

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

**1) Mr. Moeller called the session to order at 7:05 pm.**

**2) Mr. Demko called the roll with Board Members, Mr. Moeller, Mr. Cramer, and Mrs. Destefani in attendance.** Also, in attendance were Barry Tiffany, Justin Windsor, Chief Doug Buffenbarger, Chief Mike Brown, Donna Hellmann, Louis Schatzberg, and Tom Vysochy.

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

**4) Budget Hearing**

Mr. Demko noted for the 2025 budget, anticipated revenue increases are: General Fund \$12,000, Roads and Bridge \$22,000, Police \$80,000, and Fire \$75,000. These are typically conservative estimates. Mr. Demko further noted that this is the first step in a three-step process with temporary appropriations in November/December and permanent appropriations by April of 2025.

No one spoke in favor, against or neutrally about the budget.

**5) Reports**

**Administration**

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add to his report.

**Zoning**

Mrs. Tilford had nothing to add to her report. Mr. Moeller noted that Mrs. Tilford has upcoming zoning cases with Sheetz Development and Feedwire Farms scheduled. Mr. Tiffany mentioned that there have been complaints about the readability of zoning signs due to small lettering and larger signs will be ordered to improve visibility and communication. Mrs. Destefani inquired about updates on the long range use plan. Mr. Tiffany expects it to be reviewed by the Zoning Commission in August or September.

**Fiscal Officer**

Mr. Demko had nothing to add to his report.

**Fire**

Chief Buffenbarger had nothing to add to his report.

**Police**

Chief Brown had nothing to add to his report.

**Roads and Service**

Mr. Owens had nothing to add to his report. Mr. Cramer inquired if the new service truck was in service. Mr. Windsor answered everything is in working order, and we're just waiting on the tags.

**Information Technology**

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add to his report.

**Trustees**

Due to the high school's ribbon-cutting ceremony for their new track and field the August 5<sup>th</sup> work

session will be canceled. All trustees will be attending.

Mrs. Destefani noted that the trustees attended the Bellbrook City Council meeting last Monday for the preliminary hearing on limiting north-south traffic for certain vehicles. Mrs. Destefani attended the Greene County Township Association meeting last Tuesday in Jamestown, where Dr. Kevin Sharrett spoke about rural health clinics.

**6) Public Comments**

None

**7) Old Business**

Mr. Cramer inquired about the progress of arranging regular meetings with the school and city. Mr. Tiffany noted that he has tried but without success. Mrs. Destefani suggested the best opportunity to address the issue would be at the next chamber meeting, where Doug Kozad and one or two council members are present.

**8) Consent Agenda Items**

**A.** Payment of Bills

**B.** Minutes

**C.** Resignation of Fire Department Staff – Lauren Gruza – 2024.07.15.01

**D.** Appointment of Fire Department Staff – Noah Silo – 2024.07.15.02

**E.** Retirement of Roads and Services Director – Dale Owens – 2024.07.15.03

**F.** Proceed to Ballet – Police Levy 2024.07.01.07 – Rescinded – 2024.07.15.04

**G.** Proceed to Ballet – Police Levy - 2024.07.15.05

**H.** Request for Speed Study – Possum Run Road between the City of Bellbrook boundary and Little Sugarcreek Road – 2024.07.15.06

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.07.15.01**

IN RE: Resignation of Fire Department Staff – Lauren Gruza

WHEREAS, Part-time Firefighter/EMT, Lauren Gruza has indicated her desire to resign from the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department; and,

WHEREAS, Lauren Gruza was hired as a member of the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department on June 8, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, Chief Doug Buffenbarger recommends we accept the resignation of Ms. Gruza.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Sugarcreek Township Trustees officially accepts the resignation of Lauren Gruza effective July 15, 2024.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.07.15.02**

IN RE: Appointment of Fire Department Staff  
Noah Silo

WHEREAS, the continuing need exists to maintain proper staffing within the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department; and,

WHEREAS, vacancies exist within the classification of Part-time Firefighter EMT; and,

WHEREAS, Noah Silo has the necessary qualifications to serve in that capacity for the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department; and,

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose within the Fire Department's 2024 Operating Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Noah Silo shall be appointed to the position of Part-Time Firefighter II/EMT within the Sugarcreek Fire Department at the rate of \$18.08 per hour; and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the above-mentioned appointment for Noah Silo will have an effective date of July 12, 2024, with a one (1) year probationary period ending on July 12, 2025.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.07.15.03**

IN RE: Accepting Retirement of Dale Owens, Director of Roads and Services

WHEREAS, Dale Owens has submitted his letter of retirement from the Sugarcreek Township Roads and Services Department with an effective date of September 27, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, Barry P. Tiffany, Township Administrator, has stated that Mr. Owens, started his employment with Sugarcreek Township May 18, 1999 as a full-time service worker I. Over the next 25+ years at Sugarcreek Township, Dale worked his way up in the Roads and Service department finishing out his service as the Director of Roads and Services, and Mr. Tiffany recommends the Board of Trustees accept Mr. Owens's notice of retirement; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees and Township Administrator, Barry P. Tiffany, would like to publicly thank Mr. Owens for his dedication of service to this community for the past 25 years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Township Trustee officially accepts, with regret, the retirement of Dale Owens from the Sugarcreek Township Roads and Services Department effective September 27, 2024; and,

FUTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board of Trustees wishes Mr. Owens the very best in retirement for many years to come.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.07.15.04**

IN RE: Rescinding Resolution 2024.07.01.07 Resolution to Proceed – Police Levy

WHEREAS, this Board of Sugarcreek Township Trustees has determined the need to rescind Resolution 2024.07.01.07 Resolution to Proceed – Police Levy,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution 2024.07.15.04 is hereby rescinded (copy attached and incorporated in this resolution).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.07.15.05**

**RESOLUTION TO PROCEED  
OF THE TAXING AUTHORITY**

(Revised Code, Sec. 5705.19, .191, .192, .194, .21, .26)

The Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township  
Governing body (e.g., village council, board of trustees, etc.) Political subdivision

met in Regular session on July 15, 2024 at the office of  
Regular or Special Month and day Year

Board of Trustees with the following members present:  
Governing body

- Marvin Moeller
- Fred Cramer
- Carolyn Destefani
- 
- 

  moved the adoption of the following Resolution:  
Member name

**WHEREAS**, the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten-mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the said Sugarcreek Township Greene County; therefore be it  
Political subdivision

**RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees, Greene County, two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten mill limitation for the benefit of the Sugarcreek Township for the purpose of a police levy renewal pursuant to R.C. 5705.19 (J)  
Governing body County Political subdivision Purpose (use additional lines if needed)

   
   
 

at a rate not exceeding 2.000 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to 0.0200 for each one hundred dollars of valuation or \$ 47 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 commencing  
Millage Rate expressed in dollars per \$1 of taxable value Cost per \$100,000 from auditor certification Length of time in years

and appearing on the tax list for the years so specified: 2025-2029  
List the years levy will appear on tax list

Said levy is (choose one of the following):

- An additional levy of   mills.
- A renewal of an existing levy of 2.000 mills.
- A renewal of an existing levy of   mills and an increase of   mills to constitute a tax of   mills.
- A renewal of part of an existing levy, being a reduction of   mills to constitute a tax of   mills.
- A replacement of an existing levy of   mills.
- A replacement of an existing levy of   mills and an increase of   mills to constitute a tax of   mills.
- A replacement of part of an existing levy, being a reduction of   mills, to constitute a tax of   mills.



NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township, Greene County, Ohio is hereby requesting the County Engineer prepare a speed zone study on Possum Run Road between the City of Bellbrook boundary and Little Sugarcreek Road.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that once complete, the speed zone study will be sent to the State of Ohio for evaluation for a change in the posted speed limit on said roads, if warranted.

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

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

#### **9) Discussion Agenda Items**

Mr. Tiffany explained item F on the agenda is to rescind the police levy resolution passed at the previous meeting due to incorrect numbers provided by the county. Consequently, we need to rescind the previous resolution and pass a new one with the correct information.

Mr. Moeller asked if complaints were made about the speed on Possum Run Road. Mr. Tiffany confirmed that a complaint was made prompting the need to request a speed study.

#### **10) Public Comments**

Louis Schatzberg noted that the Alchemist Club had their ice cream social last weekend, and there was a good turnout from the fire department. Louise Schatzberg also mentioned that last night the fire department was out on his road due to a tree that fell on a power line. The fire department stayed until AES was able to cut the power to that section.

#### **11) Trustee/Staff Discussions**

Mr. Tiffany asked the trustees for permission to move forward with TechAdvisors managed services unlimited plus with the dynamics option.

Mr. Cramer made a motion to accept the managed services unlimited plus with the dynamics option, which now has us paying on a per user basis instead of a fixed fee. Mrs. Destefani seconded.

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

Mr. Tiffany noted the Fire Department needs five sets of turnout gear, with a cost of \$18,955.00.

Mr. Moeller made a motion to accept the cost of the fire gear. Mrs. Destefani seconded.

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

Mr. Tiffany noted the Veterans Memorial is nearing the stage where we need to go out to bid. To

ensure all legal steps are followed Mr. Tiffany would like to contract with Choice One Engineering at a cost of \$3500.00 to complete this step.

Mrs. Destefani made a motion to accept the contract with Choice One Engineering. Mr. Cramer seconded.

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

Mr. Cramer noted that Bellbrook plans to change the use of some roads, which was discussed at a recent City Council meeting. Bellbrook estimates detours will add 1.5 miles, but our data shows 7.5 miles, significantly impacting travel times for heavy vehicles. Our goal is to negotiate a compromise to support Sugarcreek Township businesses.

## **12) 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. Cramer – Yes  
Mr. Moeller – Yes

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Richard J Demko, Fiscal Officer

