

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/JULY 24, 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, Adam Riebel, and Elizabeth Anderson. (See attached list).

Mr. Wharton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the minutes as written for the regular meeting on July 10, 2002. Vote; Aye.

The Clerk presented the following items:

1. The Clerk informed the Board that an annexation petition was received on 5.8+/- acres on Trabue Road more or less in Norwich and Prairie Township(s). A hearing date has not been set at this time.
2. The Clerk informed the Board that an annexation petition was received on 17.8 +/- acres on Big Run South Road at Holt Road. A hearing date has not been set at this time.

Discussion followed regarding the new annexation laws and ORC Section 709.023. Legal counsel has been asked for clarification on these two annexations and how they will affect Prairie Township with regard to tax interest and maintaining services.

3. The Franklin County Engineers office is planning to improve Alkire Road from Gardner Road to Bausch/Kunz Road. Surveying is being done at this time and work will begin within the next few weeks.
4. The Clerk informed the Board that the Franklin County Trustees and Clerks Association night at Scioto Downs is scheduled for August 8, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.
5. The Clerk requested an amendment to the minutes of May 29, 2002 to reflect the Revised Estimate for the 2002 Road Improvement Project: **\$886,691.73** (to include the change order of \$16,529.18).

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the clerk amend the minutes of May 29, 2002 to reflect the corrected Revised Estimate for the 2002 Road Improvement Project \$886,691.73. Vote; Aye.

6. The Clerk suggested a cellular telephone for the Chairman of the Trustees at a cost of \$39.99/month with a \$36.00 activation fee. Mr. Nourse, Chairman, requested that the number be restricted to the immediate Township staff at this time.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve a cellular phone purchase for the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at a monthly cost of \$39.99 and an activation fee of \$36.00. Vote; Aye.

7. The Clerk presented the Board with "Pay Request Number 1" in the amount of \$169,148.16 from Darby Creek Excavating for the Hilton Avenue Project. The request was approved by Bischoff & Associates and requires the signature of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to submit to OPWC and CDBG.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve Pay Request Number 1 from Darby Creek Excavating in the amount of \$169,148.16 for the Hilton Avenue Project and approve the Chairman to sign. Vote; Aye.

8. The Clerk presented an Ohio Public Works Commission Disbursement Request Number 1 on the Hilton Avenue Project. The request is for \$118,403.71 which is 70% of Pay Request Number 1, as mentioned above, and is to be paid directly to Darby Creek Excavating.

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Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the Chairman to sign the Disbursement Request Number 1 to Ohio Public Works in the amount of \$118,403.71 for the Hilton Avenue Project. Vote; Aye.

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 \$69,115.70 and approve payment of the following bills (see pending warrant list). Vote; Aye.

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

1. The fire equipment grants are starting to move and Prairie Township has not been notified. They have made 11 awards in Ohio totaling \$1,250,000.00.
2. A letter has been received from the State of Ohio Board of EMS awarding Prairie Township \$2,145.00 for training and \$2,800.00 for equipment.
3. Chief Lavelly discussed replacing the Chief's car, a 1994 Ford with 108,000 miles. State bid is available on these vehicles. Estimate for a fully equipped Crown Victoria is \$26,000.00. Discussion was held on other vehicles that may meet the needs of the Fire Chief. Chief Lavelly will work up a price on the state bid package for the purchase of a new Crown Victoria, fully equipped.

Mr. Worthington addressed the Board regarding the City of Columbus starting EMS billing and asked whether Township residents would be billed for the co-payment when transported by the City of Columbus. Mr. Nourse stated that until the City of Columbus has passed a resolution on EMS billing, the details have not been finalized. Mr. Nourse feels that the City of Columbus is going to maximize their revenue with EMS billing. Per Chief Lavelly, Prairie Township benefits more than the City on the mutual aid arrangement currently in place. Mr. Nourse does not want Prairie Township to be involved in a countywide Fire/EMS agreement to service the City of Columbus.

Adam Riebel, Assistant Road Superintendent, appeared before the Board with the following Road Department matters:

1. The two sanitary sewer repairs are scheduled to start Monday, July 29, 2002 with Danhurst and Beacon Hill first to be followed by the Stiles Elementary School repair.
2. New flashing lights are scheduled to be installed by the Franklin County Engineer at Prairie Lincoln Elementary School. The lights will consist of new aluminum poles and underground electricity with LED flashers.
3. Pictures and a cost summary were presented for the Carilla & Weymouth drainage project.

Elie Sabbagh, Feller, Finch & Associates, appeared before the Board regarding the planning study. Mr. Sabbagh met today with Dave McAninch and Ms. Keller and the recommendations are to incorporate the overlay and replacement projects listed in the study with the annual Township improvements, in an attempt to be more successful in securing grants for the larger projects. For example, sidewalks, curbs and gutters in the Garden Heights, Little Farms and Rome Heights area projects are going to be costly and grants will be needed. Dave McAninch will update his 2-3 year plan to include some of the improvements mentioned in the study by Feller, Finch & Associates. Medfield Way and planned handicap ramp improvements for 2003, as determined by the Board, will be applied for and will be due to OPWC by October 7, 2002. The Lincoln Village North area improvements planned for 2003 qualify for CDBG funding and applications are due November 2, 2002. Construction plans may be needed on these projects based on the improvements and a cost estimate is required. Elie Sabbagh would like approval from the Board to reissue the summary on the report to include these recommendations which

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will be the final report.

Mr. Nourse expressed concern with handicap ramps installed in the Westpoint area using ODOT criteria for the installation. The criterion was wrong and repairs are needed. If grant monies are available for these improvements, he would like these repairs to be included in the future plan.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded to accept the report with changes as final and pursue the Medfield Way and handicap ramp application with the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC), due October 7, 2002 and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for improvements in the Lincoln Village North area, planned for in 2003, by the November 2, 2002 deadline. Vote; Aye.

Elizabeth Anderson, Zoning Inspector, appeared before the Board with the following Zoning Department matters:

1. The Zoning Commission met to discuss the property located between Inah Avenue and Norton Road, on both the north and south side of Owen Street. The request is to rezone the property from R-4 to EU (Exceptional Use) to allow for a development of 5.7 units per acre. The Zoning Commission approved this request by a unanimous vote. A resident was given a verbal commitment by M/I Homes for an additional buffer between the development and the resident's property. A request was made to schedule the Trustee hearing at the regular meeting on August 21, at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the Trustee hearing to rezone the property between Inah Avenue and Norton Road, on both the north and south side of Owen Street (106-RZ-02) to be held on August 21, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. Vote; Aye.

2. The proposed subdivision off of Bausch Road went in front of the Franklin County Tech Review committee where comments and concerns were discussed regarding the development of this property located along the Hellbranch. The concerns included floodplain and septic issues for the developer to take into consideration.

Mr. Nourse apologized and stated that the Lake Darby parks tally will be available next week and the letters to the residents will be sent within the next few days.

Mr. Wharton has been looking into a grant program for scrap tires for the walking tracks for the parks in Lake Darby. A \$25,000 grant is available for the walking tracks and the Solid Waste Authority will write the grant for Prairie Township.

Ms. Keller discussed NPDES Phase II, which is a mandate that Prairie Township have a plan, by the end of 2002, for stormwater and pollution control. Franklin County and representatives from Townships are working together on a cooperative plan. The plan addresses "6 Minimum Control Measures", primarily education. The plan must be submitted to the EPA by December 27, 2002. A draft from Franklin County is available for review. The NPDES Phase II draft will be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Reynolds, 106 Galloway Road, presented pictures of his property and flooding resulting from the recent heavy rain. When Galloway Road was widened there were 3-12" pipes installed across the road to drain on his property. As current and future development by Columbus continues, the flow of water has increased significantly. Franklin County has told Mr. Reynolds that they will address this issue when there is a problem, there is a problem now! Mr. Reynolds asked for assistance from the Board to correct this problem. The Westland Area Commission suggested that Mr. Reynolds talk to Prairie Township. Mr. Nourse stated that he will attempt to have the City of Columbus clean out ditches to correct stormwater problems in this area as they have in the Elnora and Tamara area.

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Mr. Kennedy, 6482 Tamara Avenue, stated that there was no flooding from the recent rains in his neighborhood. Mr. Nourse added that the area north of Prairie Township did not experience the significant rain and as a result the flow of water from the north was minimal.

Ms. Jan Pitts, Elm Park Place, addressed the Board and stated that she lives on a cul-de-sac where there has been head-in parking for several years. The Franklin County Sheriff's Department came to her residence today and stated that head-in parking was illegal and that the parking is to be parallel on that road. The sheriff stated that the head-in parking was impeding the flow of traffic. Ms. Pitts contacted ODOT and was informed that unless the Township has an ordinance regarding parking in the area, ODOT does not have a problem with head-in parking. Mr. Wharton asked if this was as a result of a complaint and Ms. Pitts was investigating what prompted the citation.

Ms. Keller stated that within the next few weeks she has planned a meeting with Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent and Capt. Terry Sanders, Fire Prevention, to determine which Township roads have parking problems with the primary consideration being Fire/EMS and snow plowing equipment. Mr. Nourse will contact Mr. Michael Meeks with the Franklin County Engineers office and discuss the matter.

Ms. Pitts stated that there is also a problem with basketball hoops in the road right-of-way and this is an unsafe situation for the children in the area. Mr. Adam Riebel, Road Department, will identify the properties that have basketball hoops in the right-of-way and a letter will be sent from the Township requesting that they are removed. Ms. Anderson, Zoning Department, stated that the basketball hoops have been an ongoing problem and requested the Board communicate via the local newspapers and Township newsletter that basketball hoops are not permitted.

Mr. Howard Yager, 59 Lennox Avenue, addressed the Board with concerns experienced during the recent rain on Rome Hilliard Road north of West Broad Street. Mr. Nourse stated that the Road Superintendent was informed previously that the Franklin County Engineers are working on this problem. Mr. Nourse will call Mr. Gary Palatas with the Engineers office and determine the status of addressing the problem, and see if several of the drainage structures have failed.

Ms. Sherri Davis, 54 Rome Hilliard Road, stated that her entire property was under water after the storm of July 23rd and finally drained after 6 hours. Mr. Nourse stated that this drainage time is unacceptable. Mr. Nourse will advise these residents of the outcome of his conversation with the Franklin County Engineers.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk