

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/NOVEMBER 24, 2003

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order by the Chairperson Ms. Keller, with Mr. Wharton, Mr. Nourse and Ms. Montag present. Also attending were: Chief Lavelly, Mr. Hatmaker, Ms. Swisher, Mr. McAninch and Ms. Brock. (See attached list).

Ms. Keller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the minutes as written for the regular meeting of November 12, 2003. Vote; Aye

Sgt. Bains from the Sheriff's Department Special Investigations Unit (SIU) discussed their new drug interdiction. Sgt. Bains and is willing to give presentations to business owners and block watch programs. Their focus is on high level drug dealers and informed residents if anyone knows of a drug house or has questions to give his office a call. Office number is 614-462-3318, Fax number is 614-462-5245.

The Clerk presented the following items:

The Clerk reported the Franklin County Township Association will have their Christmas Party on Thursday, December 4, 2003, at the Heimat Haus in Grove City.

The Clerk reported the Emergency Management Agency for Franklin County will hold their Advisory Council Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on December 17, 2003, at the City of Columbus Transportation Division.

The Clerk presented a letter from the Ohio Public Entity Consortium of a rate increase for Delta Dental for dental insurance premiums for the year 2004. The new monthly rates are as follows:

Employee Only \$24.43
Employee with one dependant \$52.00
Employee with two or more dependants \$92.76

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve a rate increase for Delta Dental for dental insurance premiums for the year 2004. The new 2004 monthly rates are employee only \$24.43, employee with one dependant \$52.00 and employee with two or more dependants \$92.76. Roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Mr. Nourse; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

The Clerk discussed the Employee Christmas Luncheon and Ms. Montag recommended the Board approve an open invitation to former and present employees as well as elected officials for a luncheon on December 24th at 11:00 a.m. at the Township Hall. The suggestion was made to purchase the food and supplies at a cost not to exceed \$350.00

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve holding a Christmas luncheon on December 24, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. at the Township Hall open to present and former employees and elected officials at a cost not to exceed \$350.00. Vote; Aye

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

\$10,000.00 from 1000-210-370-0000 to 1000-610-599-0000.

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$79,140.13 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

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Mr. Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent, addressed the Board with the following Road Department matters:

1. Mr. McAninch presented a quote from Peterman Tree Service for tree removal in the right of way at 321 Lawrence, grind stump and remove debris, in the amount of \$950.00

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve tree removal in the right of way at 321 Lawrence, grind stump and remove debris, from Peterman Tree Service in the amount of \$950.00. Vote; Aye

2. Mr. McAninch received a copy of Resolution No. 984-03 from the Franklin County Engineer's office accepting the streets referenced for maintenance by the Prairie Township Trustees. Mr. McAninch has added those streets to the township road inventory.
3. Mr. McAninch discussed the snow and ice removal for the City of Columbus on Doherty Rd. Since Doherty Rd. has been annexed to Columbus. Mr. McAninch has asked for an updated contract and will update the Board when he receives it. Dave recommended that we continue to provide the service to the City of Columbus.
4. Mr. McAninch updated the Board on the Vermin Control. There have been 21 raccoons and 2 opossums trapped in the storm sewers, two-thirds of which have been in Lake Darby. Mr. McAninch said he would provide a complete breakdown at the next meeting.

Ms. Connie Swisher, Zoning Inspector addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department matters:

1. Ms. Swisher presented pictures of a proposed new professional office building development at the corner of W. Broad and Inah Ave. across from Doctors Hospital. The builder is requesting a variance on the number of parking spaces from the BZA.
2. Ms. Swisher presented a new proposal, for an office park at the northwest corner of Inah Ave. and Palmetto. Mr. Shockly, Franklin County Sanitary Engineer, said sanitary is already available for the site. Mr. Shockly will be extending a six inch water line north up Inah Ave. to service the fire department and this site out of his own budget. Mr. Shockly requested a letter from the Trustees for his file requesting the work be done for development and to improve the service to the firehouse.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the letter be written to Mr. Shockly, Franklin County Sanitary Engineer, extending a six inch water line up Inah Ave. to improve service to the fire department and for development. Vote; Aye.

3. Ms. Swisher updated the Board on the violations on Alton Rd. The court date is December 18, 2003.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to rescind the motion accepting the resignation of Mr. Ken Hibbert, Chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals, effective December 6, 2003. Vote; Aye

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board accepted the resignation of Mr. Ken Hibbert, Chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals, effective December 9, 2003. Vote; Aye

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

1. Firefighter Rob Cloud gave a presentation on the Wellness and Fitness program and its importance to the firefighters and the community.
2. Chief Lavelly stated that he received a resignation letter from full-time firefighter Brian Gatley effective December 1, 2003. He has accepted a position with the Norwich Township Fire Department. Chief Lavelly said Brian would like to stay on the Prairie Township Fire Department part-time.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board accept the resignation of full-time firefighter Brian Gatley effective December 1, 2003. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board accept the request from firefighter Brian Gatley to remain on the Prairie Township Fire Department as a part-time fireman. Vote; Aye

3. Chief Lavelly requested disability leave for firefighter Dan Ellinger effective December 1, 2003 and December 4, 2003.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve disability leave for firefighter Dan Ellinger effective December 1, 2003 and December 4, 2003. Vote; Aye.

4. Chief Lavelly requested vacation carry-over for firefighter Donald Goldhardt of 100 hours. This was tabled until next meeting December 10, 2003.

Ms. Pitts asked the Chief for an update on the fire by the water tower behind Village Park. The Chief didn't have any details at this time.

Mr. Tracy Hatmaker, Administrator, addressed the Board with the following Administrative matters:

1. Mr. Hatmaker read a few letters from Ms. Owens, third grade class at Prairie Lincoln, regarding community service and safety. The class would like to volunteer in the community. Mr. Hatmaker recommended the class adopt a park. Mr. Hatmaker and Ms. Keller are speaking to the class on December 4, 2003.
2. Mr. Hatmaker and Elie Sabbagh from Feller, Finch and Associates, discussed the Palmetto Street Issue 2 Project and seems to think it will be funded for approximately 1.2 million in grants and loans.

Mr. Pitts addressed to the Board about the lack of patrolling of the Sheriff's Department in the Village Park Subdivision, regarding the speeders and dirt bikes in the area. Mr. Pitts was advised to contact Sheriff Karnes or his Lt.

Ms. Keller on behalf of the township wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Chairperson

Clerk