

The Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township, Greene County, Ohio, in Regular Session on May 6, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

1) Mr. Cramer called the session to order at 7:00 pm.

2) Mr. Demko called the roll with Board Members, Mr. Cramer and Mrs. Destefani in attendance. Also, in attendance were Cara Tilford, Donna Hellmann, Louis Schatzberg, Jim McGinley and Brett Bonecutter.

3) All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) Reports

Administration

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add to his report. Mrs. Destefani inquired about updates regarding NATAT. Mr. Tiffany mentioned that he and Mrs. Tilford will be departing tomorrow morning. The meetings commence at 2pm on Tuesday, followed by a sponsored dinner. Wednesday's agenda entails early proceedings at Capitol Hill. Mr. Cramer mentioned that the trustees have been briefed on the 675 project and are now better informed, offering clarity on our next steps. Mr. Cramer further emphasized that our understanding of the decision-making authority is reassuring.

Zoning

Mrs. Tilford had nothing to add to her report. Mrs. Tilford noted that the Zoning Commission Meeting on June 4th will determine the future of the one-room schoolhouse at Upper Bell and South Alpha Bell, owned by the Demarist's, potentially transitioning into a coffee shop pending approval. Mrs. Tilford further emphasized that the request is to rezone from agricultural to B2 for commercial use, with a recommended PUD for flexibility and futureproofing.

Fiscal Officer

Mr. Demko had nothing to add to his report. Mr. Demko noted that the audit process is underway, with changes in assigned auditors and ongoing information requests. Mr. Demko further noted that despite some delays repeated requests for information, we expect a streamlined process moving forward.

Fire

Chief Buffenbarger had nothing to add to his report. Mrs. Destefani commended the fire department for their exceptional performance at the Sugar Maple Festival.

Police

Chief Brown had nothing to add to his report. Mrs. Destefani noted that she attended the Bike Rodeo last Saturday. Despite only six children from the local church attending, both Sugarcreek and Bellbrook Police were present. Mrs. Destefani further noted considering the low turnout, Chief Brown proposed relocating the event closer to Collins Lodge next year to reach a broader audience. Mr. Cramer noted he attended Coffee with a Cop, but turnout was low. Mr. Tiffany mentioned Target will host the event at their store, which might be more successful than at Bellhop. Mrs. Destefani mentioned she is pleased with the recent drug drop-off, where approximately 200 pounds of drugs were collected.

Roads and Service

Mr. Owens had nothing to add to his report. Mr. Tiffany noted the sale of a service truck.

Information Technology

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add to his report.

Trustees

Mrs. Destefani noted that she and Mr. Tiffany attended interviews for the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District Board of Commissioners and interviewed four candidates. Mrs. Destefani mentioned that while the city and township preferred one candidate and the Park Board favored another, the final decision now goes to Greene County, where Judge Buckwalter will decide. Mrs. Destefani further noted that next week, all three trustees will join the Dayton Development Coalition in Washington DC, where they have appointments with Congressman Turner, J.D. Vance, and Sherrod Brown’s offices. Mr. Cramer noted that at the last Chamber of Commerce Meeting, an update was given about the Eagle 2 playground project, which includes five pieces of equipment, three of which are ADA accessible. Mr. Cramer further noted the he and the trustees will be in Washington DC, with a busy schedule of meetings, hoping for progress on the bike path project.

5) Public Comments

None

6) Old Business

None

7) Consent Agenda Items

- A. Payment of Bills
- B. Minutes
- C. Resignation of Fire Department Staff – Matt Armstrong – 2024.05.06.01
- D. Resignation of Fire Department Staff – Daniel Gibson – 2024.05.06.02
- E. Declaration of Excess Property – Service Department – 2024.05.06.03
- F. Declaration of Excess Property – Fire Department – 2024.05.06.04

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.05.06.01

IN RE: Resignation of Fire Department Staff – Matthew Armstrong

WHEREAS, Full-time Firefighter/Paramedic, Matthew Armstrong has indicated his desire to resign from the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Armstrong was hired as a member of the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department on June 1, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, Chief Doug Buffenbarger recommends we accept the resignation of Matthew Armstrong.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Sugarcreek Township Trustees officially accepts the resignation of Matthew Armstrong effective May 6, 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.05.06.02

IN RE: Resignation of Fire Department Staff – Daniel Gibson

WHEREAS, Full-time Firefighter/Paramedic, Daniel Gibson has indicated his desire to resign from the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department; and,

WHEREAS, Daniel Gibson was hired as a member of the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department on May 8, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, Chief Doug Buffenbarger recommends we accept the resignation of Daniel Gibson.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Sugarcreek Township Trustees officially accepts the resignation of Daniel Gibson effective May 6, 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.05.06.03

IN RE: Declaration of Excess Property – Roads and Service Department

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

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

- 2002 Freightliner F80 Truck
VIN 1FVABWAK72HK19211

WHEREAS, the Village of Spring Valley has expressed an interest in the purchase of this truck.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Sugarcreek Township Board of Trustees hereby agrees to a sale of the above to the Village of Spring Valley for the amount of \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand) dollars.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.05.06.04

IN RE: Declaration of Excess Property – Fire Department

WHEREAS, the Sugarcreek Township Fire 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.

- 1 – 13 ft. Mercury inflatable boat
- 1 – Evinrude E-Tec Rescue Pro 25 hp outboard motor with 6 gallon fuel tank
- 1 – 14 ft. Load Rite Boat Trailer
- 1 – Mercury engine stand/cart

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.

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

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

8) Discussion Agenda Items

Mr. Tiffany noted two motions from the board. First, the tentative agreement with the fire union for the renewal of their contract, effective April 1st of this year. Mr. Tiffany noted he needs a motion and a second to approve the tentative agreement.

Mrs. Destefani made a motion to accept the agenda item. Mr. Cramer seconded.

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

Mr. Tiffany noted as part of this agreement, the union has requested a retroactivity waiver and the wages will have a reopener in April of next year. Mr. Tiffany explained if an agreement can not be reached, the process will involve arbitration, fact-finding, and conciliation with a neutral arbitrator appointed by the state of Ohio to determine the retroactive pay, limited to no earlier than April 1st, 2025.

Mr. Crammer made a motion to accept the agenda item. Mrs. Destefani seconded.

Mr. Crammer – Yes
Mrs. Destefani – Yes
Mr. Moeller – Absent

A) Water Rescue Service

At work session, it was decided to cease water rescue apparatus aid and rely on mutual aid instead. This decision was based on the low number of calls and insufficient training to ensure the safety of both staff and the community.

9) Public Comments

None

10) Trustee/Staff Discussions

None

11) Adjourn

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

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

Richard J Demko, Fiscal Officer

