

SAGAMORE HILLS TOWNSHIP – REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 13, 2023 – media notified

The regular meeting was called to order by Mr. DePasquale at 7:00 p.m. The media was notified.

R/C: DePasquale-present; Schweikert-absent; Zaccardelli-present;
Fiscal Officer Laura Steimle-present.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Mr. DePasquale made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2023 Regular Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Zaccardelli. R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

Mr. DePasquale made a motion to approve the warrant report as presented. Seconded by Mr. Zaccardelli. R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

Mr. Zaccardelli made a motion to ADOPT **RESOLUTION 23-13** to approve a deed restriction between Greyfoxsagamorehills, LLC and Sagamore Hills Township. Attorney Jeff Snell gave a brief summary of the deed restriction. The zoning rules require that a deed restriction be put on the property and the township be a third-party beneficiary, that it remains a fifty-five and older community based on the law. Seconded by Mr. DePasquale. R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

Mr. DePasquale said the township has received the 2023 \$2,000 NOPEC Sponsorship Grant. We have received this grant the past several years and usually use it for the Police Department's Shop with the Cop Program.

Mr. DePasquale made a motion to accept the grant and earmark it for the Police Department's Shop with the Cop Program. Seconded by Mr. Zaccardelli. R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Zoning

Mr. Zaccardelli reported zoning has been slow. There were four permits for a total of \$525.00. Housing permits have been really slow. Mr. Zaccardelli reported Ray is trying to get things cleared up over by 7 to 7.

Roads

Mr. DePasquale reported the service department is working on equipment. The plow came in for the new dump truck.

Fire

Mr. DePasquale reported for February 2023 there were 135 EMS calls and 20 Fire for Macedonia Station #1; 85 EMS calls and 6 Fire for Sagamore Hills Station #2; 48 EMS calls and 7 Fire for Northfield Center Station #3. There was mutual aid in 5 times and out 7 times. There was a total of 308 calls for the month of February.

Police

Mr. DePasquale reported for February 2023 the Police Department handled 499 calls for Service, provided 1061 community policing checks and distributed 580 "Patrolled Your Area Cards" and completed 10 vacation house checks.

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The Investigative Section Received thirty-one (31) investigations for the month and closed all of them, six (6) were closed by arrest/citation, our therapy dog had eight (8) community interactions.

The Police Chief received three (3) commendation/appreciation letters from residents, praising members of the Department for their dedication to duty.

Officers completed nineteen (19) hours on line training classes. A sergeant completed sixteen (16) hours of SWAT training. Total seventy-two (72) hours.

Fiscal Officer

Ms. Steimle reported the Fiscal Officer's February 2023 report had a beginning balance of \$7,953,804.17, plus receipts and settlements of \$134,109.37, minus expenditures of \$361,684.11 leaving an ending balance of \$7,726,429.43.

Trustee Reports

Mr. Zaccardelli reported ReWorks is having document shredding coming back this summer. They will be in Macedonia on July 8, 2023 at Longwood Park between 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. You are limited to 10 file boxes or paper bags; no paper clips, report covers, rubber bands and binders. There are other shredding events on May 6, 2023 in Akron, August 5, 2023 in North Canton and October 7, 2023 at the Graham Road location from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

ReWorks Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Center, 1201 Graham Road will open on June 1, 2023 through September 28, 2023, Thursdays from 2-7 p.m. ReWorks accepts tires (on or off the rim) \$1.00 each. They do not take water-based paint, only oil based. They do accept fluorescent light bulbs and CFL bulbs. The CFL bulbs must be in a sealed bag. There will be an electronics event held at their facility; a date yet to be decided upon. ReWorks is working on a lot of new items such as the batteries from vaping and campaign signs. There is a link to ReWorks on the Sagamore Hills Township website.

Mr. DePasquale reported NHAA would like to use the concession stand when they have their tournaments this summer. They are also working on donating a beverage cooler for inside the concession stand. Mr. Zaccardelli mentioned they had spoken before about there being a question regarding the health department. Mr. DePasquale responded that he and Laura dealt with that last year and were in direct communication with the health department as well as NHAA. Only prepackaged food will be served. They are not serving any ice cream so they don't need a license.

CITIZENS FORUM

Mike Apel, Ashford Glen, followed up with his question from last month's trustee meeting about what will happen to the old body cams. Trustees responded the body cams are not functioning properly and have no value. Recycling is not allowed. The body cams must be destroyed.

Gary Smith, 824 Glencrest, inquired about whether the NOPEC grant going for Shop with the Cop that was mentioned earlier during the meeting was the regular NOPEC grant. Mr. DePasquale responded no. This grant is separate from the regular NOPEC grant. It is the Community Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$2,000 that we receive every year that we earmark for the Shop with the Cop program for the kids in the community. The NOPEC Energized grant is used for energy efficiency upgrades. Eventually the township will not be able to use the NOPEC Energized grant anymore because all possible energy efficiency upgrades will have been completed. Mr. Apel said he works for a non-profit, and asked for the web address of the Community Sponsorship Grant. Mr. DePasquale responded it is a NOPEC grant. Mr. Snell replied this grant is only for governments. Mr. Snell said NOPEC is the cooperative that buys all the utilities. There was a brief discussion about NOPEC. Mr. Apel asked whether this grant could be used for solar panels. Mr. DePasquale replied he did not know the answer to that question, but would find out.

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Mr. Zaccardelli mentioned that he was on a zoom meeting with Congresswoman Sykes on Friday, March 10th, regarding some grant money that was available. Unfortunately, there was really nothing that our township was eligible for at this time. Mr. Zaccardelli was hoping to get some funding to repave the park trail in the future. Mr. Apel inquired whether the township was required to repair the park trail. Mr. Zaccardelli responded yes.

Mr. Apel asked Mr. DePasquale whether he followed up regarding the light in the park. Mr. DePasquale responded, yes, it will be taken care of in the spring.

Mr. Apel inquired as to how many plows the township has. Mr. DePasquale responded five; 3 large trucks, a backup and the new one-ton truck. Mr. DePasquale gave a summary and description of the trucks in the service department and the process that occurs when a truck is sold/destroyed when replaced with a truck that was purchased with grant money. Mr. DePasquale gave a summary of the fire department vehicles. Mr. Apel asked whether the trustees are contemplating having a “here’s what we got park day”? Mr. DePasquale said they could consider it. Mr. Zaccardelli responded we opened up the fire station in 2015 and had an open house. Maybe the fire station will do something in the fall.

Denise Kelly, Nesbitt Road, made reference to last month’s trustee meeting citizen’s forum section where comments were made by a resident about putting things in the newspaper and that it looks a little shady that things are not put in the newspaper specifically regarding the flock cameras.

Ms. Kelly shared her concern that we don’t have something else besides the newspaper to tell what is actually going on in Sagamore Hills. In reading “Next Door”, Ms. Kelly commented that half of the neighborhood does not know what is going on by the old ambulatory, and because of that there is nastiness directed at the trustees. Mr. DePasquale responded that is what the meetings are for.

Ms. Kelly asked when information about the Parkview project was published in the Sagamore Voice. Mr. Snell said for at least the past four years the zoning commission has talked about that project at their zoning commission meetings. When the plans came in it is all in the minutes of the meeting which are posted on the township website.

Mr. Snell said the Newsleader prints once a week and the Sagamore Voice once a month. At the end of the month the Newsleader is going out of business. We publish all the notices of the meetings in the newspaper. Sagamore Voice will be the only media unless you get the Plain Dealer or the Akron Beacon Journal. Ms. Kelly asked why a vote never went out about what was going to happen with that property. Mr. DePasquale responded it is private property. Mr. Snell said there has been a large for sale sign on this property for at least five years. The zoning on that property has been there since the 1970’s. It is zoned commercial, but it is much more residential than it ever would have been. Mr. Snell gave a brief summary of the Parkview project including the traffic study. All of the information regarding Parkview is posted on the township website.

Ms. Kelly asked about the spraying of the bike trail. Mr. Zaccardelli said First Energy will let us know. The spraying is done every five years. Mr. Zaccardelli will speak to the rep about a definite time frame. There was a brief discussion about the spraying and the reason for that spraying.

Mr. DePasquale went back to address the issue of the cameras and stated he does not like the word shady, keeping secrets and why we didn’t put it in the paper. The township did not advertise in the newspaper the installation of the flock cameras to protect the residents of the township. There is nothing shady or underhanded about the installation of the cameras.

Mr. Zaccardelli commented that the Newsleader has not been in this meeting room at least for the past four years. There are no articles in the Newsleader about Sagamore Hills.

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Mr. Zaccardelli commented that maybe the Sagamore Voice could publish weekly. Laura Bednar from the Sagamore Voice replied if there are time sensitive articles or topics they can try and put that on their website because they only publish the Sagamore voice once a month. Ms. Bednar suggested to the residents present to visit www.news@scriptype.com for updates. Ms. Bednar said either another reporter or herself also attend the zoning meetings. Mr. Zaccardelli said he receives emails from the Sagamore Voice and asked whether residents could be put on the email list. Ms. Bednar replied yes. There is a newsletter that goes out with highlights of what is going on in the township.

There was a brief discussion. Mr. Snell stated he believes the Zoning Commission did a great job on the Parkview Project. Even though the property is zoning commercial, it is more residential. Mr. Zaccardelli said we should all be proud of our zoning commission.

Mr. DePasquale made a motion to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Zaccardelli.
R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.