

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/DECEMBER 23, 2002

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Nourse, with Ms. Keller, Mr. Wharton and Ms. Easter present. Also attending were: Chief Lavelly, Dave McAninch, Jim Strunk and Elizabeth Anderson. (See attached list).

Mr. Nourse led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was designated as a public hearing to consider the following application:

Application: 161-RZ-02  
Applicant: Prairie Township Zoning Commission  
Request: Revise the text of the Prairie Township Zoning Resolution

The Chairman administered the oath to Mr. Jim Strunk, Zoning Inspector, wishing to testify.

Jim Strunk, Zoning Inspector, presented the request to revise the text of the Prairie Township Zoning Resolution to the Board.

The amendments consist of changes in some definitions and also specific changes with regard to what constitutes a violation. A district name change consists of "A" (Agricultural) which has been changed to a "Rural" district also, a change concerning platted subdivisions approved under the Ohio Revised Code and an addition to the supplementary district regulations. All of the revisions are listed in the zoning file.

This application was recommended for approval by the Franklin County Planning Commission on November 13, 2002 and the Prairie Township Zoning Commission on November 19, 2002.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the zoning amendment changes being application 161-RZ-02. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye. (Resolution 25-02)

The regular meeting resumed at 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board dispense with the reading of the minutes of the December 11, 2002 special meeting and the December 11, 2002 regular meeting and approve the minutes as submitted.

The Clerk presented the following items:

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the following supplemental appropriations. Vote; Aye.

\$ 5,000.00	2191-920-920-0000 to 2191-760-740-0000
\$15,000.00	1000-920-920-0000 to 1000-110-141-0000
\$ 8,000.00	1000-920-920-0000 to 1000-210-370-0000
\$ 2,000.00	1000-920-920-0000 to 1000-110-131-0000

The Records Commission members Jeff Nourse, Chairman and Kathleen Easter, Clerk, met on December 17, 2002. A decision was made to not dispose of any records at this time.

1. The Clerk reported that the Ohio Division of Liquor Control will conduct a hearing on the new liquor permit request from Francisco Cruz Ventura, 67-71 S. Murray Hill Road on January 3, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. at the Division of Liquor Control, 6606 Tussing Road, Conference Room #1, Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Mr. Nourse stated that one of the applicants may be requesting a continuance on this hearing.

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2. An Expedited Type II petition for annexation to the City of Columbus of 120.1+/- acres in the Townships of Norwich and Prairie was received. The portion in Prairie Township is the right-of-way of I-70. A hearing has not yet been set.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board authorize the payment of Cemetery Trust interest in the amount of \$8.33 to Loretta Herron (Karnes Trust), and \$8.33 to Dave McAninch, Cemetery Superintendent (Boucher Trust). Vote; Aye.

The Clerk reported that the total receipts by Prairie Township in the year 2002 was \$5,341,039.95. Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board pass a resolution that Prairie Township has receipts greater than \$350,000.00. Vote; Aye.

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$69,278.56 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

Mr. James Strunk, Zoning Inspector, addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department matters:

1. Mr. Strunk stated that 16 violation letters have been sent since the last Trustee meeting.
2. The Zoning Inspector sent out 70 violation letters addressing the basketball hoops in the right-of-way and approximately 15 calls have been received expressing a willingness to comply. Mr. Strunk stated that after January 2, 2003, any hoops remaining in the easements will be confiscated.
3. Mr. Strunk stated that the Seeger case has been settled by the signing of a summary judgment by Mr. Seeger and the property owner, Mr. Smith. The judgment was signed on January 19, 2002. The Carney case is awaiting additional paperwork from Loveland & Brosius and the complaint will be amended. The alleged illegal business at 8604 Edgewater Dr. may be settled out of court.
4. The Zoning Inspector is working on a draft Zoning Training Manual and has obtained copies of several training and procedure manuals.

Ms. Keller asked Mr. Jim Strunk about vacant Zoning Commission and BZA positions. Mr. Strunk stated that there is an alternate position open on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Ms. Keller asked Ms. Pitts if she is able to attend the Steering Committee meetings. Ms. Keller stated that Ms. Overla is willing to serve as a Board of Zoning Appeals alternate. Mr. Nourse asked Ms. Overla if she would permit the Board to amend her request from the Zoning Commission position to the Board of Zoning Appeals alternate position.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board appoint Ms. Christy Overla as an alternate to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term expiring December 31, 2004. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye.

Mr. Nourse stated that the appointment to the Steering Committee is exclusively under the Zoning Commission. Mr. Strunk stated that Ms. Pitts was not appointed at the last Zoning Commission meeting. Ms. Keller recommended that Ms. Pitts attend the next Steering Committee meeting at 3:30 p.m. on December 28, 2002 at the Township Hall.

Mr. Bill Ashcraft, Lincoln Village Residents Association, stated that there were six vehicles parked at 6:30 p.m. this evening between the street and the sidewalk at the

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Old Village Apartments. Mr. Strunk stated that he will recommend that future zoning resolutions address limiting the number of vehicles and where these vehicles can park per parcel. Mr. Strunk stated that they cannot park in a public easement and suggested placing a call when the violation exists and the Field Inspector will be sent to take pictures and mount a case. Mr. Nourse requested the clerk send a letter to Franklin County requesting a survey of the right of way of the Old Village Road Apartments as a provision exists for the vehicles to be towed that are parked in the right-of-way.

Chief Lavelly addressed the Board with the following Fire Department matters:

1. Chief Lavelly requested approval for FF Greg Berton to use 24 hours personal time in lieu of disability time in 2002.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve FF Greg Berton use 24 hours of personal time in lieu of disability time in 2002. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse stated that the Policy & Procedures Book was approved with changes at the December 11, 2002 meeting prior to the presentation of the final copy. FF Goldhart stated that most of the changes have been back in the format within the last week and the definitions section has not been completed yet. FF Goldhart stated the final copy will be completed before the end of December.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board rescind the motion at the meeting on December 11, 2002 to approve the Policy & Procedures Manual as presented as it was not presented in final form with prior review by union legal counsel. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye.

Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent, addressed the Board with the following Road/Cemetery Department matters:

1. The Road Superintendent stated that 3 quotations have been received on the storm sewer mapping project. The quotations have been received from EHM&T, Bischoff Miller & Assoc. and Feller, Finch & Assoc. All three engineers have been called for clarification on their proposals.

EMH&T proposed \$8,500.00 for preparing a base map, collecting information from the Franklin County Engineers, Township and the State and putting the information collected on the map. Feller, Finch & Assoc. proposed \$5,500.00 for preparing a base map, collecting information from Franklin County, State and Township and a field verification and any new information will be included on the map. Bischoff Miller & Assoc. proposed collecting information from the Franklin County Auditors GIS mapping to make the base map and will give an estimate on the time and pricing to prepare the map. Mr. McAninch stated that EMH&T and Feller, Finch & Assoc. are comparable and Bischoff, Miller & Assoc. has considerable open ended charges. The Road Superintendent recommended accepting the proposal from Feller, Finch & Assoc., as this appears to be the best value for the Township.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board accept the Feller, Finch & Associates proposal for the storm sewer mapping project at a cost not to exceed \$5,500.00. The cost will include preparing a base map, collecting information from Franklin County, State of Ohio and Prairie Township and a field verification with any new information to be included on the map. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the Board sign the contract with Feller Finch & Associates for the storm sewer mapping project at a cost not to exceed \$5,500.00. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Ms. Nourse; Aye.

The Township acquired the Phillips property last week which is 224 acres at a cost of

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\$160,000.00. The Township will use 20 acres +/- for a new Township park and the remaining will be wetland restoration and flood control. All of the information collected will be critical.

2. Dave McAninch reported that Dale Steinhoff has 32 hours of unused vacation and would like to be paid for these unused hours. Mr. Wharton stated that this does not require Board approval as it is addressed in the resolution which is on file. Mr. Nourse stated that without a procedure in place at this time, a motion is requested as this will require an expenditure of funds.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the payment of 32 hours of unused vacation for Dale Steinhoff, Road Department employee. Vote; Aye.

Mr. James Strunk, addressed the Board with the Administrator issues, as Ms. Anderson is not feeling well.

1. A vacation carryover request was presented for Elizabeth Anderson, a first year employee. Mr. Nourse sited the need for a comprehensive single source document for all departments.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve Elizabeth Anderson carry over vacation without restriction. Vote; Aye.

2. The SWACO Hazardous Waste Collection Site Volunteer item has been tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board remove the transfer request for a liquor permit for the Grener Road Market and Carry-Out off the table and not request a hearing on this transfer. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse addressed a Phillips Restoration Funding Proposal for 2003 dealing with three major points for the property.

- There is an existing house on the property that has been boarded up and Mr. Nourse would like to design a company level training program to burn the house with the Franklin County Sheriff available for traffic control and possibly victims to play along with the scenario. Chief Lavelly stated that the house has asbestos siding and the house will have to be inspected for asbestos and removed. Dave McAninch has been requested to investigate asbestos abatement procedures.

- Entry/Exit and signage includes determining the best location for the main entry/exit to the property with an island and also a sign, similar to the Lincoln Village parks, stating that this is the Phillips Restoration Project Area.

- Site Oversight and Management providing the maximum opportunity for success to include Township participation. The proposal is for a Restoration Oversight Board composed initially of 5 residents from the Township. A Technical Review Board is proposed to include residents with the technical knowledge in construction, ecology, wetland construction and restoration. The Nature Conservancy has volunteered to oversee the restoration, free of charge.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve \$65,000.000 for the 2003 abatement effort, removing home and driveway and signage work on the Phillips property. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse: Aye.

Ms. Christy Overla, Galloway Road, addressed the Board regarding the selection of the Committee and recommended Dr. Dennis Mishne, Alkire Road, with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. Nourse discussed a meeting held this week between Mr. Daryn Fair; M/I Schottenstein Homes, Prairie Township Zoning Inspector, Township Fire Marshall and Mr. Jack Reynolds. Mr. Nourse presented a draft letter he has prepared and will

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request permission from the Board to send as Chairman of the Board in response to questions that were raised in a meeting this week putting the Township position in perspective. Discussion was held regarding Soldier Drive, eastbound off of Hubbard Road, which is wider than the typical residential street. M/I is proposing to narrow Soldier Drive and then connect two feeder streets to it, northbound of Soldier Drive. Mr. Nourse has asked that Soldier Drive remain as wide as it is off of Hubbard Road for at least three lots east of the northbound feeder street. Chief Lavelly referred to a recent conversation with Elizabeth Anderson, Township Administrator, about a Fire Department concern with low water pressure for fighting fire in the Westpoint area. Mr. Nourse has asked Mr. Steve Smith, Ohio American Water, to provide details of the water system in the Westpoint area.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the Chairman sign a letter to M/I Schottenstein Homes in response to questions that were raised putting the Township position in perspective, with a letter to M/I attorney, Mr. Jack Reynolds.

Mr. Fred Scior, 349 Weymouth Road, referred to an E-mail send to Elizabeth Anderson, Township Administrator, about using the current fish fry building for a senior center. Discussion followed. Mr. Nourse stated that there is possibly a presentation from Nationwide Investments scheduled for January 22, 2003 about using the old Heilig Meyer building in the Lincoln Village plaza for a senior center. The meeting will be confirmed by January 9, 2003.

Ms. Deb Thorn, Village Park resident, addressed the Board with concerns about the Sheriff's contract that was discussed at the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Thorn stated that she feels we are not properly protected by the Franklin County Sheriff in Prairie Township. Mr. Nourse stated that the Board has requested a 1 year contract from the Franklin County Sheriff which will be approximately \$20,000 less than what was paid in 2002. The Board will negotiate in depth what is being offered for 2004. Ms. Keller stated that options were discussed at the December 11, 2002 meeting of increasing the number of dedicated officers in Prairie Township. Response times that were stated in the December 11, 2002 meeting were discussed and Ms. Thorn stated that she was very surprised at the short response times that were given by the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

Ms. Jan Pitts, Village Park resident, stated that she is grateful to the Board of Trustees for putting a Township curfew in place as the Franklin County Sheriff has identified a predator in her neighborhood.

Mr. Jerry Abraham, Caldwell Banker Commercial, is working with a Prairie Township land owner and is considering commercial development. Mr. Abraham asked the Board if the Township is considering an independent water and sewer provider for Prairie Township. Mr. Nourse stated that the Township is negotiating with Ohio American Water. Mr. Nourse stated that to promise anything at this point would be inappropriate. Prairie Township has notified the OPEA that we have a franchise agreement that is being finalized and Ohio American Water will be franchise holder for the areas of Prairie Township not already serviced. The finalization of the 208 plan has been withdrawn pending Prairie Township's finalization of negotiations with Ohio American Water. The Franklin County Sanitary Engineer, Tom Shockley and Franklin County Commissioners Dewey Stokes and Arlene Shoemaker have been involved for over a year and a half. Public announcement is expected in April 2003. A contractor has stated that he would like permission to build a package plant and is willing to pay the load and capacity, location and permit has not been discussed. A discussion to this effect is scheduled for January 8, 2003 with Tom Shockley, Elie Sabbagh; Feller Finch & Assoc. and possibly Dan Dudley with Ohio EPA. This meeting will probably be an executive session due to the proprietary aspect of the details. The goal is to be able to provide water and sewer services to the areas of Prairie Township that are not currently serviced and allow them to develop at an appropriate density. Public meetings that

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have been posted in three places within the Township, have been going on for the past year and have matured to the point that water and sewer in one area of the Township may be a reality in the next couple of weeks and the entire Township will be a reality on paper in April, May or June of 2003 and in actual practice 9-16 months to put the plant up and get it moving. Ohio American Water is the provider of choice and they have a real good reputation and they have bought out Citizens Utility and are willing to invest the money. Mr. Wharton stated that Ohio American is a quality company and have a clean reputation with the Public Utilities Commission and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Ms. Keller stated that approval of building plans will be simpler dealing with the Prairie Township Board when the Comprehensive Plan is developed rather dealing than the City of Columbus.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk