

The Board Of Trustees Of Sugarcreek Township, Greene County, Ohio, in Regular Session on April 3rd , 2023 at 7:00pm

- 1) **Mrs. Destefani called the session to order at 7:00 pm.**
- 2) **Mr. Demko called the roll with Board Members,** Mrs. Destefani, Mr. Moeller, and Mr. Cramer were in attendance. Also, in attendance was Donna Hellmann, Louis Schatzberg, and Jodi Puterbaugh.
- 3) **All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 4) **Reports**

Administration

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add.

Fire

Buffenbarger noted after the Township employees complete the online portion of the CPR training, there will be a second half in class for employees to take the practical classes. There will be 3 days to choose from.

Police

Chief Brown was not present. Mr. Tiffany noted that the Bike Rodeo would be held at heritage Church over on Wilmington Pike. This event is partnering with the City of Bellbrook. The bike rodeo is an event to help kids learn how to ride a bike safely in the street and around their neighborhoods.

Roads and Services

Mr. Owens notes that there is a new employee starting on Monday. Resides in Jamestown. Mr. Owens commented on how new employee Obtains a Class A? CDL license and is eager to join the Sugarcreek Township team.

Fred compliments Mr. Owens Leadership and his pick in staff members

Destefani compliments Mr. Owens on his assistance with the police department with the closing of 725.

Mr. Owens noted the sign on Wilmington Pike was replaced after attempting to clean it.

Information Technology

Mr. Tiffany had nothing to add.

Trustee Reports

Fred noted, that on May 1st, The Students from Bellbrook High School who competed as part of the “Flying Hogs,” will be recognized by their high achievement of winning 1st place in the state level drone competition. David Albright, the Super Attendant communicated that he would make every effort to attend and recognize the students.

5) Public Comments

Denise Moore - 4360 Nara Valley

Wanted you to understand their appreciation of the Boards involvement with their competition. Thanked Carolyn for judging and the support is really appreciated.

6) Old Business

Mr. Tiffany noted that he sent out emails to the agencies and has yet to get anything back.

7) Consent Agenda Items

- A. Payment of Bills**
- B. Authorizing the Township Administrator to act as the signatory dispatch contract**
- C. The 2023 Permanent appropriations**
- D. The Appointment of Administrative assistant/ Social Media Marketing Coordinator, Brianna McCaleb**
- E. Appointment of a new Roads and Services worker Ian Tamplin**

Mrs. Destefani makes a motion to accept that the consent agenda items as written

Mr. Moeller seconded.

Mrs. Destefani, Yes

Mr. Cramer, yes

Mr. Moeller, Yes

8.) Agenda Discussion Items

None.

9.) Public Comments

Donna Helman, 3981 Windy Bluff CT.

She addressed the James Martin Trust and Will. Donna attends most of the work sessions and trustee meetings. The timeline of the legality of the James Martin Trust and Will in which he left his property to the township. The Will changes were presented, and she made a note of them. One filed on June 27th, 2017, next change was filed on August 26th of 2019. And the last change was filed on July 13th, 2021. It stated that the law firm McNamee handled the last change and they found James Martin to be of sound mind. Jodi Putterball, his granddaughter, was appointed to help James decide what to do with his property. Helman addressed James Martin's Trust and Will was legal for Sugar Creek township to accept ownership. There were 3 offers on the property in another discussion on March 6th. There was a resolution passed by the trustees. They approved selling the property to Jodi Putterball for \$401,000. With easement issues, Greene County was working to resolve said issues. Mr. Price made a presentation on what James Martin wanted for his property. Price's conclusions were, the township should sell the property for \$1.00, rescind the resolution and accept offers from Jodi and other family members. Or transfer to Bellbrook Sugar Creek Park district. Mr. Price was guessing on the matter of what James Martin would have wanted. Helman states that this act would put the trustees in violation of their fiduciary responsibilities that could have them sued. Helman addresses the 4 possibilities that could happen: the township can rescind the resolution of sale to Jodi and the property will be out on the market and sold again to the highest offer. The Township rescinds the resolution of sale to Jodi and keeps the property- there are costs of maintaining the property which could mean an increase of taxes. The township transfers the property to Bellbrook-Sugar Creek Park district. At some point there will be a park levy, most likely to offset the costs of maintaining the park. Resolution of sale March 6th stands as is. Helman is in favor of the resolution in standing as is the proposed use of the money presented by Carolyn Destefani in the meeting on March 20th is the best solution, the proceeds of the money is used for the veterans memorial, some for the statue, and some for the upkeep of the Veterans memorial.

Nadine Daugherty, 2436 Wildwood Ln. Speaks of the first of a couple items on the agenda. Addresses board did not mention hiring another administrative assistant, is that taken care of? Mrs. Destefani speaks of the previous administrative assistant and how she accepted a new job at the Wright Patterson Air Force base. Nadine believes the decisions for the property should be final from the Martin family. She does not think the township should profit from it or be in control but should be taken by the family and made into a nature preserve.

Dr. Kathy Stobbs 2455 Stewart Rd. Kathy noted that she had information on the Trust back when she talked Jim and Donna. What was brought up in the conversation was the Trust left to the two surviving children. Linda the caregiver would maintain the property for the family to use. They were asked to give the land to the township but at the time never intended to do it.

Rachel Martin- 9340 National Rd Brookfield OH. Introduced herself as one of the grandchildren. Rachel Prepared a letter that consisted of the property of Jim and Donna. She then Discussed the history of Jim Martin and their family property, and the times spent there. The rest of letter consisted of the hope she had for Jodi to take back the property in hopes for future generations of the Martin family to use it. She Noted that Jim entrusted the property to the township knowing they would take care of the property. Rachel fully supports Jodi in this endeavor.

David Buffalo 126 Floradill dr Bellbrook? David noted he knew the Martin family since childhood. Certain members. He does not think the township should have accepted the land. David believes that the Martin family is the best solution for settling the property dispute. Addresses that a matter like this is deeply personal for the Martin family and not for the community.

John Dourn – 2408 Spar Rd. Address his confusion and questions on the property. Curious about how the township ended up with Jim Martins' property and why the township was selling the property so fast. Asked if anyone talked to Jim about accepting this before he died? Was this talked about before he died? Address his discomfort on where the money is being spent. Express hoped for Jodi to receive the property. States, as township president, he hopes to see them change their minds and give Jodi the property. Wants to see the money go into the statue that the township promised when he died.

Kevin Price 3249 Spillway Bellbrook OH. The Trust is read did not say sell the property but did say used for the benefit of Sugarcreek Township. Mr. Price does not think that it should be sold for \$401,000. The news does not sit well with Mr. Price that the Township is being gifted this land and then turning around and selling it to the family. Mr. Priced notes the Township will spend the funds for the Veterans memorial but there is already money allocated for that. Mr. price says please give or sell at a minuscule cost of \$1.00 to the Family while considering other families offers. The Township does not need to profit financially off of the gift provided by Jim Martin. The money will be lost in the budget.

Marsha Treadway 97713 Minatar Way. Notes that she is good friends with Jim Martin and wants to address the issues. Jim Martin was of sound mind when he changed his Will and Trust. Marsha can confirm that she was present to at least a few for Jim's meeting. Marsha drove Jim when needed and sat in the waiting room. Marsha sat in two meetings with Jim. Marsha expressed that Jim trusted the township.

Eric Rice 2485 Stewart Rd. Eric noted that he and Jim lived next to each other. Eric wanted to address that during this process, they allow the family to grieve and respect and care for the family during this tough time. Eric expresses that everyone in the room will have a different perspective of the matter.

Jodi Martin, 165 Upperhillside Dr. Jodi address that the assumptions and untold truth will not be silenced. Jodi will. Jim Martin did not change his will three months before he died, which she has seen on Facebook. He changed it the summer of 2021. He was at sound mind. Jodi confirms Jim did want to leave it township. Jodi states Jim wanted to leave it to the Dayton Shriners. Jodi will be going public with the many untold truths that formed by the end of this case.

Jim Martin, 1875 Roxanne New Burlington Rd, Waynesville. Jim Martin is the son of Jim and Donna Martin. Addresses his support for Jodi.

Pam Brooks, Notes that she has the knowledge to know what Jim Martin thought in her mind based on the relationship she had with Jim and Donna. Pam does not believe that the family should be paying for the land that was intended for the Martin family.

Nadine Daugherty- Nadine addressed back to when she was a trustee making decisions on the Pine court property for memorial. The Park board stated that when land is donated to the township it should not be sold for a profit.

Joyce Price, 3249 Spillway CT Bellbrook. Noted she knew the Martins later in their 90s. Mrs. Price stated the Martins did want to keep their home preserved as a green space for family.

Doug Day, 2422 Washington Mill Rd. Dough suggests that's the property be used as an event space to help with the maintenance cost if it were to be preserved.

Steve Tieber, 3266 Creek Bluff CT. speaking on the memorial and statue. 1.06:00

Denise 4460 Napa valley Dr. Noting new police levy. Understanding the funding is providing the resource officers services for our school district and community. Discusses the gun protection laws.

Denise talks about a weapon ban on AR-15 in Sugarcreek Township. Against selling manufacturing and purchasing these weapons. Talks about the thoughts of how the police feels about the gun laws.

Mrs. Destefani talked about the initiative that was thought about for the gun laws in the township.

Fred- If the only thing standing between school safety and us is money, we are crazy if we do not spend it. Barry t , Chief brown, meet with Phil plumber who is the congress man from government county. State congress ma Brian lanftan last Friday to discuss the support legislation having the state pay for resource offers in 4 buildings. The town ship struggles to get that kind of money, yet the state has it. Governor DeWine is pro school- pro security. We have 2 gentlemen who are putting legislation together to make a copy of what the legislation should look like. Coming together with Ohio and Sugarcreek twp. partnering with green county and Montgomery to get said legislation out to make sure the kids are safe.

Fred- expresses gratitude on the ones who came out to share the fact s and thoughts to help make the decisions we will take this information and input put it together

We are working with Jodi martin to make many suggestions just can discuss it. We have a proclamation signed saying Jodi martin is going to be able to acquire the property.

11. Trustee/Staff Discussions

None.

12. Executive Session

None.

13. Adjourn

Mrs. Destefani made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Moeller. Upon call of the roll, the vote resulted in the following:

Mrs. Destefani-yes
Mr. Moeller-yes
Mr. Cramer - yes

Richard J Demko, Fiscal Officer