

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/MAY 1, 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 Mrs. Easter present. Also attending were: Chief Lavelly, Dave McAninch, John Holderby, Elizabeth Anderson and Donetta Brock. (See attached list)

Ms. Keller lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board dispense with the reading of the minutes of the April 17, 2002 regular meeting and the April 29, 2002 special meeting and approve the minutes as submitted. Vote; Aye.

Deputy Foos, Franklin County Sheriff's Department, addressed the Board with the following matters:

1. A drive-by shooting occurred at 330 Evergreen Terrace, where a 15 year old male was shot. There are no apprehensions at this time. If anyone has any information, notify the detective bureau.
2. A solicitation ordinance was discussed and the sheriff's department does not have the authority to charge the people with any crime other than trespassing. Mr. Nourse will discuss a solicitation ordinance with the prosecutor's office.
3. Complaints have been received on Alkire Road, south of the town of Galloway, on 4-wheelers causing dust and noise behind another property on Alkire Road. These complaints will be referred to the Zoning Department.
4. Deputy Foos asked, "Do the citizens of New Rome vote on a police levy in Prairie Township"? Mr. Nourse stated that New Rome is included in Prairie Township or fire services only. Prairie Township has a contract with the Franklin CoSheriff's Department for police services.
5. Mr. Holderby has been made aware of illegal activity at the truck stop on the corner of N. Grener and W. Broad Street behind the Waffle House, in the late evening Deputy Foos will investigate.
6. A resident complained about the truck parking behind the Waffle House which is effecting the visibility. Mr. Nourse stated that the Board of Zoning Appeals records will reflect a negotiated agreement between Ramada Inn, Home Depot and Waffle House in exchange for off premise signage. The Board of Zoning Appeals decision will be reviewed.

The Clerk presented the following items:

1. The Clerk presented a funding agreement executed by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and Prairie Township for the CDBG program for \$30,000.00 for the Hilton Avenue project.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the Board of Trustees enter into a funding agreement between the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, Franklin County, Ohio and Prairie Township for the Franklin County CDBG program for \$30,000.00 for the Hilton Avenue Project grant #B01-UC-39-0002 designated as project number 20-559125-CB-104 and will be in effect upon signing. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye.

2. The Clerk presented an Ohio Public Works Commission "Request to Proceed" form for Project# CCO5E designating Darby Creek Excavating as the contractor, the amount of the contract is \$394,366.38. The Contract has not yet been awarded at this time.

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Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the Chairman sign the Ohio Public Works Commission "Request to Proceed" form designating the contractor as Darby Creek Excavating and the amount of the contract is \$394,366.38. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye.

3. The Clerk notified the Board of Trustees of the Franklin County Township Association meeting on May 9, 2002 at the Plain Township Firehouse at 6:30 p.m.
4. An Emergency Management Agency letter dated April 18, 2002 was presented regarding the outdoor siren warning system in Franklin County and an apparent gap in coverage in Prairie Township. The cost per siren is \$18,895.00. Mr. Nourse recommended adopting a zoning resolution with the intent to require developers to install these sirens in areas where coverage is not provided as development continues.
5. The Clerk presented the premium renewal rate information for employee Health/Drug insurance coverage from Ohio Insurance Services with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield effective 6/1/02. The increase is 19% and the renewal rates are: Single; \$266.67 and Family; \$823.21 per month until May 31, 2003. There is no renewal contract to be signed.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the 19% renewal increase of the medical/drug insurance contract with Anthem BC/BS from Ohio Insurance Services effective 6/1/02. The renewal rates are single; \$266.67 and family \$823.21 until May 31, 2003. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye. Mr. Nourse stated that negotiation will start in the near future on the medical/drug insurance contract for next year. This is the last year of the union contract with the Fire Department.

After the Trustees viewed the pending warrant list, Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$73,711.38 and approve payment of the following bills (See pending warrant list).

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

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

1. Lt. Route, EMS Coordinator, requested that we join with the Central Ohio Area on Aging to promote the "Vile of Life Program". A township resident, with medical problems, will complete a bright yellow form and clip the form to the front of their refrigerator with medical and prescription information. A news release has been prepared by the Fire Department.
2. Electronic EMS reporting which is required by the State of Ohio is continuing. Every run and action taken has to be reported and a computer code assigned. Hardware and software is being investigated to be housed on the vehicles to assist in the reporting process.
3. Mr. Nourse stated that several presentations have been made on EMS billing. A presentation will be made, in the future, to the Fire Department when the Board of Trustees are closer to making a decision. Plain Township and Franklin Township have implemented EMS billing and are working through several issues. EMS billing is still an open item in Prairie Township.
4. On April 19th there were 10 EMS runs and 1 fire run in 5 hours. The Fire Department relied heavily on the mutual aid companies for assistance.
5. Firefighter Doug Castle is requesting disability leave for his back after he takes two days sick leave. Chief Lavelly recommended the Board approve disability

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time for Doug Castle.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve, based on the recommendation by Chief Lavelly, disability leave for Firefighter Doug Castle. Vote; Aye.

6. Chief Lavelly stated that the tile in the shower at Station 241 is leaking and he recommends Southwest Tile repair the tile at a cost of \$1,436.00. Mr. Nourse recommended the Township have a structural engineer look at some other issues, in conjunction with this, within the Township. This issue will be tabled until the next meeting.
7. Chief Lavelly reminded the residents that hydrant flushing will begin on May 6th. The Lincoln Village North area will not be flushed on Friday, Saturday or Sunday so as not to interrupt the flea market in the area.

Dave McAninch addressed the Board with the following Road/Cemetery issues:

1. Dave McAninch presented an excavation application for Johnson Road for boring work that is to be done by Ohio River Pipeline LLC., 539 S. Main Street, Findlay, Ohio. The applicant has read the guidelines and paid the \$2.00 application fee. No pavement cut will be done. Mr. Nourse requested that the contractor, upon completion, use sufficient fill so that after settling water still gets in the ditch.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the excavation permit for Johnson Road from Ohio River Pipeline LLC. No pavement cut will be done. Vote; Aye.

2. Mr. Nourse addressed the meeting with the Franklin County Board of Health and the Road Superintendent. Several residences were visited. The Franklin County Board of Health will send a letter regarding Mr. Carl West's property abutting the railroad tracks. Several areas were referred to the State Board of Health for mosquito abatement issues. More investigation will be done in the future and discussions will be held with the Franklin County Board of Health as to what will be declared a public nuisance.
3. "No Parking" signs were posted on Beacon Hill April 30th and painting of the curbs will be done before the next meeting.

Sighle Brackman, Township Computer Consultant, addressed the Board regarding DSL, an internet provider, for the Township Hall, that will allow consecutive access to the internet as well as E-mail. A resident in the Township is willing to develop a web page and DSL service will provide him space to put the web site up on the internet. This will allow Township residents to access information about the Township. SBC Ameritech pricing to activate DSL is \$410.00 with a monthly charge of \$99.95 and requires a 1 year contract. Included in the basic hosting package are free tracking tools. DSL is not available in the Galloway area at this time, but within approximately 1 year the Road Department and the Hubbard Road Fire Department may be added.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve entering into a 1 year contract with SBC Ameritech for DSL service in the Township Hall. The activation fee is \$410.00 after a rebate, and the monthly charge is \$99.95. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse added that the DSL service will be helpful in the case of an emergency when transmitting to the Emergency Management Agency.

John Holderby, Acting Zoning Inspector, addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department issues:

1. The spring cleanup is complete and was a huge success. John Holderby thanked the Road Department for their assistance with the cleanup.

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Elizabeth Anderson, Assistant Zoning Inspector, addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department issues:

1. Ms. Anderson attended the CARTA meeting where the City of Westerville displayed their GIS and computer system. The potential was very impressive and Ms. Anderson is looking forward to working to making the GIS system user friendly and interactive.
2. Ms. Anderson attended the Ohio Land Use Seminar and it was very informative and worthwhile and there were excellent presenters. Annexation and comprehensive planning was discussed.
3. Digital camera estimates were presented and the Sony 100 model was recommended and the details are as follows if purchased from Best Buy:

Sony 100 Digital camera	\$399.95
4 year extended warranty	60.00
Carrying case/extra battery	80.00

Mr. Nourse recommended the Road Department and Fire Department determine if the model selected by the Zoning Department is suitable for their needs also. Ms. Anderson will try to borrow a camera from another Township to familiarize the Road Department and the Fire Department. This issue will be tabled until the May 15th meeting.

Mr. Nourse addressed the issue of sidewalk criteria. The Ohio Department of Transportation and the City of Columbus have updated their sidewalk criteria and the Road Superintendent will download this information from ODOT and will purchase a hard copy from the City of Columbus at a cost of \$12.00. This information will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Nourse stated that at the last meeting development in the Township was addressed and a policy has been composed entitled "Policy To Protect Prairie Township Developments" and read this policy aloud.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board adopt the "Policy to Protect Prairie Township Developments" which takes effect immediately upon approval by majority vote of the Board. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye.

Mr. Worthington stated that he and a partner are interested in developing 6-8 acres on Galloway Road. He asked the Board if water and sewer would be available for development in the Township within the next 4-5 months or he would have to seek annexation to have water and sewer. Mr. Nourse stated that his personal opinion is that it is likely that the Township will see water and sewer services within the next 5 or 6 months. His personal opinion is that he would guarantee water and sewer service within the next year in Prairie Township. Mr. Nourse stated that a public meeting will be held on water and sewer details when they are made available. As a statutory township, it is very difficult to provide water and sewer services. As a home rule township, it simply requires a vote of the Board of Trustees. A discussion with Washington Township, Montgomery County, is scheduled for next week to discuss the dynamics of becoming a home rule township. A reality of water and sewer on the westside of Columbus is that the Sullivant Avenue sub-trunk is full, beyond maximum capacity, and new Columbus developments in this area are required to have septic systems. The Big Run trunk, which would serve the property on Galloway Road, is running at 101-105% capacity. Residents in the Thornapple area are complaining of odors in their basements. The problem with the Columbus sewer system, Mr. Nourse stated, is that Columbus has ignored their infrastructure. Water and sewer on the Westside is going to be an interesting adventure for Prairie Township and the City of Columbus within the next 18 months. The current contract with Franklin County for water and sewer service to the Lincoln Village area is valid until 2015. This policy will

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be available for review at the next meeting. Mr. Wharton added that if Mr. Worthington plans to annex property to the City of Columbus, make sure that water and sewer services will be available to you. Mr. Nourse stated that the goal is to clean up problem areas in the Township and not negatively impact the Darby and provide a base to provide some growth in Prairie Township.

Ardis Offensend addressed the Board regarding the WABA 4th of July celebration on July 6, 2002 and would like the Board to approve closing W. Broad Street as the parade will run from Westland High School to the Lincoln Village area, the same route as last year. Carolyn Rival is planning the 5K run from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m., as last year and will send letters to the residents involved. Alternate routes for the parade were discussed. Mr. Nourse stated that the parade route will be discussed at length prior to the 2003 celebration.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve closing West Broad Street for the Independence Day Parade and Celebration on July 6, 2002 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon starting at Westland High School going east and ending at Old Village Road. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the 5K run from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. prior to the parade and celebration. The route for the run would be the same as last year. Vote; Aye.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk

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