

Regular Council

January 10, 2022

Sugarcreek Village Council had a regular council meeting at Village Hall January 10, 2022, with Mayor Jeff Stutzman presiding.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors: Matt Specht, Doug Frautschy, Police Chief Kevin Kaser, Assistant Fire Chief John Meek, Mike Hammond-WKLM

Roll Call: Jim Parson, Mick Fanning, Jason Hamsher, Josh Jarvis, Sam Beachy, Matt Miller.

A motion was made by Jason Hamsher, seconded by Sam Beachy to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as typed by the Fiscal Officer. At roll call all present members voted approval.

Sam Beachy made a motion to accept the expenditures and the motion was seconded by Matt Miller. At roll call all present members voted approval.

Mayor Stutzman welcomed Jim Parson as a new member of council and congratulated the returning members. He then handed out the 2022 committee assignments to council and announced there is a need to name a council pro tem and opened the floor for nominations. Mick Fanning nominated Jason Hamsher and it was seconded by Sam Beachy. At roll call, Hamsher abstained from voting and all other members of council voted approval.

Village Administrator Matt Specht informed council there is an outstanding loan for the Scada system with a balance of \$116,277 at 2% interest. By paying off the loan early it will save the Village \$10,742.41 in interest over the next 8 years. Fanning made a motion, and it was seconded by Hamsher, to have the Fiscal Officer pay the loan off this month. All roll call, all members voted approval.

Specht opened a discussion regarding the purchase of a new boom mower for the Village. He reminded council that the subject was first discussed in 2021 and council had requested more research into whether the work could be contracted out. The only quote that came back was for \$13,348.98 per service and the contract required 4 services per year at a cost of \$53,395.92. The last quote for the new mower was \$152,935.20. Council requested an updated quote on the new mower. Specht will bring the updated quote to the next meeting.

Administrator Specht then turned the floor over to Fiscal Officer Connie Bowen. Bowen presented the proposed permanent appropriations for 2022 and noted that all departments did an excellent job of staying within their budget for 2021. The permanent appropriations were presented in Ordinance Form. Solicitor Frautschy recommended a 1st reading.

Specht thanked Fiscal Officer Connie Bowen for her diligent work over the past year.

John Meek, Jr. said there are two candidates for the fire department. Brian Schwartz will need to take the level one training. Joe Reyes has basic fire training. The Mayor appointed both men to the fire department. Meek requested that the Village pay for Schwartz to take level 1 training. Mick Fanning made a motion to pay for the training and it was seconded by Matt Miller. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Meek informed council the fire department has switched to emergency networking for their fire and EMS reporting at a cost of \$5,250 annually.

The Fire Department Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser is scheduled for February 26th. All are welcome.

Police Chief Keven Kaser announced that officer Max Arnett has requested a status change from full-time to part-time. With Max going to part-time there is a need for another officer in the Village. Chief said he has a candidate to recommend and due to his experience and training he would like to bring him on at the level of Sergeant. Sam Beachy made a motion to hire Ben Watson at the level of Sergeant and it was seconded by Jim Parson. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Kaser also announced there is a need to order a new cruiser for 2022 to replace the oldest unit in the rotation. Due to the issue of parts availability, he recommends that the Village put the order in for the new cruiser as soon as possible to make sure the unit can be built. He also noted that the quote for the new cruiser is identical to the last unit at \$37,094.38 and the new unit will be model year 2022. Jason Hamsher made a motion to order the new cruiser and it was seconded by Sam Beachy. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Kaser requested a merit increase for Assistant Police Chief Dalton due to the responsibilities of the position of Assistant Chief. Sam Beachy made a motion to grant a merit increase to Brian Dalton of an additional \$1.00/ hour, and it was seconded by Jim Parson. At roll call, all members voted approval.

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Fanning announced there will be a special meeting at 6:00 pm prior to the council meeting on January 24, 2022, for Streets, Water, and Sewer.

Councilman Jarvis welcomed Jim Parson to council

Ordinance 21-2321 Amendment

Titled: SETTING THE WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUGARCREEK, OHIO. The Ordinance was amended to update the minimum monthly charge by \$.10 per month. Mick Fanning made a motion to amend the ordinance and it was seconded by Matt Miller. At roll call, all members voted approval. Matt Miller made a motion to adopt the amended ordinance and it was seconded by Sam Beachy. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Ordinance 22-2324 1st reading

Titled: AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF SUGARCREEK, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.

Ordinance 21-2326

Titled: AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE I & I SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT IN THE VILLAGE OF SUGARCREEK, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mick Fanning made a motion to suspend the rules requiring 3 readings of the ordinance and it was seconded by Sam Beachy. At roll call all present members voted approval. Beachy made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency and Parson seconded the motion. At roll call all present members voted approval.

Meeting adjourned 7:40 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
Fiscal Officer