

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE      REGULAR MEETING/JULY 10, 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, Elizabeth Anderson and Donetta Brock. (See attached list).

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the minutes as written for the regular meeting on June 26, 2002. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk presented the following items:

1. The Clerk presented an invoice from Bischoff & Associates for \$9,169.50 for services from 5/24/02 to 6/23/02 which will be paid by Franklin County upon approval of Prairie Township. After the Hilton Avenue project is completed, Franklin County will do one total disbursement for reimbursement from Ohio Public Works and Prairie Township. The Chairman's signature on the invoice is approval for Franklin County to pay.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the Chairman to sign and Franklin County to pay the invoice from Bischoff & Associates in the amount of \$9,169.50. Vote; Aye.

2. The Zoning Inspector, Elizabeth Anderson, has completed the initial 90 day period as discussed in the meeting of June 26, 2002. Effective July 24, 2002, 40 hours of sick time will be credited to her bank (5 hrs. per bi-weekly pay period from April 2 to July 10, 2002) and accrue 5 hrs. per bi-weekly pay period thereafter.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve, for Elizabeth Anderson, 5 hrs. sick leave per bi-weekly pay period and credit of 40 hours in her bank effective June 26, 2002. Vote; Aye.

3. The Clerk presented four quotes from Cleaning Services for weekly cleaning of the Township Hall. The quotes are as follows:

**Jace Janitorial**                      \$275.00/mo.      Weekly cleaning to include additional duties bi-annually and annually. Bonded and insured and will supply cleaning products. References were checked.

**Let It Shine**                              \$260.00/mo      Weekly cleaning with additional charges for bi-annual and annual services. Bonded and insured and will supply cleaning products. References were checked.

**Sherm's Service Enterprises**      \$348.00/mo      Weekly cleaning with additional charges for bi-annual and annual services. Bonded and insured and will supply cleaning products. References were checked.

**Alpha Janitorial Services**      \$350.00/mo      Weekly cleaning to include additional duties bi-annually and annually. Bonded and insured and will supply cleaning products. References were checked.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve Jace Janitorial Service, Mr. Andrew Brandon, to clean the Township Hall on a weekly basis for a 90 day trial period at a rate of \$275.00 per month. Certificate of insurance and bond are on file with this company. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye.

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As per notice in the Columbus Dispatch on June 30, 2002, the Chairman declared this meeting a public hearing for the purpose of reading the 2003 budget. Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board adopt the budget for the year 2003 and file the same with the Franklin County Auditor. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton, Aye; Ms. Keller, Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye.

4. The Clerk presented a resolution establishing limited Home Rule (R.C. Section 504.01) prepared by Bricker & Eckler, LLP. The resolution requires unanimous vote from the Board of Trustees to be passed.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the resolution establishing limited Home Rule (R.C. Section 504.01) prepared by Bricker & Eckler, LLP. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye. (Resolution 8-02).

Deputy Allen Mann addressed the Board regarding a concern with criminals in the Township entering by an open attached garage door. The deputy recommended residents close their garage door or call 9-1-1 in the case of an emergency. Fireworks continue to be a problem in the Elm Park area and the Sheriff's department is going to start cracking down.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the Clerk reduce the Fifth Third Sweep account by \$150,000.00. Vote; Aye.

5. The Clerk presented an affidavit of non-receipt from Sun Life Financial stating that Prairie Township has not received a certificate and is requesting a replacement certificate and a corporate resolution authorizing Mr. Jeff Nourse, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, on behalf of Prairie Township to accept convey, assign, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or any shares now or hereafter registered in the name of Prairie Township.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve Mr. Nourse, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, sign an affidavit of non-receipt from Sun Life Financial and authorizing Mr. Nourse, on behalf of Prairie Township, to accept convey assign, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or any shares now or hereafter registered in the name of Prairie Township. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the resignation of the Township Receptionist effective July 8, 2002. Vote; Aye.

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

After the Trustees viewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$72,578.50 and approve payment of the following bills. (See pending warrant list). Vote; Aye.

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

1. Ms. Anderson attended the Franklin County Planning Commission meeting today regarding the Baker tract at Inah Avenue and Owen Street. Approval was 7-1 to recommend rezoning.
2. The Board of Zoning Appeals met on July 9, 2002 regarding a variance on a fence in Galloway which was approved.

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

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1. Chief Lavelly thanked the community for their support of the annual Fish Fry.
2. Chief Lavelly is working on specifications for the new medic truck. Estimated cost is \$151,500.00.

Mr. Nourse inquired as to the status of the Procedures Book. Chief Lavelly stated that the union is reviewing the book and he will address the status of the union review on 7/11/02.

Mr. Nourse stated that the FEMA grant award dates have been pushed back. Prairie Township has made it to the finals. Awards are going to extend from July 1 to the end of the year 2002.

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

1. Dave McAninch requested vacation for the week of July 15-19, 2002.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve a vacation request for Dave McAninch for the week of July 15-19, 2002. Vote; Aye.

2. The Road Superintendent reported that during the Fish Fry someone stepped in a hole on the north side of Palmetto, east of the Ameritech building. Dave McAninch stated that he observed a driveway tile for the entrance to Ameritech. About 75' down there is a structure from the south side of Palmetto and heads east towards Inah Avenue. The hole appears to be 14" deep. Dave McAninch will contact the property owners and see if there is anything missing and if not, fill in the hole.
3. Franklin County has made a temporary repair on the Kunz Road bridge and survey work is being done to replace the deck on the bridge next year.
4. Dave McAninch stated that he is waiting for Bill Fletcher with Franklin County to give the Township a price to repair the pipes in Lake Darby. The township would like to repair these pipes this year.
5. The intersection of Danhurst and Beacon Hill has a large sink hole which has been caused by a separation in the sanitary sewer. The 2002 Road Improvement project includes this intersection and has a completion date of September 16, 2002. This project is a priority for Franklin County to repair as not to interfere with this project.
6. The sanitary sewer which runs underneath the township storm sewer on Stiles Elementary property has a separation in it and has caused a large hole to appear in the utility easement on Stiles Elementary school property. This storm sewer and hole are in need of repair.

Ms. Keller addressed the topic of EMS billing and presented a resolution establishing the charges for emergency ambulance services provided by the Township of Prairie, Franklin County, State of Ohio, beginning September 9, 2002. Discussion followed and Chief Lavelly as well as the Prairie Township Fire Department is in favor of EMS billing in Prairie Township.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board adopt the resolution establishing the charges for emergency ambulance services provided by the Township of Prairie, Franklin County, State of Ohio and establishing collection charges for said charges. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye. (Resolution 9-02)

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Ms. Keller presented a resolution to contract with MBI Solutions, a third-party billing company, for the collection of emergency ambulance charges. Residents inquired about MBI's fee, which is 10% of the monies collected. MBI-Solutions offers to reduce the "Fee for Service" to 8.5% for each one month period if the Township electronically submits to MBI-Solutions and the Township provides all of the required billing information on 70% or more of the calls for one calendar month. Mr. Wharton will help with the electronic transmission in order to reduce the fee to 8.5%. Mr. Nourse asked Chief Lavelly to include, in the specifications for the medic truck, EMS billing equipment to electronically transmit.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board adopt the resolution to contract with MBI Solutions, a third-party billing company, for the collection of emergency ambulance charges. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye. (Resolution 10-02)

Ms. Keller presented the Board a contract with MBI-Solutions for EMS billing, executed on July 10, 2002, for a 1 year period.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the Chairman to sign the contract with MBI-Solutions for a period of 1 year, effective July 10, 2002. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye.

Mr. Nourse discussed the park tally for Lake Darby. The Dalebrook Court residents wanted mounds and plantings, Blue Lake Circle residents want plantings alone and a desire to keep the "open area" look. Questions were raised about lighting in the park and discussion followed. Ms. Bonnie Hamilton, Blue Lake Circle, requested a drawing to see what the area would look like when it is completed and Mr. Nourse stated that a drawing will be available at the next meeting. Final results of the tally will be mailed to residents that requested them and will be available at the next meeting.

Mr. Elie Sabbagh, Feller, Finch & Associates, addressed the Board to discuss the draft copy for the Roadway Improvements Planning Study that he completed for the township. The study addresses the condition of roadways and related infrastructure in 16 areas of the township that were evaluated. This information is for the use of the township in planning and budgeting for the future. A suggested schedule of improvements was included based on existing conditions and funding restrictions, complete with an estimated cost and a recommended funding scheme. The draft copy of this report is available at the township hall for residents to review. Mr. Sabbagh will attend the next regular trustee meeting, after he meets with Dave McAninch, to compose a final plan. Medfield Way improvements and handicap ramps in Lincoln Village South will be submitted to OPWC this year.

Bill Ashcraft asked if the study included traffic control devices and Mr. Sabbagh responded that the study was done for infrastructure only. Lincoln Village North and South were not included in the study.

Mr. Nourse stated that the Ohio EPA has their water quality management plan for the Scioto river Basin and Blacklick Creek, to include Prairie Township. Mr. Nourse stated that this is effectively: Does Columbus get to maintain their exclusive control over water and sewer or is the state in the process of breaking that up? Prairie Township is commenting as they did with the first plan which was the Columbus Metropolitan Facilities Plan. The input the township gave was critical in getting EPA intervention and preventing the acceptance of the Columbus Facilities Plan. The response will be completed by Friday, July 12 and copies will be available at the Township Hall. Effectively, the Township position is that Columbus should not have planning authority and control over Prairie Township.

Mr. Worthington addressed the Board about the annexation request of 15+/- acres at West Broad Street and Galloway Road. Mr. Worthington asked if all of the Board

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members will be fighting this annexation and attending the hearing on August 7, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. This annexation comes under the new annexation law. The annexation request is made up of 4 tracts and there is approximately 400' of frontage on West Broad. Mr. Worthington asked, "What is the approach the Board will take to oppose this annexation request as water and sewer is always an issue"? Mr. Nourse stated that this plan has not been finalized at this time.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk