

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Trustees of Sycamore Township
Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio

Tuesday, March 19, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Weidman.

Present for the meeting were Chairman Weidman, Vice Chairman Schwegmann, Trustee Kellums, Fiscal Officer Deters, Law Director Barbieri, Administrator Bickford, Superintendent Reutelshofer, Planning & Zoning Administrator Uckotter, Fire Chief Penny, and Lt. Tarr from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

The invocation from St. Saviour Church was read by Mr. Kellums.

Pledge to the Flag.

Approval of the March 5, 2024 Trustee Meeting Minutes

The March 5, 2024 Trustee Meeting minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Kellums made a motion to accept them, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye

Public Comments

Mr. Jeff Baumgarth, with Myers Y. Cooper Company, of 9301 Montgomery Road, addressed the Board. Mr. Baumgarth stated his company manages the Kenwood Executive Center at the corner of Galbraith and Kenwood Roads and addressed the Board about the medical office use restriction for the building.

Mr. Weidman stated he understood that Mr. Baumgarth's attorney had contacted the Township Law Director.

Mr. Barbieri said he had received an email from Mr. Baumgarth's attorney when he was on vacation and would call him.

Mr. Brian Haigh, of 4106 Jud Drive, addressed the Board about home rule township zoning. Mr. Haigh read from the Ohio Revised Code. He stated he was interested in applying for the Zoning Administrator position. Mr. Haigh expressed concerns about the digital sign moratorium resolution approved by a recent Trustee resolution.

Sheriff Patrol Report

Security Camera Registry

Lt. Tarr reported on a new program the Sheriff's Office recently launched to allow companies and residents to register security cameras with a third party. He said the registry would allow the Sheriff's Office to know the location of cameras in the event of an incident and be able to contact the owners of the cameras via email to request video evidence. Lt. Tarr said this would be a great tool for investigators and patrol officers. He said the link to register cameras is available at www.hcso.org under "Find Information" and then "Connect Hamilton County." Lt. Tarr said residents and businesses may also choose Level 2 of this program and allow Hamilton County Sheriff real-time access to the camera feed in case of an emergency nearby.

EMS/Fire Report

Chief Penny reported a full-time firefighter is retiring at the end of the month. He requested approval to start the process of hiring a new firefighter. He said a good option would be to hire one of the current part-time employees for a full-time position as a recruit.

Planning & Zoning Report

Mr. Uckotter asked the Board for a decision regarding the property located at 7853, 7855, and 7861 Cincinnati Avenue (AKA 12020 5th Avenue) that was the subject of a public hearing for an unsafe building earlier that evening.

Mr. Kellums expressed concerns about safety and the amount of time the owner has been given to address issues on the property with little progress. Mr. Kellums made a motion to enforce Resolution 2024-014 to remove unsafe and unsecure structures at 7853, 7855, 7861 Cincinnati Avenue (AKA 12020 5th Avenue) as set forth in the resolution. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye

Mr. Uckotter reported he had a resolution for the Board's consideration to declare a property with junk and debris stored outside a nuisance. He described the history of the violations on the property, noting there was a fire in the house in 2023. Mr. Uckotter displayed photos of the current conditions.

The Board asked questions of Mr. Uckotter.

Resolution – 12060 7th Avenue Nuisance Property

The resolution "Providing for and Authorizing Removal of Vegetation, Garbage, Refuse and Other Debris and Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 12060 7th Avenue, Sycamore Township, Ham OH, 45249" was presented by Mr. Uckotter. Mr. Kellums made a motion to approve the resolution dispensing with a second reading. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion.

The owner of the property was present and requested to speak.

Mr. Timothy S. Pendergrass, of 12060 7th Avenue, addressed the Board. He stated he was in the process of cleaning the property but has had health issues slowing down the process. Ms. Amy Singleton, Mr. Pendergrass' girlfriend, also addressed the Board, saying they have four children and lost everything they had in the fire. She described the couple's challenges and requested more time to clean the property.

Mr. Kellums asked the date of the Trash Bash. Mr. Reutelshofer stated the North Trash Bash at McDaniel Park will take place April 12th and 13th.

Mr. Kellums made a motion to table the nuisance resolution until the April 16, 2024 Trustee meeting. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye

Mr. Weidman informed the property owners they have until April 16, 2024 to clean the property and said they should take advantage of the Township's Trash Bash.

Roads, Maintenance & Recreation Report

Mr. Reutelshofer reported on the 2024 Sidewalk Maintenance Program which will begin in a couple of weeks in the Winds Subdivision.

Mr. Reutelshofer requested a motion to advertise for the Euclid Avenue Sidewalk Project. He stated the project's estimated cost is \$1.2 million, 70 percent of which will be paid by a SORTA Grant.

Mr. Kellums made a motion to advertise for the Euclid Avenue Sidewalk Project. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye

Mr. Reutelshofer requested a motion to advertise for the Finley Lane Sidewalk Project. He stated the project's estimated cost is \$260,000.00, 90 percent of which will be paid by a SORTA Grant.

Mr. Kellums made a motion to advertise for the Finley Lane Sidewalk Project. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye

Mr. Reutelshofer reported monthly brush chipping returns on April 6, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. behind the Administration Building at 8540 Kenwood Road. He added that document shredding would take place April 20th, North Trash Bash at McDaniel Park will be April 12th and 13th, and South Trash Bash at Bechtold Park will be April 26th and 27th.

Resolution – Approving a Contract for the 2024 Reclamite Road Repair Project

The resolution “Approving a Contract for the 2024 Reclamite Road Repair Project and Dispensing with the Second Reading” was presented by Mr. Reutelshofer. He described the project and listed the streets involved. Mr. Kellums made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye
Resolution 2024-024 passed this 19th day of March 2024

Law Director Report

Mr. Barbieri stated he had nothing to report.

Administrator Report

Mr. Bickford reported that the Township is evaluating the system Lt. Tarr described to determine if the Sheriff’s Office could be given access to various Township cameras. He also reported he was looking into the Township’s software to determine which ones are still beneficial.

Purchase Orders Over \$5,000.00

Mr. Bickford presented the following purchase orders over \$5,000.00 for approval:


Purchase Order 24-62-1	Blanket Vendor	Fire – Building Costs	\$5,000.00
Purchase Order 24-82-2	Blanket Vendor	Rental Refunds	\$5,400.00
Purchase Order 24-108	Advantage Tent & Party Rental	Festival Tents, Tables, Chairs	\$6,390.13
Purchase Order 24-109	Blanket Vendor	Festival Expenses	\$10,000.00
Purchase Order 24-110	River City Entertainment, LLC	Festival Entertainment DV8	\$5,000.00
Purchase Order 24-111	Rumpke Container Service, Inc.	Festival Trash services	\$5,5271.70
Purchase Order 24-112	Cumulus Cincinnati	Festival Radio Advertising	\$7,000.00
Purchase Order 24-113	Blanket Vendor	Fire Equipment Grant	\$10,700.00
Purchase Order 24-114	Treydog Touring	Festival Entertainment	\$5,000.00
Purchase Order 24-115	Bronson Arroyo	Festival Entertainment	\$5,000.00

Mr. Kellums made a motion to approve the purchase orders. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye

Fiscal Officer Report
Pay Bills and Read Receipts

The receipts in the amount of \$408,388.52 and disbursements in the amount of \$320,655.72 for March 19, 2024 were read by Mr. Deters and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

I hereby certify that the money for payment of these bills is in the fund provided and duly and properly appropriated.

Signed: 
Jonathan T. Deters, Fiscal Officer

Mr. Kellums made a motion to approve the receipts and disbursements. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye

Trustees Comments

Ms. Schwegmann thanked the maintenance team for their work in getting parks and ballfields in tip-top shape this spring. She noted children would be outside playing more in the warm weather and encouraged drivers to be mindful of that. Ms. Schwegmann stated it was election day. She encouraged people to vote and thanked those participating in that process.

Mr. Kellums encouraged residents to take advantage of the Trash Bash and document shredding events.

Announcements

Mr. Weidman stated there will be Community Development Block Grant Public Hearings on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, 6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 6:30 p.m., in the Township Administration Building at 8540 Kenwood Road. He then referred people to the published calendar on the website for meeting and event information.

Executive Session

Mr. Weidman requested a motion to adjourn into Executive Session as permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) to consider the employment of a public employee and the employment and compensation of a public employee and as permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4) to review negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment. Mr. Kellums made the motion and Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Mr. Kellums: Aye; Ms. Schwegmann: Aye; Mr. Weidman: Aye

Mr. Deters, Mr. Barbieri, Mr. Reutelshofer and Mr. Bickford were invited into the executive session with the three Trustees.

End Regular Session: 7:36 p.m.

Begin Executive Session: 7:38 p.m.

End Executive Session: 7:53 p.m.

Back in Regular Session: 7:54 p.m.

Mr. Deters called roll. All three Trustees indicated they were present.

Mr. Bickford stated he had two resolutions for the Board’s consideration.

Resolution – Authorizing a Contract with the International Association of Fire Fighters Union Local 3907 and Dispensing with a Second Reading

The resolution “Authorizing a Contract with the International Association of Fire Fighters Union Local 3907 and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was presented by Mr. Bickford. Mr. Kellums made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion.

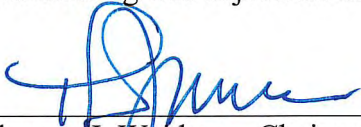
Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye
Resolution 2024-025 passed this 19th day of March 2024

Resolution – Setting the Rates of Pay for a Part-Time Township Employee

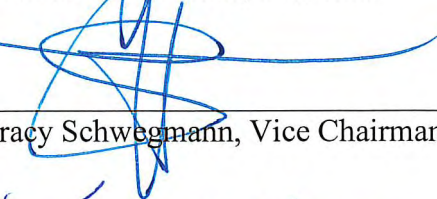
The resolution “Setting the Rates of Pay for a Part-Time Township Employee” was presented by Mr. Bickford. Mr. Kellums made a motion to approve the resolution, dispensing with a second reading. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: Kellums: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye; Weidman: Aye
Resolution 2024-026 passed this 19th day of March 2024

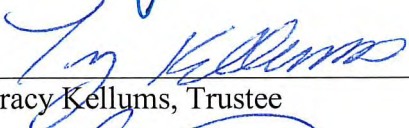
Mr. Kellums made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann. Vote: All Aye
The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



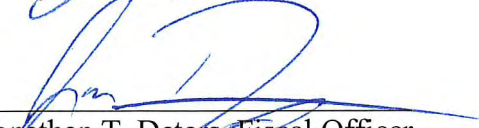
Thomas J. Weidman, Chairman



Tracy Schwegmann, Vice Chairman



Tracy Kellums, Trustee



Jonathan T. Deters, Fiscal Officer
Regular Meeting 03/19/2024