placed on the ballot. If a levy is not passed by the voters, the obligation for funds would be on the Board of Commissioners to make-up the difference, and those funds could only be made up by huge cuts to the non-mandated departments with their employees. Mr. McCoy stated the quarterly average of children increased by 7 kids. One child in DJFS custody currently is costing \$1500/day due to the facility this child needs to be placed in. Unfortunately, drugs and mental health is hurting DJFS overall. This is not just a Coshocton problem; this is a state and national issue. Mr. Shryock stated in closing that the Board of Commissioners will take everything under advisement and have further discussion and reach back out to Mr. McCoy with further recommendations.

Mr. Todd Shroyer, EMS Director-Levy Discussion

Mr. Todd Shroyer, EMS Director and Mr. Joe Hunt, Assistant Director attended the Commissioners meeting to discuss financial needs at EMS. EMS would like to start the process to go on the ballot in November with the same type of levy that they tried to pass March of 2024-1 mill additional. The Auditors estimate for a 1 mill additional states that it would generate \$800,000. Sadly, the shortfalls in EMS are to be blamed due to the lack of reimbursement from insurances. Until the reimbursement from insurances is corrected, local tax payers are looked at to make up the difference. The struggle is felt the most in small/rural communities like Coshocton, with Medicaid/Medicare not reimbursing well, as those clientele are what makes up a lot of those smaller communities. Additionally, trying to keep up with employee rate increases, is another factor in the equation of the EMS issues. As with rate increases on wages, you also need to take in effect the health insurance and OPERS fringes as well. Mr. Shryock stated that if the levy doesn't pass, the voters are decided on what kind of service they want to have in their community, and they will pay the ultimate price. Mr. Shroyer spoke about a bad wreck they were called to last week, during this call, EMS ran out of vehicles to respond, due to having older vehicles that they cannot afford to replace. Unfortunately, Mr. Shroyer stated no one at the State level understands Ohio is ready to fail with the EMS System. Currently, there are only roughly 18-20 countywide EMS facilities. Mr. Shryock stated again, is has always been this boards position to let the voters decide what to do and what services they want, their board just allows the levies to be placed on the ballot. Mr. Shryock said in closing, that EMS has the boards blessing to move forward.

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Meetings Attended

Mr. Shryock and Mr. Fischer both attended the Land Bank on Monday, July 1st.

Adjourn

Mr. Shryock adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Dane R. Shryock

Rick Conkle

Gary Fischer