

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/APRIL 3, 2002

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Nourse, with Ms. Keller and Mrs. Easter present. Also attending were: Dave McAninch, John Holderby, Elizabeth Anderson, Chief Lavelly and Donetta Brock (see attached list).

Mr. Nourse lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting on March 20, 2002 and special meetings on March 21, 23, 26 and 28, 2002 and approve the minutes as submitted. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Worthington requested that the clerk read the minutes aloud from the special meetings that were held within the last two weeks.

The Clerk presented the following items:

1. The Clerk presented notary registration information and fees for John Holderby and Kathleen Easter, Township Clerk, to attend a notary class and testing given by the Columbus Bar Association. The total fee is \$80.00 per person.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve Mr. John Holderby and Kathleen Easter, Clerk, attend the notary class and test given by the Columbus Bar Association at a total cost of \$80.00 per person. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve and sign the \$2,000.00 continuous bond for Elizabeth Anderson, Assistant Zoning Inspector. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board appropriate the following monies:
Vote; Aye.

\$50,000.00 from fire 2191-920-920-0000 to 2191-760-740-0000

2. Franklin County Township Association meeting is April 11, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the New Franklin County Sheriff's training academy on Young Road.

After the Trustees viewed the pending warrant list, Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$71,533.15 and approve payment of the following bills (See pending warrant list).
Vote; Aye.

The Trustees received and reviewed the financial statements for the month of March, 2002.

The minutes from the special meetings on March 21, 23, 26 and 28 were read aloud.

Chief Lavelly appeared before the Board with the following Fire Department matters:

1. There was a fatal fire in Galloway last night, April 2, 2002.
2. Chief Lavelly recommended the purchase of 11 battery chargers and 22 belt clips from Motorola, Inc. at a total cost of \$2,636.70.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the purchase of 11 battery chargers and 22 belt clips from Motorola, Inc. at a total cost of \$2,636.70. Vote; Aye.

3. The FEMA grant application for the new tanker has been submitted. Support letters, indicating regional support from surrounding fire departments and Congressional support from Deborah Pryce, will be sent out within the next few days.

(More

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23 MAPLE DRIVE

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4. Chief Lavelly presented and opened one bid for the thermal imaging camera from the Sutphen Corporation. The bid for the thermal imaging camera, as stated in the specifications, was \$17,540.00 which is below the estimate of \$19,000.00. Chief Lavelly requested permission from the Board to accept the bid and have the Franklin County Prosecutor review. Delivery time is 8-12 weeks. Mr. Nourse requested a copy of the bid for our files and confirmed that this was the only bid received on the thermal imaging camera.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board accept the bid for the thermal imaging camera from Sutphen Corporation for \$17,540.00 and requested that the Franklin County Prosecutor review the bid before further action is taken. Vote; Aye.

5. Lt. Kern requested attendance at the Firefighter Instructors Conference on April 11, 2002 in Indianapolis and would like firefighter Matt Stickel to attend also. Both have been researching information on the tanker/engine combination. Should the grant be awarded, there is a very short time period to put the equipment package and manufacture information together. The conference fee is \$45.00 per person and Chief Lavelly recommended covering the cost of travel and meals for the one-day conference.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve attendance at the Firefighter Instructors Conference on April 11, 2002 in Indianapolis, IN. by Lt. Ron Kern and Firefighter Matt Stickel. The conference fee of \$45.00 per person as well as travel and meal expenses will be covered, not to exceed \$300.00. Vote; Aye.

6. Chief Lavelly reported that Franklin Township will start EMS billing with MBI in April, 2002 and will be billing residents and non-residents.
7. Chief Lavelly recommended reimbursement to Lt. Ron Kern for classes attended at Columbus State at a total cost of \$402.60. The grades were presented as well as the paid receipt from Columbus State Community College.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve reimbursement to Lt. Ron Kern in the amount of \$402.60 for classes attended at Columbus State. Vote; Aye.

8. The Emergency Response Terrorism training held by Findlay University was reported by Chief Lavelly to be a very beneficial course and the instructor was outstanding and there was complete participation by the department.
9. Recently training was held in the basement of the former J.C. Penney's store at Westland Mall and a thermal imaging camera was borrowed from Norwich Township for the training.
10. Chief Lavelly recommended the Board look at our Mutual Aid agreement in regard to a State Emergency Response Plan for Disasters. Ohio Fire Chiefs are working on a State emergency response plan for disasters. Currently our mutual aid agreement is by resolution to respond any time when called to any department in Franklin County or the surrounding counties. The Ohio Fire Chiefs are requesting that the contract be changed to respond to any place in the State of Ohio. Mr. Nourse stated that the Board will take the recommendation under advisement. The concern Mr. Nourse has is that for decades the Township Fire Departments have carried Columbus an allowed their unbridled expansion throughout central Ohio. At this moment, there are vast areas of Columbus that have no indigenous fire protection and are relying on the Township Fire Department. Trustee Nourse has a real problem when the City of Columbus uses the Township fire department, at the Township expense, to enhance their tax base. He also considers this as one of the major facets of the annexation debate. Prairie Township does not have an "automatic response" agreement with the City of Columbus. Ms. Keller stated that this plan would be for a disaster situation only. Chief Lavelly presented the Ohio Fire Chiefs Emergency Response Plan.

(More

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

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Ms. Eleanor Jones inquired as to the evacuation plan in place should there be a disaster in Prairie Township. Chief Lavelly stated Franklin County does have a plan in place and there are evacuation sites in the Township. Mr. Nourse stated that Franklin County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has an orientation type of presentation and he will make arrangements to have a presentation held in Prairie Township. Mid-Ohio has put a task force together that addressed emergency response in Central Ohio. A copy of that task force will be available at the Township Hall next meeting.

Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent, appeared before the Board with the following Road/Cemetery department matters:

1. A drainage issue was discussed at 230 Evergreen Terrace several meetings ago and Mr. Nourse will discuss this issue with the resident. Mr. Nourse is opposed to installing any additional drains and feels we need to find a more permanent solution.
2. The Road Superintendent addressed a sidewalk issue in Lincoln Village North that was tabled. Mr. Nourse stated that a HUB guidance will be received shortly that is ADA compliant and will be addressed at a future meeting.
3. Dave McAninch stated that there was an accident in Alton at Center Street and Hickory Alley. The Sheriff Department inquired as to whether a stop sign was down at this particular intersection. The Road Superintendent stated that Center Street and Hickory Street is not a stop street. Ms. Jennifer Gallagher, Franklin County Engineer Traffic Department, recommended that the Trustees establish stop streets in the town of Alton by installing single stop signs. Mr. Nourse stated that he felt the previous direction from the Engineers was that the Township did not have the authority to establish stop streets. Mr. Nourse will send a letter to some of the residents in Alton to see how they feel about the installation of stop signs.
4. The Road Superintendent referred to information presented to the Trustees a month ago regarding the purchase of a tractor for mowing Township roads. Dave McAninch recommended the purchase of the following:

JD Equipment Inc.	
John Deere Tractor 5420	
MAC-29 State Contract	\$26,664.05
Less trade in	<u>2,500.00</u>
Total:	\$24,164.05

*John Deere agrees to trade a new JD 5420 equipped the same as above for \$750.00 plus \$5.00 per hour used.

R.L. Parsons & Son Equipment	
Bomford B49X side boom mower	
Mac-29 State Contract	\$19,736.00
Installation:	<u>500.00</u>
Total:	\$20,236.00

White-Acres Implement Inc.	
88 inch Alamo heavy-duty flail mower	\$ 3,499.00

TOTAL COST \$47,899.05

Mr. Nourse explained the intent behind the Road Superintendent acquiring these prices for equipment is that last year the Township spent roughly \$44,000.00 on a mowing contract and a comparable amount the year before. The feeling of the Board is that the Township can purchase, for the combined total, their own

(More

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23 MAPLE DRIVE

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equipment and hire their own year-round employee and by the third year the equipment will be owned and the Township will be doing our own mowing and maintenance. The parks program will benefit from this employee during the summer months and an additional employee to operate a snow plow in the winter months.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board allocated \$47,899.05 for the purchase of a John Deere Tractor 5420 for \$24,164.05 (after trade-in), Bomford B49X mower for \$20,236.00 and an 88-inch Flail mower at \$3,499.00. Availability of this equipment is May 15, 2002. Vote; Aye.

5. Dave McAninch recommended re-hiring Jesse McNamara for the year 2002. In 1999 he was paid \$9.50/hr, in 2000 \$10.00/hr, in 2001 \$10.00/hr. The Road Superintendent would like to re-hire Jesse McNamara as a part-time employee, with a possibility of full-time employment in the future, at \$10.50/hr. Mr. Nourse is opposed to re-hiring part-time employees at a higher hourly rate. As a part-time employee, the maximum hours allowed is 1,500 per year. Mr. Wharton considered looking at Jesse McNamara's hourly wage in 90 days.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve re-hiring Jesse McNamara, based on the recommendation of the Road Superintendent, at a rate of \$10.00 per hour on a part-time basis, not to exceed 1,500 hours per year, effective April 4, 2002. Vote; Aye.

6. The Road Superintendent stated that the preliminary estimate for the 2002 road work is not available from the Franklin County Engineers and will be presented at the April 17, 2002 meeting.

Mr. Wharton asked the Road Superintendent to give an update on the no parking resolution for the area south of Beacon Hill, 500 feet to the west. Dave McAninch anticipates that "no parking" will be posted and enforced by the end of April, 2002.

A resident from Blue Lake inquired as to whether the 2002 road work will be completed this year as the preliminary estimate from the Franklin County Engineer will not be discussed until the April 17, 2002 meeting. Dave McAninch stated that the work will be completed in 2002.

Mr. John Holderby, Acting Zoning Inspector, addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department matters:

1. John Holderby publicly thanked Mr. Roger Gray, Village Park resident, for cleaning the parks for an Easter egg hunt and thanked him for his participation in the April 1, 2002 Keep Franklin County Beautiful Cleanup kickoff which was unfortunately cancelled.
2. The Spring Cleanup dumpster has been moved from the grainery in Galloway to the Prairie Township Road Department building at 6725 Alkire Road.
3. John Holderby introduced Elizabeth Anderson as the Assistant Zoning Inspector effective March 25, 2002. Ms. Anderson addressed all in attendance and is looking forward to working with the residents of the Township.

Mr. Holderby was asked by a resident about the trucks that are parked at the grainery in Galloway and he stated that the owner was misinformed about the zoning and the trucks are being moved. The property is zoned R-6 residential.

Mr. Adkins, a Galloway resident, expressed concerns to the Board regarding parking on the back streets in Galloway and Mr. Holderby stated that the Zoning Department is addressing the situation in Galloway.

(More

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/APRIL 3, 2002

A resident addressed the property on the north side of Dellinger on the east side of Hubbard Road. The property is being used by dirt bike and ATV riders. The property may be in Brown Township. At the end of the meeting, the property will be identified.

Ms. Keller addressed the Hellbranch Overlay and a letter that Ms. Keller, Trustee, sent to each of the City Council members regarding development in this area. This development is significant because all the development to the north will drain into the Clover Groff, Hamilton Ditch and eventually the Hellbranch and Darby Creek.

Mr. Nourse referred to the 505.707 funding request. The legislature last year passed an addition to the ORC section 505.707. This section of the code states that the Township may take funds out of their General Fund to provide support or funding to any 501.73 organization that the Board of Trustees determines serves a community service. Mr. Nourse stated that the Board has put together guidance to define the terms and conditions under which an organization may apply and receive funding from the Prairie Township Board of Trustees under ORC 505.707. Mr. Nourse stated that this request will be available.

Mr. Jeff Gordon, 8465 Blue Lake, expressed concerns with drainage in his neighborhood and inquired as to whether this drainage problem can be corrected during the 2002 road improvement project. Mr. Nourse recommended that the Road Superintendent request that Franklin County run a camera thru the storm system on Blue Lake to determine if there is any blockage.

Mr. Bill Ashcraft addressed the Board with street lighting concerns with overhead wires remaining at 452 Darbyhurst Road and a light that is going on and off at 4880 Hamden Way. The Clerk will contact American Electric Power on the lighting issues.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk

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