

**The Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township, Greene County, Ohio, in Regular Session on April 15th, 2024, at 7:00 PM.**

- 1) Mr. Moeller called the session to order at 7:05 pm.**
- 2) Mr. Tiffany called the roll with Board Members, Mr. Moeller, Mr. Cramer and Mrs. Destefani in attendance.** Also, in attendance were Cara Tilford, Dale Owens, Chief Doug Buffenbarger, Chief Mike Brown, Donna Hellmann, Louis Schatzberg and Jim McGinley.
- 3) All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**4) Reports**

**Administration**

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add to his report.

**Zoning**

Mrs. Tilford noted in May, the Zoning Commission will review a proposal to rezone the old schoolhouse on Upper Bellbrook Road to convert it into a coffee shop. The owners plan to extend the bikeway pathway, making the coffee shop easily accessible by foot or bike. Mr. Cramer inquired about the sign project. Mrs. Tilford mentioned they received a rendering but are not satisfied and are considering an alternative sign company. Mrs. Destefani inquired about the newspaper article mentioning Topgolf. Mrs. Tilford anticipates the arrival of a Topgolf-like competitor, though not officially confirmed as negotiations with Hope Church are ongoing. Mrs. Destefani inquired about the issue with Popeyes. Mrs. Tilford mentioned that the issue is the visible utilities on the back of the building. It was emphasized that these utilities are supposed to be screened, and efforts have been ongoing since Popeyes was completed to address the matter. Mrs. Tilford mentioned that progress has been made with Waterford's new landscaper, offering assurance that missing trees will be addressed. Mr. Moeller mentioned concerns about Lowe's retention pond overflowing, prompting action to investigate the issue. Mr. Cramer inquired about the Celebration 2026 grant. Mrs. Tilford mentioned there has not been any updates yet.

**Fiscal Officer**

Mr. Demko had nothing to add to his report.

**Fire**

Chief Buffenbarger had nothing to add to his report. Mr. Moeller raised questions about the number of calls to Bellbrook, expressing uncertainty about whether the calls occurred over 19 times this year or this month. Chief Buffenbarger presented statistics for 2023, revealing

9.7% of calls involved mutual aid, with 36% of those incidents being substantial. Chief Buffenbarger clarified that the 36% of calls to Bellbrook included mutual aid and automatic responses, possibly increased due to modifications to run cards. Mrs. Destefani inquired about

the plans for the Sugar Maple Festival. Chief Buffenbarger mentioned the plans include vehicle extrication demonstrations and providing medical assistance for the 5K race.

### **Police**

Chief Brown added upcoming events: the Hometown Hero event on Saturday at 12:30, and the Drug Drop-Off on the 27<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm at the Public Safety Building. Chief Brown added the National Day of Prayer will be observed on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9am and the bike rodeo will be May 4<sup>th</sup> at 9am at Heritage Church. Mrs. Destefani inquired about a timeline for filling the school Resource officer position. Chief Brown and Mr. Tiffany both identified they have a candidate And are aiming for a start date in July pending successful arrangements.

### **Roads and Service**

Mr. Owens had nothing to add to his report.

### **Information Technology**

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add to his report.

### **Trustees**

Mrs. Destefani mentioned several upcoming events the trustees will be attending. The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission award dinner on Thursday and the Sugar Maple Festival Parade at 10:30am on Saturday. Mrs. Destefani mentioned the recent Greene County Township Association meeting at the airport was informative, showcasing their new training section. Mr. Cramer mentioned the Blueberry Café is set to have its soft opening during the Sugar Maple Festival, followed by its grand opening the weekend after. Mrs. Destefani mentioned April 27<sup>th</sup> The Greene County Skydiving Group is considering skydiving into the parcel where the Pee Wee Martin statue will be placed pending FAA approval.

## **5) Public Comments**

Mr. McGinley raised a question about categorizing theft activity in the police report and distinguishing between minor and major thefts to better inform citizens of potential risks. Chief Brown mentioned that most thefts are shoplifting from retail stores, with the occasional instances involving new construction sites.

## **6) Old Business**

Mrs. Destefani asked about the timeline for the veteran's memorial, as the groundbreaking deadline approaches within the next two years. Mr. Tiffany stated he will double-check to confirm we are on track.

## **7) Consent Agenda Items**

**A.** Payment of Bills

**B.** Minutes

**C.** Resignation of Fire Department Staff – Christopher Tesaez – 2024.04.15.01

**D.** Declaration of Excess Property – Police Department – 2024.04.15.02

**E.** Proclamation of – A National Day of Prayer

**F.** Proclamation of Recognition – Dr. Matthew J. Grismer

**G. Proclamation of Recognition – Dr. Deborah S. Grismer**

**SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.04.15.01**

IN RE: Resignation of Fire Department Staff – Christopher Tesarz

WHEREAS, Part-time Firefighter/Paramedic, Christopher Tesarz has indicated his desire to resign from the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department; and,

WHEREAS, Christopher Tesarz was hired as a member of the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department on August 24, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, Chief Doug Buffenbarger recommends we accept the resignation of Christopher Tesarz.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Sugarcreek Township Trustees officially accepts the resignation of Christopher Tesarz effective March 30, 2024.

**SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.04.15.02**

IN RE: Declaration of Excess Property – Police Department

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

WHEREAS, the items listed have been declared broken, obsolete or non-reparable and have been marked for disposition.

- Laser Unit#1 (serial number UL000377)
- Laser Unit #2 (serial number UX005833)

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.

**PROCLAMATION**  
**A NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

**WHEREAS**, a National Day of Prayer was first recognized as a single-day by the Continental Congress on July 20, 1775; and

**WHEREAS**, such a day has been observed nationally since April 17, 1952, when President Harry S. Truman signed a bill proclaiming a National Day of Prayer must be declared by each following president at an appropriate date of choice; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1988, the law was amended designating that a National Day of Prayer is to be observed on the first Thursday of every May; and

**WHEREAS**, in periods of peace and prosperity and in times of struggle and strife, countless Americans turn to prayer to seek guidance, bolster our faith, and brace our spirits when we need it most. Prayer is both a personal and communal act - composed of our most intimate thoughts and a practice observed by multitudes across our diverse Nation in every language, culture, religion, and belief system. On this National Day of Prayer, we recognize the profound power of prayer, grounded in deep humility and hope; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees recognizes that Sugarcreek Township is home to citizens of many faiths and that prayer has long been a positive force that serves as a source of inspiration and hope; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Area Ministerial Association is hosting a community-wide National Day of Prayer gathering at the BellHOP Cafe, 26 N. West Street at 9:00 am on Thursday, May 2, 2024,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, this Board of Trustees recognizes May 2, 2024, as a Day of Prayer.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, this Board of Trustees encourages all residents to recognize the continuing need for strong positive values to guide our Township, State and Nation.

**PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION**

**Dr. Matthew J. Grismer**

In recognition of 30 years of federal service from December 1993 to July 2024, Dr. Matthew J. Grismer is honored for his distinguished performance as a senior research aerospace engineer for the U.S. Air Force, Air Force Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Beyond the confines of Air Force Research Laboratory, Dr. Grismer, as a resident of Sugarcreek Township, is also recognized for his organization of multiple Boy Scout events, merit badge counseling, and aiding in cemetery wreath display activities. Dr. Grismer also served on the Faith Formation committee at St Francis church overseeing youth/adult education processes and advising on improvements to the program.

The Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township hereby recognizes and honors Dr. Matthew J. Grismer for his federal service and his involvement in the community for the past 30 years.

**PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION**

**Dr. Deborah S. Grismer**

In recognition of 30 years of federal service from December 1993 to July 2024, Dr. Deborah S. Grismer is honored for her exceptional performance as a supervisory principal aerospace engineer for the U.S. Air Force, Air Force Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Beyond the confines of Air Force Research Laboratory, Dr. Grismer, as a resident of Sugarcreek Township, is also recognized for her organization of multiple Boy Scout

events and management of the cemetery wreath display activities. Sugarcreek Township is also appreciative of her involvement with the school system as volunteer and chaperone for various events at Bellbrook High School. Thank you for your many years of service.

The Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township hereby recognizes and honors Dr. Deborah S. Grismer for her federal service and her involvement in the community for the past 30 years.

Mr. Cramer made a motion to accept all consent agenda items as stated. Mrs. Destefani seconded.

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

**8) Discussion Agenda Items**

None.

### **9) Public Comments**

Mrs. Hellmann highlighted the importance of categorizing theft incidents in police reports for community reassurance. Mrs. Hellmann also stressed the need to fix the township's recording system. Mr. Tiffany clarified that the issue lies in finding software to edit and post recordings, but assured that it's being addressed. Mr. Schatzberg expressed gratitude to all involved in the Sugar Maple Festival's success, especially the township, fire department, and police department.

### **10) Trustee/Staff Discussions**

Mr. Tiffany proposed to allocate \$20,000 for scholarships split between police officers and Junior ROTC. The proposal entails providing financial support for academy training with a commitment to work for the township for a minimum of three years upon graduation and other specific eligibility conditions.

Mr. Cramer made a motion to allocate \$20,000 to the Sugarcreek Education Foundation. Mrs. Destefani seconded.

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

### **11) Adjourn**

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

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

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Richard J Demko, Fiscal Officer