

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Schwegmann. (The meeting began late due to the Kenwood Traffic Study Public Hearing running long.)

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

The invocation was read by Mr. Reutelshofer.

Pledge to the Flag.

Approval of the February 21, 2023, Public Hearing Minutes

The February 21, 2023, public hearing minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, to accept them.

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

Approval of the March 7, 2023, Public Hearing Minutes

The March 7, 2023, public hearing minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, to accept them.

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

Approval of the March 7, 2023, Trustee Meeting Minutes

The March 7, 2023, Trustee Meeting minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, to accept them.

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

Presentation – Alexander Kanyuck, Eagle Scout Project

Alexander Kanyuck, of Boy Scout Troop 18 at St. Saviour, addressed the Board, presenting a proposal for an Eagle Scout Project at Bechtold Park. He described the project, a pollinator garden, and explained how the project would be completed and the proposed location. Mr. Kanyuck explained that he had planned the project with the help of Sycamore Township Parks Supervisor Jason Petty and requested permission from the Board to proceed.

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Schwegmann, to permit Mr. Kanyuck to proceed with his Eagle Scout Project at Bechtold Park. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye

The Board provided Mr. Kanyuck with a certificate of attendance and congratulated him on his project.

Public Comments

No members of the public signed up to comment.

Planning & Zoning Report

Mr. Uckotter reported that Township employee Jon Ragan has begun working in the Planning & Zoning Department as the assistant and is currently undergoing training.

Mr. Uckotter reported he had several nuisance resolutions for the Board’s consideration and went on to review the violations and display photos of the nuisance conditions.

Resolution – 12152 3rd Avenue Nuisance Vehicle

The resolution “Providing for the Removal of Junk Vehicles in Sycamore Township, Hamilton County and the Proper Disposal, Storage or Impoundment of Motor Vehicles by Implementing the Procedures Set Forth in Sycamore Township Resolution 2012-14, and Sections §§ 505.173, 505.85, and 505.871 of the Ohio Revised Code” was presented by Mr. Uckotter. Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. James, dispensing with a second reading.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution 2023-013 passed this 21st day of March, 2023.

Resolution – 12152 3rd 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 12152 3rd Avenue, Sycamore Township, Ohio 45249” was presented by Mr. Uckotter. Mr. James made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weidman, dispensing with a second reading.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution 2023-014 passed this 21st day of March, 2023

Resolution – 12060 7th Avenue Nuisance Property

The resolution “Providing for the Removal of Junk Vehicles in Sycamore Township, Hamilton County and the Proper Disposal, Storage or Impoundment of Motor Vehicles by Implementing the Procedures Set Forth in Sycamore Township Resolution 2012-14, and Sections §§ 505.173, 505.85, and 505.871 of the Ohio Revised Code” was presented by Mr. Uckotter. Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. James, dispensing with a second reading.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution 2023-015 passed this 21st day of March, 2023.

Resolution – 12060 7th Avenue Nuisance Vehicles

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, Ohio 45249” was presented by Mr. Uckotter. Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. James, dispensing with a second reading.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution 2023-016 passed this 21st day of March, 2023

Sheriff Patrol Report

Cpl. Kidd stated he had no report.

Mr. James stated there was a public meeting earlier regarding the Kenwood Traffic Study in which residents expressed concerns about enforcement of traffic violations on StyraX and other streets off Orchard Lane. He asked Cpl. Kidd if the Sheriff’s Office could show a presence in that area.

EMS/Fire Report

Radio Upgrade Station 92

Chief Penny stated in September of last year, the Board approved an upgrade to the radio system at the north fire station from UHF to IP address. He reported that it is now completed, and now Station 92 needs to have the same upgrades. He noted the UHF will eventually be eliminated by the County for dispatch. Chief Penny requested permission to upgrade at Station 92 before there is any backlog at Mobilcomm.

Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the Mobilcomm upgrade for Station 92. Mr. James seconded the motion and pointed out the quote from Mobilcomm is in the amount of \$30,306.55. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Kellums noted this quote was on State bid.

Roads, Maintenance & Recreation Report

Mr. Reutelshofer reported three park benches were installed by the maintenance crew at the playground behind the Township Administration Building.

Mr. Weidman asked if additional mulch had been put down at Bob Meyer Park.

Mr. Reutelshofer answered that was on Mr. Petty's list and said he would check with him.

Mr. James reminded Mr. Reutelshofer whenever we can get playground equipment upgraded there, neighbors in that area keep asking about it.

Resolution – Approving and Authorizing a Contract to Reconstruct a Culvert for the Gideon Lane Culvert Improvement Project

The resolution "Approving and Authorizing a Contract to Reconstruct a Culvert for the Gideon Lane Culvert Improvement Project and Dispensing with a Second Reading" was presented by Mr. Reutelshofer. Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. James.

Mr. Weidman asked what work was currently being done there.

Mr. Reutelshofer answered utility relocation. He noted the lowest bid was from Ford Development Corp. for this culvert project which totaled \$431,580.16.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution 2023-017 passed this 21st day of March, 2023.

Resolution – Declaring Township Property as Surplus and Obsolete and Authorizing Its Disposition

The resolution "Declaring Township Property as Surplus and Obsolete and Authorizing its Disposition, Dispensing with a Second Reading and Declaring an Emergency" was presented by Mr. Reutelshofer. Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. James.

Mr. Reutelshofer described the equipment to be disposed of by auction.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution 2023-018 passed this 21st day of March, 2023.

Resolution – Designating No Parking on a Portion of Mantell Avenue in Sycamore Township

The resolution “Designating No Parking on a Portion of Mantell Avenue in Sycamore Township and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was presented by Mr. Reutelshofer. Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. James.

Mr. Reutelshofer explained the need for parking restrictions in this area on Mantell Avenue. He stated he had solicited input from Lt. Tarr and Chief Penny, and they both agreed this was a safety issue.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution 2023-019 passed this 21st day of March, 2023.

Law Director Report

Mr. Barbieri stated he had nothing to report.

Administrator Report

Mr. Kellums reported there was a Kenwood Traffic Study Public Meeting earlier that evening that was well attended by the public, who gave a lot of good comments.

Purchase Orders Over \$5,000.00

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

23-96	Bushelman Supply	Storage Building Garage Door	\$27,402.30
23-99	Ohio Carnival Company	Rides for Festival 2023	\$15,000.00
23-100	Cumulus Cincinnati	Advertising for Festival 2023	\$7,000.00
23-106	Lebanon Ford	2023 Ford Explorer for Sheriff	\$37,853.00
23-107	Parr Public Safety	Equipment for Ford Explorer	\$5,653.00

Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Mr. James declined to second the motion saying he had some questions and would prefer to review them individually.

Ms. Schwegmann seconded the motion and asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. James asked about the cost of the rides since it had gone up \$5,000.00 since the last time.

Mr. Kellums explained he had two other ride companies quoting \$20,000.00. He said it was in 2015 that we were first charged \$10,000.00, which was eight years ago, and pointed out that all the vendors said the cost of insurance and diesel fuel had increased substantially. There was a discussion about how many of the carnival ride companies have gone out of business.

Mr. James asked about the purchase order for Cumulus Cincinnati for Festival in Sycamore advertising.

Mr. Kellums answered the purchase order is for a contract with Cumulus for 131 commercials on three radio stations. He noted in 2019 \$12,000.00 was spent on advertising so this has been cut way

back. He stated we have dropped the advertising with Clear Channel and were able to double the number of commercials that we had in 2019 with Cumulus for an additional \$1,800.00. Mr. James asked if there would be any other advertising in any form for the Festival in Sycamore.

Mr. Kellums answered there will be signs and banners but nothing else on TV or radio. Mr. Weidman added it would be advertised in the Township newsletter and Mr. Kellums said on social media and the Township's website.

Mr. James said he is concerned about spending \$7,000.00 on regional advertising for a Festival we are putting on for our residents. He asked where the money was coming from and asked about sponsorships.

Mr. Kellums confirmed it is being paid for out of the general fund and stated we do have some sponsors of the Festival but none for particular areas of the event.

Mr. James asked if any of the sponsors had conditioned their sponsorship on radio advertising and suggested holding off on the radio advertising. He stated we are doing this for our residents and should be marketed intensely within our borders to our residents through signs, banners and mailings. He said he doesn't see the need to advertise regionally and thinks we should hold off on it.

Mr. Kellums stated we have gotten great crowds at this event for years, it shows off our Township and questioned how many would attend if only marketed in the Township.

Mr. James asked if TIF dollars could be used if the event was marketing the Township rather than the funding coming from the taxpayers themselves.

Mr. Barbieri commented on those questions saying it is economic development.

Ms. Schwegmann stated she thinks the newsletter is an effective direct mail piece. She noted we have social media which is free, and she is impressed with the sponsorship dollars that have been coming in.

There was discussion about using TIF money for the advertising and if the purchase order could be changed after approval to be funded through TIF. Mr. Barbieri and Mr. Kellums determined that there would be no need to revise the wording of the purchase order before the Board passed it and that the Township could simply pay the advertising costs it covered out of TIF funds. Mr. Kellums indicated he would therefore use TIF funds as the funding source upon the purchase order's approval. Mr. James then indicated that he would support paying for the advertising on the understanding it would be paid by TIF funds rather than out of the general fund.

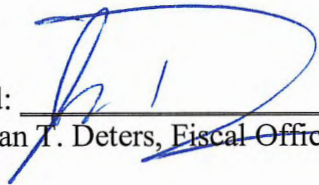
Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: James: Aye; Weidman: Aye; Schwegmann: Aye

Fiscal Officer Report

Pay Bills and Read Receipts

The receipts in the amount of \$394,624.15 and disbursements in the amount of \$563,227.34 for March 21, 2023 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. Weidman made a motion to approve the receipts and disbursements. Mr. James seconded the motion. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Trustees Comments

Mr. Weidman reminded residents to put the trash bash events on their calendars noting the North Trash Bash is April 14th and 15th and South Trash Bash is April 28th and 29th. He said Saturday, April 22nd is Document Shredding.

Mr. James stated he was glad to see the turnout for the Kenwood Traffic Study Public meeting and to hear from everyone. He congratulated Alex Kanyuck on his Eagle Scout Project and thanked him for coming to the meeting to present it to the Board.

Announcements

Ms. Schwegmann made the following announcement:

- Monthly Brush Chipping, Saturday, April 1, 2023, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Behind the Administration Building, 8540 Kenwood Rd.

She referred people to the Township’s website for all other meetings and events.

Executive Session

Ms. Schwegmann made 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 employees. Mr. Weidman seconded the motion.

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

End Regular Session:	8:12 p.m.
Begin Executive Session:	8:15 p.m.
End Executive Session:	8:23 p.m.
Back in Regular Session:	8:25 p.m.

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

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, to hire Ryan Price to the maintenance department. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, to hire Amy Beth Able as a part-time receptionist/administrative assistant.
Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye

Resolution – Setting the Rate of Pay for a Newly Hired Township Employee (R. Price)

The resolution “Setting the Rate of Pay for a Newly Hired Township Employee” was presented by Mr. Kellums. Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. James dispensing with a second reading.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution 2023-020 passed this 21st day of March, 2023.

Resolution – Setting the Rate of Pay for a Newly Hired Township Employee (A. Able)

The resolution “Setting the Rate of Pay for a Newly Hired Township Employee” was presented by Mr. Kellums. Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. James dispensing with a second reading.

Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution 2023-021 passed this 21st day of March, 2023.

Mr. Weidman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. James seconded. Mr. Deters called roll. Vote: All Aye. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Tracy Schwegmann, Chairman



Thomas J. Weidman, Vice Chairman



Thomas C. James, Jr., Trustee



Jonathan T. Deters, Fiscal Officer

Regular Meeting 03/21/2023