

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/APRIL 2, 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. Easter present. Also attending were: Chief Lavelly, Dave McAninch, Jim Strunk and Elizabeth Anderson. (See attached list).

Mr. Wharton introduced two members of Boy Scout Troop 161 to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 19, 2003 and the special meetings on March 20th, 26th, 2003 and April 1, 2003. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Keller introduced Mr. James Tomlinson, a representative from Walnut Grove Playgrounds. Mr. Tomlinson explained the features and benefits of the recycled playground equipment that he offers and he left catalogs for anyone interested.

The Clerk presented the following items:

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the Clerk increase the revenue and appropriations in fund 2281 by \$180,000.00 and fund 9002 by \$1,500.00. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the following supplemental appropriations:

\$10,000.00 from 2281-230-420-0000 to 2281-230-360-0000

1. The Franklin County Township Association will hold their next meeting at the Columbus Zoo on April 10, 2003 at 6:00 p.m.

The Trustees received and reviewed the financial statements for the month of March, 2003.

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$78,428.00 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

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

1. Mr. McAninch explained that there will be a re-dedication ceremony at the Alton M.E. Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 26, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. Operation Flag Program, coordinated through Mr. Joe Testa's office, Operation Flag, would like to conduct a presentation at the April 30, 2003 regular trustee meeting detailing the enhancements in the cemetery and would like to invite any descendants of the veterans buried in the cemetery to attend. Dave McAninch asked that a mention of the presentation at the April 30, 2003 meeting and the rededication of the cemetery on Memorial Day be printed in the local newspaper.
2. The Road Superintendent presented the 2003 crack seal estimate of \$19,912.80 for Prairie Township from the Franklin County Engineers. Prairie Township will be doing the 2003 crack seal work in conjunction with the Franklin County project and Mr. McAninch requested that the Board appropriate this money for the project.

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Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the Franklin County Engineers include the Prairie Township crack seal work for 2003 with their project for the year at a total cost of \$19,912.80. Vote; Aye.

3. The Road Superintendent explained the annual program, which was started last year, where the Township purchased a 2002 John Deere tractor from JD Equipment Inc. for the purpose of mowing parks and the right-of-ways on a governmental purchase plan where at the end of one year, for a flat fee of \$750.00 and \$5.00 per hour (205 hours used in 2002) Prairie Township will trade in the old tractor and receive a new 2003 tractor at a total cost of \$1,775.00.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the trade-in of a 2002 John Deere Tractor for a new 2003 John Deere Tractor from J.D. Equipment on the governmental purchase plan at a total cost of \$1,775.00 which is \$750.00 plus \$1,025.00 (\$5.00 x 205 hours). Vote; Aye.

4. Dave McAninch updated the Board on the sidewalk replacement program on the roads scheduled for construction in the 2003 road improvement project in which 75 residents are interested in participating. Mr. Nourse read a resolution declaring intent to repair certain sidewalks in the Township, levy special assessments and set a hearing date. The date of the hearing will be April 30, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve a resolution declaring intent to repair certain sidewalks and levy special assessments and set a hearing date of April 30, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye. (Resolution 4-03).

5. The Road Superintendent explained a problem with the sanitary lateral at the Township Hall, 23 Maple Drive, which started March 14, 2003. Several contractors were asked to bid on the emergency repair of the lateral which is 18' deep at the main and an estimate of \$32,792.00 was received from Darby Creek Excavating and an estimate of \$18,610.00 from Trucco Construction. Trucco Construction started on the job at the cost of \$18,610.00 and the Franklin County Sanitary Engineer has agreed to share the cost of the repair with the Township. Trucco Construction will also replace the lateral from the main to the building, a portion of which is 18' deep, at a total cost of \$3,294.00 which required an excavation permit and a deposit of \$1,350.00 which was received.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve Trucco Construction repair the sanitary lateral, due to an emergency at the Township Hall, at a cost of \$18,610.00. The cost will be shared by the Franklin County Sanitary Engineer. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve Trucco Construction replace the lateral from the main to the building, due to an emergency, at a total cost of \$3,294.00. The Franklin County Sanitary Engineers will not share in this cost. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

6. Dave McAninch explained the annual street sweeping process and presented a 2003 proposal from Contract Sweepers for one sweep at \$5,000.00, two sweeps at \$8,300.00 and three sweeps at \$11,500.00. Discussion followed and the Board tabled the proposal until the next meeting in an effort to work with the Franklin County Sheriff's office in an attempt to remove any junk vehicles on the roads.
7. The Road Superintendent is working on a price for the storm sewer extension in the town of Galloway and has requested that Franklin County survey the

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area and has received permission from the Franklin County Engineers to tap into the storm on Galloway Road.

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

1. Last Thursday on Darby Creek Drive, there was a basement fire which resulted in a loss estimated at approximately \$50,000, no firefighters were injured in this fire.
2. Chief Lavelly requested the Board approve the purchase of 3 heart monitors (EKG's) on the state bid contract #DH 772652A, (a savings of \$17,032.00 off retail including trading in 3 monitors), from Medtronic Physio-Control Corp. at a total cost of \$45,205.00.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the purchase of 3 heart monitors (EKG's) from Medtronic Physio-Control Corp., with trade-in of 3 monitors on state bid, at a total cost of \$45,205.00. Vote; Aye.

3. Chief Lavelly recommended the Board approve Lt. Kern and FF Stickel attend a 2 day FDIC conference held in Indianapolis, IN on April 4 & 5, 2003, for the purpose of working on apparatus specifications.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve Lt. Kern and FF Stickel attend a 2 day FDIC conference in Indianapolis, IN on April 4 & 5, 2003, at a cost of \$210.00 to cover admission and lodging, reimbursement for mileage and meals not to exceed \$100.00 for both. Vote; Aye.

4. Chief Lavelly recommended the Board accept the resignation of part-time FF Robert Schmidt off the roster effective April 2nd due to the fact that he has taken another full-time position.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board accepted the resignation of FF Robert Schmidt effective April 2, 2003. Vote; Aye.

5. Chief Lavelly recommended the Board approve placing FF Goldhardt on injury leave and reinstate sick time used, effective 2/17/03.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve, based on Chief Lavelly's recommendation, injury leave for FF Goldhardt effective 2/17/03. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Jim Strunk, Zoning Inspector, addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department matters:

1. Mr. Strunk stated that 17 violation letters have been sent out since the last meeting and a total violation letters for the month of March is 58. Mr. Strunk stated that he is receiving numerous inquiries when the letter is received and voluntary compliance. The Residential Permit Guide has been made available to the residents in the lobby of the Township Hall and at the Westland Area Library.
2. The Zoning Inspector reported that a hearing is scheduled for April 18, 2003 at 10:30 a.m. on the Tad Hay case in Judge Charles Snyder's court.
3. Mr. Strunk and Mr. Bill Loveland; Loveland & Brosius, met with Mr. Carney of Kelly's Auto and informed him that prior to issuing a zoning permit, several items need to be addressed such as approval from the State Building Inspector for development plans and fire inspection and a new flood plain determination coordinated with Franklin County.

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4. The Carney, Seeger and Robinson cases are scheduled to be in court on April 24, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. The Galloway Mill case is scheduled in court on May 9, 2003 at 2:00 p.m.
5. Mr. Strunk requested permission from the Board to pursue legal action against the property at 575 Murnan Road for illegal outdoor storage and parking of an over-length and overweight truck in a residential district.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the Zoning Inspector pursue legal action against the property owner at 575 Murnan Road. Vote; Aye.

6. The Zoning Inspector stated that the Franklin County Planning Commission will review the two applications for rezoning submitted to the Township on April 10, 2003.
7. Mr. Strunk and Mr. Sabbagh; Feller, Finch & Associates, visited the Bound Tree Parr location on Kunz Road and gathered preliminary information for the Select Commercial Planned District (SCPD) application with the possibility of installing a turn lane in front of this business. The Zoning Inspector will not issue a permit until the final two items, a traffic study and a comprehensive draining plan, are submitted to the Franklin County Zoning Commission and the Board of Trustees. Mr. Wharton stated that the business is looking for a state grant for improvements.
8. The Zoning Inspector stated that at the April 8, 2003 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, variance applications will be presented for a variance for a residential setback and a variance for an existing business across from Doctors West Hospital where they are proposing to expand the medical offices.

Mr. Ison addressed the Board drawing attention to the Home Depot fence along the freeway which is littered with paper and debris. Mr. Strunk will investigate.

Mr. Stakely addressed the issue of off-street parking regulations in the Township. Mr. Strunk stated that if parking is in the easement, the Franklin County Sheriff will enforce parking violations. The Zoning Inspector has been working with legal counsel regarding amendments to the code when the comprehensive plan is complete and the parking issue will be considered for an amendment at that time.

Deputy Foster, Franklin County Sheriff Department, addressed the Board and stated that there have been several break-ins in all areas of the Township between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon and would like to notify the residents to watch for suspicious activity in their neighborhoods. Ms. Keller discussed a Block Watch Program in her neighborhood and recommended communities contact the Sheriff's department to start a program in other neighborhoods.

Mr. Pitts stated that there is still a curfew problem in the Village Park area and Deputy Foos stated that earlier this week he had sent some children home after curfew on Elm Park Place.

Ms. Elizabeth Anderson, Township Administrator, addressed the Board with the following administrative issues:

1. Ms. Anderson stated that Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent, is interested in attending a heavy construction materials class, which pertains directly to his position, at Columbus State University on his free time from March 31, 2003 to June 14, 2003 and would like to be considered for reimbursement upon completion.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve Dave McAninch attend a heavy construction material course at Columbus State University from March 31,

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2003 to June 14, 2003 and to be reimbursed upon completion based on his final grade. Vote; Aye.

2. Ms. Anderson discussed the CLOUT (Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships) program and requested approval of \$200.00 for an annual membership. A resolution was presented for approval by the Board.

Mr. Wharton moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the Administrator join the CLOUT program at an annual fee of \$200.00. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye. (Resolution 5-03)

3. The Township Administrator stated that the Spring Clean Up is being planned for May 2nd through May 12, 2003 and when dumpster locations are finalized, an announcement will be made. Ms. Anderson presented other clean-up/recycling opportunities available in the surrounding areas such as computer recycling, hazardous waste collection sites, used battery trade-in and general recycling locations. A list of opportunities will be included in the next Township newsletter.

Mr. Nourse addressed a potential summer youth hire program in the Township. Mr. Nourse recommended Prairie Township establish a fund for a summer hire program for a maximum of 25 Township students from 12-16 years of age, to perform manual odd jobs from June 16th until August 18, 2003. Legal counsel has advised that hourly pay will be at minimum wage with workers compensation and no other benefits, maximum of 12 hours per week per person, program administration under the Road Department, 1-2 adult supervisors hired (preferably teachers from the local schools) at \$10/hr with workers compensation and a possible bonus with no other benefits. Mr. Elavsky, 210 Topsfield, will coordinate the youth efforts. Working hours will be from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Monday - Friday. A work permit and a release form will be obtained prior to starting the program.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded, the Board appropriate a total of \$9,000.00 for adult supervisors, total minimum wage for a maximum of 25 students of \$27,000.00 plus \$10,000.00 for materials for a total appropriation not to exceed \$46,000.00. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

Mr. Nourse stated that as a result of the snow removal efforts of this past winter, the 3rd largest snowfall in history, a suggestion was made for a bonus for each snow removal employee involved in recognition of their outstanding efforts this season.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve a one-time bonus of \$250.00 each for William Stickel, Billy Floyd and John Holderby and one-time bonus of \$300.00 to Adam Riebel, Assistant Road Superintendent and a one-time bonus of \$400 to Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent for overseeing the snow removal efforts this season. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Wharton mentioned that he felt it would be helpful for himself to have a laptop computer at his disposal when out of the Township Hall. More information and details will be available at the next meeting.

Mr. Ison addressed the Tamara Avenue drainage issue and the easement option. Mr. Nourse explained the delay with the City of Columbus in installing the pipe in the new easement. Discussion followed regarding the need for the easement.

Mr. Stakely requested an update on the status of the park improvements for the Lincoln Village North area as a result of the survey that was submitted to the Board of Trustees. The park area includes the Deerfield, Buena Vista, and Beacon Hill Road areas. Mr. Nourse stated that the equipment should be in the parks by the end of this year.

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Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board adjourn into executive session at 8:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Fire Department personnel matters. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board resume the regular meeting at 10:10 p.m. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board adjourn into executive session at 10:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a zoning personnel matter. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board resume the regular meeting at 10:35 p.m. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board terminate the internship work agreement with Ms. Stacey Blankenship effective April 3, 2003. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board recessed the regular meeting at 10:35 p.m. on April 2, 2003 until Thursday, April 3, 2003 at 7:30 a.m. at the Township Hall, 23 Maple Drive, Columbus, Ohio. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board reconvene the regular meeting at 7:30 a.m. on April 3, 2003 that was recessed on April 2, 2003 at 10:35 p.m. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board adjourn into executive session at 7:30 a.m., for the purpose of discussing Fire Department personnel matters. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board reconvene the regular meeting at 8:12 a.m. on April 3, 2003. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the hiring of the following individuals as full-time Firefighter/Paramedics with Prairie Township, based on the condition that the physical examinations are passed, at an annual salary of \$28,000 per year to include all benefits according to the current Union Local 2985 contract effective April 16, 2003: Mr. David McKinney, Mr. Kevin Wade, Mr. Jeff Taynor and Mr. Dan Ellinger. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 a.m. on April 3, 2003

Chairperson

Clerk