

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JANUARY 18, 2017 - REGULAR MEETING 7 :00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

Chairman Doug Stormont called this meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees to order on January 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., with Vice-Chairman Ron Ball and Trustee Steve Kennedy present. Tracy Hatmaker, Township Administrator, James Gant, Recreation Director, and Fire Chief Chris Snyder were also in attendance. (See attached sign in sheet for a complete list of additional attendees).

Mr. Stormont led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes - January 4, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes and January 4, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved to approve the January 4, 2017 regular meeting minutes and January 4, 2017 special meeting minutes . Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Ball, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, A ye. The meeting minutes for the January 4, 2017 regular meeting and January 4, 2017 special meeting were approved.

Sheriff's Report

Deputy Russell summarized recent criminal activity that occurred over the past two weeks. Bob Voss, a long time active township resident, spoke concerns about gun fire that has been occurring along Mix Avenue over this past weekend. He is concerned about the probability of this increasing as the weather gets warmer.

Fiscal Officers Report

Approval of Warrants and Payroll

This week's warrants list detailed payments to 99 vendors summing \$176,554.51. 46% of this total is comprised of payments to Brosius, Johnson, and Griggs, LLC in the amount of \$13,809.75 for legal services and \$67,806.10 to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office for the monthly contract.

Mr. McCardle requested the Board's approval to pay all items on this week's warrant list summing \$176,554.51 along with this week's payroll of \$304,791.50 for a total cash disbursement of \$481,346.01.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont motioned "so moved". Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball Aye. Motion passed.

Liquor Permit

Dan asked the Board if they would like to request a hearing on a liquor permit application for a Lincoln Village Restaurant (Lincoln Village Plaza) located at 4626 West Broad Street.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board not request a hearing on the advisability of issuing a liquor permit to a Lincoln Village Restaurant located at 4626 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43228. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Standing Business

Fire Department

No items.

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Community Center

Replacement Security Cameras

James asked the Board to approve the purchase of 11 replacement security cameras from B&H Photo in the amount of \$6,176.44. In August there was an electrical storm that damaged 5 indoor and 6 outdoor cameras that are no longer under warranty. After filing a claim with the insurance group through OTARMA James can move forward replacing the cameras and insurance will reimburse the cost minus the \$1,000.00 deductible.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve \$6,176.44 for the purchase of 11 indoor and outdoor security cameras from B&H Photo. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Front Desk Coordinator Position

James recommended that the Board approve hiring Tristan Sutton-Jennings for the Front Desk Coordinator position. He has past education experience in sport, exercise, and environmental science. Tristan has worked for the City of Gahanna as a part-time Front Desk Coordinator. James will recommend a starting hourly rate of \$18.00 and a start date of January 25, 2017.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve hiring Tristan Sutton-Jennings as the Front Desk Coordinator with a starting hourly rate of \$18.00, effective January 25, 2017. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Roads, Cemeteries & Parks Department

Mr. McAninch was previously excused from attending tonight's meeting.

Purchase of Street Signs

On behalf of Mr. McAninch, Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board to approve the purchase of seven wooden street signs at various locations within the township (@ Elm Park Dr./Elm Park Cir., Birch Park Dr./Birch Park Way, Elm Park Cir./Wood Park Dr, Danhurst Dr./Beacon Hill Rd., Pasadena Ave./Emmit St., Lawrence Ave./Emmit St. and Lennox Ave./Kanard Ave.). The signs need to be replaced because of age, condition, and some have been hit and damaged. Dave solicited three quotes. Custom Sign Center, Inc. was the least expensive at a cost of \$2,703.75.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the purchase of 7 wooden street signs at various locations in the township from Custom Sign Center in the amount of \$2,703.75. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Tractor Purchase

Mr. Hatmaker recommended that the Board approve the trade of the Road, Cemetery and Parks Department's 2016 John Deere 5083E for a 2017 John Deere 5085E. The trade difference is \$6,007.64. Last year the trade difference was \$6,673.11, meaning the net cost has gone down by \$665.47. This is the governmental contract that the Township has participated in since 2002. Mr. McAninch believes strongly in this program. This program is through JD Equipment Inc.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the trade of a 2016 John Deere 5083E for a 2017 John Deere 5085E at a cost of \$ 6,007.64, and authorize the Township Administrator to execute the

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necessary documents. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Building and Zoning Department

Ms. Swisher was previously excused from attending tonight's meeting.

Zoning Board Appointments

On behalf of Ms. Swisher, Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board to approve appointing the following members to the Board of Zoning Appeals and Zoning Commission.

Mark O' Loughlin: BZA Five Year Term
Jan. 1, 2017 - Dec. 31, 2021

Zoning Commission Five Year Term
Jan 1, 2017 - Dec. 31, 2021

Glen Hymer will not be returning to the Zoning Commission Board. Melvin Jones and Kathy Schmelzer are the alternates up for the position.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board re-appoint Mark O 'Loughlin to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a 5 year term beginning January 2017 and expiring on December 31, 2021. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board appoint Kathy Schmelzer to the Zoning Commission for a 5 year term beginning January 2017 and expiring on December 31, 2021. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Zoning Seasonal Position

Mr. Hatmaker requested that the Board authorize the Zoning Inspector to advertise for a seasonal employee, conduct interviews and provide a hiring recommendation to the Board. (\$13.00/hr.) for the Building and Zoning Department with the hours not to exceed 572 hours. Advertising will begin in February. This is the 4th year for this position.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board authorize the Zoning Inspector to, beginning in February, advertise for a seasonal employee at \$13.00 per hour, conduct interviews of qualified candidates and make a hiring recommendation to the Board. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Administration

Nuisance Cases

Mr. Hatmaker asked for the Board's guidance on the nuisance case that was forwarded in advance of the meeting

Property Owners in attendance: Brittany Conley of 8758 Hubbard Drive South was in attendance to explain her situation and requested a 30 day extension which the Board members granted.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-01-17 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 4956 Beacon Hill Road ." Mr. Kennedy seconded. Roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-05-17 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 460 Fernhill Avenue ." Mr. Kennedy seconded. Roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

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Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-06-17 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 4707 Hilton Avenue ." Mr. Kennedy seconded. Roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Mosquito Contract

Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board to approve a Mosquito Management Program contract extension with Franklin County Public Health and authorize the Township Administrator to execute the necessary documents. The contract includes treatment, drainage, traps, and barriers of mosquitos in the Township. This contract is a 1 year extension of the 2014-2016 contract with a 1.5% increase for a total amount of \$13,298.02.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve a 1 year Mosquito Management Program contract with Franklin County Public Health at a cost of \$13,298.02 and authorize the Township Administrator to execute the necessary . Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

JEDZ Board Appointment (Res 05-17)

Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board to adopt a resolution re-appointing Mike Reichfield from Doctor's Hospital to a new term on the Prairie-Obetz Joint Economic Development Zone Board of Directors. This will be his second term on the JEDZ Board. The new term ends January 21, 2019.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution 05-17 "A Resolution appointing a member of the Board of Directors of the Prairie- Obetz Joint Economic Development Zone. " Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Compensation Study

Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board approve a compensation study proposal. Proposals were received from 2 companies, CBIZ and Clemans-Nelson. These two organizations presented thorough information on the step by step process for this study. Clemans Nelson's estimated cost is up to \$11,245.00 which includes a 1 year retainer fee that covers priority service on short notice, free telephone consultations, and no charge for time in transit to the Township office. Clemans-Nelson has worked with many organizations in Ohio including the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, Franklin County Clerk of Courts, Washington Township, and the City of Upper Arlington. All participants were extremely satisfied with Clemans-Nelson's services and appreciate their flexibility and involvement. The CBIZ study has an estimated cost of \$16,000.00 which includes a Compensation Study and extra costs for a peer survey and job description development. CBIZ has completed studies with the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, The Buckeye Ranch, and The Ohio Soybean Council. Based on the services provided, experience, and cost, Mr. Hatmaker recommended that the Board to approve moving forward with Clemans-Nelson.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve a compensation study proposal with Clemans-Nelson at a cost not to exceed \$11,500.00. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Mix and Stiles Agreement

Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board to approve a purchase agreement with the Buckeye Community Hope Foundation for the purchase of 1.189 acres on the southwest corner of Mix and Stiles Avenue (Parcel Numbers 240-000968, 240-001317, 240-001252). The purchase price is \$25,000.00.

Comments/Issues: None

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Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve a purchase agreement with the Buckeye Community Hope Foundation for the purchase of 1.189 acres on Mix and Stiles Avenue at a purchase price of \$25,000.00 and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement. Mr. Ball seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.

Old Business

Bob Voss voiced concerns regarding mosquito control along the Mix Avenue area. Mr. Hatmaker encouraged him to contact Franklin County at 614-525-BITE.

Neil Distlehurst asked follow-up questions regarding the upcoming compensation study.

New Business

A township resident reported an abandoned vehicle at 75 Pasadena Avenue.

A resident requested information on the upcoming water from Aqua America rate hike in the Lake Darby area. He asked if there was any communication from Prairie Township with Aqua America. Trustee Kennedy spoke at length on the history of that issue.

A resident voiced concerns about a landlord for a property located at 4739 Hilton Avenue. She voiced concerns about the Franklin County Sheriff's Department's handling of her complaints.

Public Comment

None

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Chairman Doug Stormont

Fiscal Officer Pro Temp Randi Good