

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

November 15, 2022

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

Present for the meeting were Chairman Weidman, Vice Chairman Schwegmann, Trustee James, Attorney Katherine Barbieri present for Law Director Barbieri, Fiscal Officer Porter, Administrator Kellums, Fire Chief Penny, Planning & Zoning Administrator Miller, and Lt. Tarr from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

The invocation was read by Mr. Miller.

Pledge to the Flag.

#### **Approval of the November 1, 2022 Public Hearing and Trustees Meeting Minutes**

The November 1, 2022 Zoning Public Hearing minutes were presented for approval. Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, to accept them.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: Mr. James: Aye; Ms. Schwegmann: Aye; Mr. Weidman: Aye

The November 1, 2022 Trustee Meeting minutes were presented for approval. Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, to accept them.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: Mr. James: Aye; Ms. Schwegmann: Aye; Mr. Weidman: Aye

#### **Public Comments**

None

#### **Sheriff Patrol Report**

Lt. Tarr extended his congratulations to Cpl. James Whitaker, who currently works night shift in Sycamore Township, on being selected for the criminal investigations section.

Lt. Tarr reported the Sheriff is now accepting applications for lateral transfers so there will be some new people on patrol in the Township. He said the Sheriff's Office is hiring if anyone is looking for a rewarding career.

Lt. Tarr said Mr. James had asked at a previous meeting for an update on the Louis Vuitton case. He said he spoke to CIS and was told they have tracked the group to Chicago and are working with the Chicago Police Department to identify the suspects.

#### **EMS/Fire Report**

Chief Penny reported the Fire Department received tremendous response to assist with the funeral for a Fire Department officer. He said coordination for the funeral was spear-headed by Firefighter Mike Kramer.

Chief Penny reported the Fire Department has applied for a grant for EMS training and training materials.

### **Planning & Zoning Report**

Mr. Miller reported he had a nuisance property resolution for the Board's consideration for 8172 Kemper Ridge Ct. He stated the Planning & Zoning Department has finally made contact with a family member of the property owner, noting the property owner is out of town. He said he would like to get the resolution approved in case the relative does not follow through with resolving the violations on the property. He then displayed photos of the property.

The resolution "Providing for and Authorizing Removal of Vegetation, Garbage, Refuse and Other Debris and Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 8172 Kemper Ridge Court, Sycamore Township, OH 45249" was presented by Mr. Miller. Mr. James made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, dispensing with a second reading.

There was a discussion about the condition of the property and the complaint.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.  
Resolution 2022-111 passed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022

Mr. Miller reported he had additional resolutions for the Board's consideration for PACE financing at Sycamore Place, located in the former Kenwood Theatre location. He said the developer was approved for a Major Adjustment to a PUD and is doing a \$5 million improvement to the site including Class A office, retail, and personal services. Mr. Miller reported they have applied for PACE financing for energy efficiency improvements on the site.

The resolution "Approving the Petition for Special Assessments for Special Energy Improvements Projects Under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1710 and Approving the Necessity of Acquiring, Constructing, and Improving Certain Public Improvements in the Township of Sycamore, Hamilton County, Ohio, in Cooperation with the Suburban Communities Energy Special Improvement District, and Declaring an Emergency" was presented by Mr. Miller. Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, to approve the resolution.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.  
Resolution 2022-112 passed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022

The resolution "Determining to Proceed with the Acquisition, Construction, and Improvement of Certain Public Improvements in the Township of Sycamore, Hamilton County, Ohio, in Cooperation with the Suburban Communities Energy Special Improvement District, and Declaring an Emergency" was presented by Mr. Miller. Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, to approve the resolution. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.  
Resolution 2022-113 passed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022

The resolution "Levying Special Assessments for the Purpose of Acquiring, Constructing, and Improving Certain Public Improvements in the Township of Sycamore, Hamilton County, Ohio, in Cooperation with the Suburban Communities Energy Special Improvement District, and Declaring an Emergency" was presented by Mr. Miller. Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, to approve the resolution. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.  
Resolution 2022-114 passed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022

Mr. Miller then reported on the November 14, 2022 Zoning Commission meeting. He stated the Zoning Commission heard two cases, one of which was a PUD1 that was for a residential property which was zoned retail. He said the second case, Case 2022-15P2, will come before the Trustees in December. Mr. Miller reported that case is a proposed Robert Lucke Group mixed use development which was recommended for approval with conditions by the Zoning Commission.

#### **Roads, Maintenance & Recreation Report**

Mr. Kellums stated at the last meeting, the Board gave permission to look for a national act for the Festival in Sycamore with a spending cap of \$30,000.00. He reported The Spin Doctors were contacted and are available at a cost of \$25,000.00. He requested a motion for approval to proceed noting there would be a resolution at a later date to approve a contract.

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, to authorize Mr. Kellums to move forward with negotiating a contract with The Spin Doctors for the Festival in Sycamore.

Mr. James noted he thinks we should be having local bands only, but the Board has spoken as to its preference, and this is a good choice within the parameters the Board has set.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Kellums reported Larchview Drive was scheduled to be paved the following day. He said changes have been made to Plainfield Road, but it is not finished yet.

Mr. Kellums reported leaves came down quickly and crews have been working overtime to get caught up. He said the crews have worked hard and done a good job.

Mr. Kellums requested a motion to advertise for the Montgomery Road Sidewalk Project from Stewart Road to Ken Arbre.

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, to advertise for the Montgomery Road Sidewalk Project. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

#### **Law Director Report**

Ms. Barbieri had nothing to report.

#### **Administrator Report**

Mr. Kellums reported there is a purchase order on the list for approval for \$32,000.00 for holiday security at Kenwood Towne Center. He stated in the past, the Township has helped KTC with security not only to protect the Towne Center but to keep our Sheriff's officers on patrol instead of at the Towne Center all the time.

Mr. Weidman stated he met with the KTC manager about security and said he thinks they are extending the rule that those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent another week over the holidays.

The resolution "Amending 2022 Appropriations, Dispensing with a Second Reading and Declaring an Emergency" was presented by Mr. Kellums. Mr. James made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann.

Mr. James asked Mr. Kellums to clarify what is changing.

Mr. Kellums said there is a \$64,000.00 change in general fund; there was not enough money appropriated for fuel since fuel prices have risen so much, which was unexpected. He said the biggest change is an increase of \$955,000.00 for Fire Department salaries. He said after some research, he found we do have money already appropriated under overtime to cover this; however, even though it is appropriated, that doesn't mean we have to use it. He said there is \$155,000.00 left in salaries that doesn't include overtime which will get us through one pay period.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.  
Resolution 2022-115 passed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022

The resolution "Setting Trustee Meeting Dates and Times and Dispensing with a Second Reading" was presented by Mr. Kellums.

Mr. Kellums noted the Trustees Meeting would be on the first and third Tuesdays with a couple of changes in January and July.

Mr. Weidman asked if Election Day is a conflict. It was confirmed it is on the first Tuesday. Mr. Weidman suggested changing the first meeting in November, 2023 to Wednesday, November 8, 2023.

Mr. James made a motion to approve the resolution as amended with the change noted due to Election Day. Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.  
Resolution 2022-116 passed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022

Mr. Kellums stated there will be a Records Commission Meeting on December 6, 2022 and METRO will be at the Trustee Meeting that night to give a presentation.

**Purchase Orders Over \$5,000.00**

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

22-100-2	Blanket Vendor	Fire Utilities	\$11,456.62
22-107-2	911 Fleet & Fire Equ.	Spring Leaf Assy Rear 2009 Seagrave	\$5,874.26
22-141-2	Blanket Vendor	Park Utilities	\$8,000.00
22-165-15	Stryker Medical	Fuel-Fire	\$5,000.00
22-304	U.S. Bank NA	Increment Revenue Note, Series 2022	\$239,580.56
22-309	Ohio BWC	2023 Estimated Annual Premium	\$95,707.00
22-310	Blanket Vendor	Towne Center Holiday Security	\$32,000.00


Mr. James made a motion to approve the purchase orders as presented. Ms. Schwegmann seconded. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

**Fiscal Officer Report**

**Pay Bills and Read Receipts**

The receipts in the amount of \$231,932.95 and disbursements in the amount of \$941,427.37 for November 15, 2022 were read by Mr. Porter 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:   
Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

A motion to approve was made by Mr. James, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann.  
Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: Mr. James: Aye; Ms. Schwegmann: Aye; Mr. Weidman: Aye

**Trustee Comments**


Ms. Schwegmann offered condolences to the family of Jerry Cooper. She then wished everyone a safe, happy, and healthy Thanksgiving.


Mr. James echoed Ms. Schwegmann's remarks and noted the Township is still accepting applications for the Fiscal Officer position until the end of the month. Mr. James said the Hamilton County Commissioners are holding budget public hearings on Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> downtown and on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at a location to be determined. He encouraged people to attend. Mr. James thanked Mr. Weidman for arranging for State Legislators to speak at a recent Hamilton County Township Association meeting.


Mr. Weidman also extended condolences on the death of Jerry Cooper who he said was a great guy. He wished a happy and safe Thanksgiving to all.


A motion was made by Mr. James, seconded by Ms. Schwegmann, to adjourn the meeting.  
Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

  
Thomas J. Weidman, Chairman

  
Tracy Schwegmann, Vice Chairman

  
Thomas C. James, Jr., Trustee

  
Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer  
11/15/2022