

Regular Council

September 5 , 2023

Sugarcreek Village Council had a regular council meeting at Village Hall September 5, 2023, with Mayor Jeff Stutzman presiding.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Sam Beachy, Jason Hamsher, Matt Miller, Mick Fanning, Nathan Wagler, Josh Jarvis

Jason Hamsher made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 21, 2023, meeting with the date of the next meeting corrected and it was seconded by Matt Miller. At roll all members voted approval.

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

At 7:06 p.m. Jason Hamsher moved that council go into executive session to discuss discipline of a public employee and invited the mayor, the solicitor, and the administrator to join. It was seconded by Beachy and at roll call all members voted approval.

Council returned to regular session at 7:38 p.m. with no action taken.

Mayor Stutzman: Firefighter/medic Austin Weaver has served 3 years with the village since the time he passed his medic training. At that time, he paid 50% of the cost of the class and the village paid the other half. He is requesting reimbursement of the amount he paid which is \$4,366.00. Hamsher moved to reimburse Weaver and it was seconded by Miller. At roll call all members voted approval

Village Administrator, Kaser: Tekton Engineering has returned a revised cost estimate on the wastewater building addition. The revised estimate is \$208,340.17. The Council reviewed the cost estimate and determined the cost is reasonable. Beachy moved to approve the revised estimate and allow Tekton to re-bid the project. The motion was seconded by Wagler and at roll call all members voted approval.

2023 paving is complete. The cost is higher than expected due to inaccurate measurements on the initial estimate. The exact amount of the overage is not known at this time but will be reported as soon as the invoice is received.

It has been suggested that the proposed "no turn on red" sign at Factory St and St. Rt. 39 be limited to M-F 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. After a brief discussion Hamsher moved to add the restriction to the new no turn on red signs and it was seconded by Jarvis. At roll call all members voted approval.

The Street Superintendent got a quote for crack sealing in the village for \$9,585.00 in labor and \$5,737.50 in material for a total of \$ 15,322.50. The council questioned why the street department would not be doing the labor. They decided the street department should perform the labor of crack sealing since the streets to be done are not state highways and won't require a lot of traffic control. This will save \$9,585.00 in labor for the project.

A quote was also obtained from Levco Striping Services to layout and stripe the RR crossing symbols and lines on St. Rt. 39 and the double yellow striping on Edelweiss Drive. The quote is \$3,075.00. Council discussed having the labor done by the street department but decided it is best to have that job done professionally.

Administrator Kaser requested a bid from Erb's painting to give the building at 100-101 N Broadway St. a face lift. The quote includes all frontage, doors, and garage doors for the amount \$5,387.00. Council members agreed that the building needs the work done and told Kaser to proceed.

On September 11, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. there will be a pre-construction meeting for the Boston Street storm sewer project. All utility companies will also be represented, and anyone interested in that project is welcome to attend that meeting.

Kaser turned the floor to Fiscal officer Bowen. Bowen informed council that the state of Ohio has announced they short staffed in the auditing department and cannot conduct the required audits of municipalities. The state will be contracting with independent accounting firms to conduct those audits. The field of applicants has been narrowed to two firms and each village in the respective pool has the opportunity to award up to three points for the firm they think would be the best candidate. Bowen's recommendation is to award those points to Perry and Associates,

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CPAs based on the proposals that were presented. Council agreed that the points should go to Perry and Associates.

Assistant fire chief Burkhart requested that Rachel Tetreault be added to the fire department roster. Mayor Stutzman appointed Tetreault, Beachy moved to confirm the appointment and it was seconded by Jarvis. At roll call all members voted approval.

Chief Kaser told council he received a letter from the Ohio Department of Commerce, Liquor Control Division which informs the village that a D-5 liquor license has been requested by the owners of The Secret Garden. There are several reasons why the license should be denied, including no restrooms, no food license, proximity of a church and library. Jarvis moved that the village deny the request and it was seconded by Miller. At roll call all members voted approval. The church and library will also have the opportunity to deny the request.

Councilman Hamsher: The Finance, Personnel and Audit met at 6:00 prior to council to discuss the 2024 pay and updates to employment policies. The information is ready to be put in ordinance form.

Councilman Beachy expressed thanks for the field by Speedway being mowed and cleaned up.

Council Miller pointed out there is a residence at 941 W Main St that needs mowed and Kaser said he will follow up.

ORDINANCE 23-2367 1ST READING

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 2024

The next regular meeting of Village council will be October 2, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
Fiscal Officer