

The Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township, Greene County, Ohio, in Regular Session on October 3rd, 2022, at 7:00 PM.

- 1) **Mr. Cramer called the session to order at 7:05 pm.**
- 2) **Mr. Demko called the roll with Board Members**, Mrs. Destefani, Mr. Moeller, and Mr. Cramer were in attendance. Also, in attendance were Donna Hellmann and Denise Moore.
- 3) **All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 4) **Reports**

Administration

Mr. Tiffany stated he was in Columbus on 10/03/2022 for CLOUT (The Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships) and it was announced the fee last year as a member of the association was \$65 for the conference and this year it will be \$110-\$120. Mr. Cramer asked how they can make increases like that. Mr. Tiffany stated that is a great question. Mr. Tiffany added it was justified by them saying it is still the cheapest conference in Ohio. Some discussion followed on membership increases and why. Mrs. Tilford added these organization have been playing a more active role in communities which could be a cause for the price increases. Some discussion followed.

Mr. Cramer asked if there is another school board meeting scheduled with the city and the township. Mr. Tiffany stated nothing has been scheduled but there has been some discussion between the managers because they felt that the city of Bellbrook was caught off guard by the meeting. At the most recent city of Bellbrook council meeting, they approved funding to provide a school resource officer which feels like they are wanting to do their own thing, but they are still trying to schedule a meeting. Some discussion followed. Mr. Cramer added he found that interesting because at the meeting it was discussed that the City of Bellbrook and Sugarcreek Township would provide a school resource officer and the school board would pay 50% of each, which before it was his understanding Sugarcreek would be 33% of the total bill. Mr. Cramer stated this meeting needs to happen because we may show them the rate that we would charge for our office may be different of that then the City of Bellbrook. Mr. Tiffany added interesting enough their rate came down. Some discussion followed. Mr. Cramer stated he will let Mr. Tiffany schedule that meeting and to let him know if he needs any help.

Mr. Cramer added regarding Mr. Martin's 2-day event, he knows Mr. Tiffany did most of the planning and coordinating and that went off without a hitch. He stated our road crew managing the parking and precession line was amazing. He also added all the people standing in the City of Bellbrook waving the American Flag was one of the most touching events he had ever participated in. As well it was really neat to see the City of Bellbrook fire department waving their flag and all of the officers from other cities/counties helping us with the shutdown of 675 and 35. He was just impressed with the entire program. Mr. Moeller added he thinks the board of trustees should send a letter of appreciation to all the officers, road department, and dire staff who came out to help with the event. Mr. Cramer and Mrs.

Destefani both stated they would do that. Some discussion followed. Mr. Cramer stated there's three trustees and three departments, why don't they each pick one to write the letter to. Mr. Moeller picked fire, Mrs. Destefani picked police, and Mr. Cramer picked service. All three trustees will sign each letter, but the letters will be proofread by Mr. Tiffany and Mrs. Tilford.

Zoning

Mrs. Tilford had nothing to add to her report. Mrs. Destefani asked how the planning and zoning open house went and what kinds of comments she received. Mrs. Tilford stated generally speaking everyone was in agreement on the recommendations of the plan, so it was a really helpful exercise. They now have the margins on how to move forward and will be meeting on it in the coming months and will have another open house or a public meeting on the zoning commission or trustee level.

Fiscal Officer

Mr. Demko stated he spoke with the lead auditor today and they are scheduled to get something back by the end of October, but everything has been positive so far. Mr. Cramer added he talked to someone from the state about the records class requirement for Mr. Cramer and Mrs. Destefani and she is looking into it and will get back to them.

Fire

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add to the report. Mr. Moeller asked if they had heard anything about the kitchen remodels. Mr. Tiffany stated they do not have a start date yet, but they do have the cabinets ordered and they are moving down that track. The fire department open house has been rescheduled due to it being scheduled the same day as Halloween in the park. Mr. Cramer added how impressed he was seeing the new ladder truck with the large flag. Mrs. Destefani added seeing it at night with the lights lighting up the flag was beautiful.

Police

Chief Brown had nothing to add to his report. Mr. Cramer stated the police team at the Mr. Martin event were dressed professionally, acting professionally, and he was very proud of our police force especially at the VA center. Mr. Tiffany added he spoke with Ms. Martin who was in Toccoa, Georgia for the weekend and she said that town is like being back in time. They host a parade every year and this year it was almost cancelled because they did not have any World War II vets there that were left to participate. She also said when she was there, they were treated like royalty, and everyone was so interested in speaking with Mr. Martin's grandkids.

Mrs. Destefani wanted to say how nice of a job Officer Mountjoy is doing on the public representation side of things for the police as he asked for some of the pictures from Mr. Martins event for the Facebook page. Chief Brown added Officer Mountjoy's grandfather is a photographer and he has agreed to come and take professional head shots of all the officers, and they plan to highlight an officer once a month. Mrs. Destefani asked when Sugarcreek's drug drop off was scheduled for. Chief Brown stated October 29 from 10 am – 2 pm. He stated it has not been posted yet because he has not received the posters.

Roads and Service

Mr. Owens was not present and had nothing to add to his report. Mr. Tiffany adds he and Mr. Owens were talking the other day about the roadways in Florida and how all of the street signs and stop signs were completely pushed to the ground and the millions of dollars in street signs that need to be replaced. Mr. Moeller asked about the removal of an exhaust system on Talon Ridge. Mrs. Tilford stated it was an exhaust system that fell off a car. Some discussion followed. Mrs. Destefani asked what the signage for block parties entailed. Mr. Tiffany said the service department closes the roads. Mr. Cramer stated he spoke with a resident who was very excited about how responsive the township was when he voiced a concern about a clogged drain. The township was out there almost immediately getting it taken care of. Some discussion followed.

Information Technology

Mr. Tiffany stated he knows they are reaching the end of their contracts with IT and will need to discuss that.

Trustees

Mr. Moeller stated regarding doing something in front of the township building, he has drawn up some ideas of what he imagines it could look like out there and will show it to anyone who is interested in seeing it. Mr. Cramer agrees there needs to be a sign indicating this is the township building as we had the Governor come here and our sign was straightened out. Mr. Moeller added these were just his ideas and he did not know if anyone else had any other ideas. Mr. Tiffany stated based on what he can see from Mr. Moeller sign design, that sign would be \$30,000.00. Mr. Moeller added he can go get some pricing as well as there are certain things the service department cannot do on their own, but he just wants it to look a little nicer when people come to visit. Mrs. Destefani states she feels that they missed the opportunity to have community help as she was hoping to utilize community cleanup day.

Mr. Moeller also adds he is still working on the package for new residents as he is still waiting to get information back from the different departments. Mrs. Destefani expressed she is still not understanding how we are to know when someone is moving into the community to receive these welcome packages. Mrs. Tilford stated they previously spoke about getting with home builders, getting with HOAs, and Mr. Moeller himself volunteering to walk door to door. But there is still the question of how they will know when people are moving in and out. Mr. Moeller stated he is doubtful they will get to everyone moving in but even if they can get to 25-30% of people. Mrs. Tilford stated this is a project they did back in 2012/2014 and there were folders and in the folders were letters from the police and fire chiefs, zoning brochure, etc. So, she does not feel it is too difficult to get the information together, it's going to be difficult getting it out. Mr. Cramer stated they are all in agreement that it sounds like a good idea, he is just not sure how to execute it but feels the ideas presented so far of getting with homebuilders and HOA's will be the most effective way. Some discussion followed. Mrs. Hellman mentioned they may be able to provide realtors with the welcome package to hand out as well. Mrs. Destefani asked for clarification on who is heading this project as she thought it was Mrs. Tilford. Mr. Moeller stated he is just bringing up the idea again, and he reiterated he would be able to handle the south part of the township as he knows every house coming in there and could bring it to them. Some discussion followed on the purpose of the welcome package. Mrs. Destefani stated she likes

the idea of the welcome packages but is unsure if it would be the responsibility of township to do. She wonders if it would be the Chamber who would be better equipped to hand them out and we just provide some of the information. Mr. Moeller stated the Chamber also involves the city of Bellbrook too and is not just strictly the township and he feels they are more interested in business than residents. Mr. Cramer stated they would discuss this further. Some discussion followed on HOA's using outside companies to distribute information for a cost.

Mr. Moeller also added he noticed that the public hero program at the fire department is going well. He asked if an email was sent to everyone, as the fire staff are the only ones showing up for it right now. Some discussion followed on what the healthy hero's program was.

Mr. Moeller asked if we need a resolution for increase for the Miami Valley Regional Planning committee. Mr. Tiffany stated he thinks we will be a part of it in 2023 and whoever our representative is will be voting on our behalf so the trustees may discuss how they would like to vote, but no resolution is needed. Some discussion followed.

Mrs. Destefani asked since she is going as Mr. Moeller's alternate to the MVRPC if Mr. Cramer can be her alternate to the Chamber meeting. Mr. Cramer replied yes.

Mrs. Destefani added she is attending the Ohio Defense and Aerospace forum 10/3 and 10/4 which brings in a lot of military leaders from 10 different military facilities in Ohio. She states there have been very interesting conversations and a lot of the leaders are in direct communication with Congressman Turner on what they think he should do. She does not know how it affects the township with Wright-Patterson Airforce base being right in their back yard, but it has been interesting discussion.

Mrs. Destefani also adds she was approached after Mr. Martins funeral and Jim Keys is very interested in Sugar Valley supporting the veteran's memorial and trying to raise funds for the statue. Mr. Keys asked if they would be able to give a presentation at the gold club in order to promote donations and brick sales. If this is done, she would like advertising on the website and to reach out to the community to just get it as publicized as possible. The date of 10/27/22 at 7pm was talked about but specifically asked for township leadership to be there. Mrs. Tilford stated she has a BZA meeting that night, but Mr. Cramer and Mr. Moeller are available. Mr. Tiffany states there have been 54 brick sales so far which leaves 2,946 to go. Mr. Cramer stated then this is the kind of thing we need to promote it. Mrs. Destefani states she needs to confirm the time but will get a flyer out as soon as everything is confirmed.

Mrs. Destefani asked about the cell phone policy. She knows the service department gets \$20 monthly because they are out on the roads and need to communicate to one another except for Joe since he has elected not to. Mrs. Destefani would like to know the official policy on the use of cellphones. Mr. Tiffany stated employees who would use their phones on the field or those who would be called in after hours are offered to be issued a cell phone or use their personal cellphones and receive the compensation. Mrs. Destefani asked how that works with fire and police. Mr. Tiffany stated it is on an individual basis and a phone is provided to those who do not elect to get reimbursed.

Mr. Cramer asked Mrs. Tilford to speak on the interview she had with WHIO. Mrs. Tilford explained she had the opportunity to speak with Ms. Martin regarding Mr. Martin and the

statue and the veteran's memorial and how important it is for the community to see it built. Some discussion followed on all the news articles on Mr. Martin.

Mr. Cramer stated he did sign up to go to the Dayton Development Coalition fly-in on 10/17 from 5-8pm. He knows it is premature but does not know if there is going to be a work session or not that evening as there is a Trustee meeting. Some discussion followed. He also stated 10/13/22 he is going to be attending Coffee with Champions in Kettering/Moraine at the new startup they have.

Mr. Cramer asked Chief Brown to speak about the Hindu Temple of Dayton. Chief Brown stated it is next Monday beginning at 6-8 pm and is similar to the event hosted in 2019. The event is called Raksha Bandhan celebration and is a celebration to recognize members of the Sugarcreek Township Police and Fire departments. Hindu community is offering the threads and tying a knot of Protection as well as offering a prayer for prosperity, health and wellbeing of the Police Officers and Firefighters/EMS of Sugarcreek Township. All trustees stated they will be in attendance.

Mr. Cramer stated he told Ms. Moore he would get back her regarding a request she had sent him. He stated Mrs. Destefani has put together a document that he feels she will really like. He wants to reiterate he has not forgotten about her; they just want to make sure they got it right and will have it to her this week. Some discussion followed.

5) **Public Comments – Agenda Items**

None.

6) **Old Business**

None.

7) **Consent Agenda Items**

A. **Payment of Bills**

B. **Approval of Minutes**

C. **Annual Report of Township Roads – 2022.10.03.01**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has received the Annual Township Road Inventory Report from the Greene County Engineer; and,

WHEREAS, this Report has been reviewed by the Director of Roads and Services, Dale Owens, and the Township Administrator, Barry P. Tiffany, and found to be accurate as presented; and,

WHEREAS, this Report indicates the road names, length in miles, their condition as well as work completed the past twelve (12) months,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Report, as presented and reviewed, is accepted by this Board of Township Trustees.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, a signed copy shall be returned to the Greene County Engineer.

D. Resignation of Police Department Staff – Officer Adam Klark – 2022.10.03.02

WHEREAS, Police Officer Adam Klark has submitted his letter of resignation from the Sugarcreek Township Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Klark joined the Sugarcreek Township Police Department on June 3, 2019; and,

WHEREAS, Chief Michael Brown recommends we accept the resignation of Adam Klark.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Sugarcreek Township Trustees officially accepts the resignation of Adam Klark effective October 7, 2022.

E. Increase Appropriations for the 2112 Fire Fund – 2022.10.03.03

WHEREAS, the need exists to increase appropriations for the 2112 Fire Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Officer has certified the availability of these funds within the 2022 Budget and has provided this Board with the funding number and the Township Administrator has provided the amount to be appropriated:

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
2112 Fire Fund	\$3,345,917.00	\$3,849,143.85

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the increased appropriation shall be made in accordance with the law.

F. Declaring Excess Property- Police – 2022.10.03.04

WHEREAS, the Sugarcreek Township Police Department has identified equipment which is no longer needed for operations, and;

WHEREAS, the item(s) listed below shall be given to the Greene County Career Center for the Police Academy.

- Twenty (20) out of date ballistic vests

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Sugarcreek Township Board of Trustees hereby declares this property to be excess and directs the appropriate disposition of this property.

G. Proclamation – October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence in America is intolerable, unacceptable, must be stopped and deserves considerable public attention; and,

WHEREAS, Children who witness domestic violence often grow up believing that physical cruelty in relationships is acceptable behavior, and thus they tend to perpetuate a cycle of violence in society; and,

WHEREAS, Many Federal, State and local programs addressing the domestic violence problem have achieved success, bringing greater safety to families; and,

WHEREAS, Community leaders, police, judges, advocates, healthcare workers, and concerned Americans are working together across America to develop solutions to this serious problem and to implement services that will improve our responses when it occurs; and,

WHEREAS, Programs designed to educate men and women about ways they can prevent domestic violence are being developed across our Nation; and,

WHEREAS, Numerous law enforcement officials and departments have created specialized domestic violence units that cooperate with community advocates to enhance services for victims and representatives from the faith community frequently provide essential support in areas where there may be no other services available; and,

WHEREAS, Anyone can be a victim of domestic violence regardless of age, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or religion; and,

WHEREAS, We must continue to hold domestic abusers accountable, punish them to the full extent of the law and prevent them from inflicting more abuse,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township, does hereby proclaim October 2022 to be designated as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and urges all Citizens to participate in activities sponsored by the Family Violence Prevention Center of Greene County, which encourages all Sugarcreek Township residents to work toward the elimination of interpersonal violence.

Mr. Cramer made a motion to approve all consent agenda items, which was seconded by Mrs. Destefani. Upon call of the roll, the vote resulted in the following:

- Mrs. Destefani-yes
- Mr. Moeller-yes
- Mr. Cramer - yes

9. Discussion Agenda Items

Mr. Tiffany stated regarding declaring excess property, Chief Brown was cleaning out upstairs and came across twenty vests that have a shelf life and degrade over time and instead of just getting rid of them, they will be donating them to the police academy career center for their training. It is not anything they would wear in the line of duty; it is only something they would use for training.

Mr. Cramer asked if Officer Klark is leaving for Warren County for a pay issue or another reason. Mr. Tiffany stated he has always wanted to be a deputy sheriff. Some discussion followed. Mr. Cramer adds he just wanted to know if there was a problem they could have addressed. Chief Brown adds they have started advertising now for the new open position. Mr. Tiffany states it is a statewide issue finding police officers and fire fighters. Some discussion followed.

Mrs. Destefani asked about the sewer pump replacement/cleaning fee for \$2,000. Mr. Tiffany stated the pump went out, but it was 20 years old.

10. Public Comments

Ms. Moore stated she has had people in her neighborhood ask her when some of the other roads in the township will be getting fixed. Mr. Tiffany states he does not know. Every year they do an assessment on the roads, and they rank and rate them. For it to be re-paved it must be at the bottom of the list. They understand everyone wants the new black pavement. Mrs. Hellman states she has been asked similar questions and what she does is takes the rating road list and the townships phone number. Some discussion followed. Mr. Tiffany added the roads get a very small portion of the taxes that residents pay. Some discussion followed. Mr. Tiffany added all of the allocated road money for paving projects has already been spent. Mr. Cramer added he spoke with a resident who was so pleased with the internet connection they are receiving now after the township installed fiber. Mr. Tiffany mentioned the Greene County Engineer was giving another fiber installation project in the township on Waynesville Rd a lot of problems requiring sea level elevations when no other county has required that. Mr. Cramer stated this is October, I would like to say by December, 31 2022 we have all of the high-speed internet installation done.

Mrs. Destefani asked Ms. Moore to let them know how much the city of Bellbrook agreed to pay for the Black History Month Art Contest. Ms. Moore stated \$250 as well as helping them advertise, provide a judge, have the winners present at a council meeting.

11. Trustee/Staff Discussions

None.

Executive Session

Mr. Tiffany stated that there was need for an executive session under section 121.G.1 To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee.

Mr. Cramer made a motion to move into Executive session, Mrs. Destefani seconded. Roll was called with the vote being as follows:

Mr. Cramer – Yes
Mrs. Destefani – Yes
Mr. Moeller – Yes

Mr. Cramer moved to come back from executive session at 9:42 pm.

13. Adjourn

Mr. Cramer made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Moeller. Upon call of the roll, the vote resulted in the following:

Mrs. Destefani-yes
Mr. Moeller-yes
Mr. Cramer - yes

Richard J Demko, Fiscal Officer