

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/MAY 12, 2004

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Wharton, with Mr. Stormont, Ms. Keller and Ms. Montag present. Also attending were: Chief Feustel, Mr. Hatmaker, Ms. Swisher, Mr. McAninch and Ms. Deuschle. (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 of April 28, 2004 and special meetings April 28, 2004. Vote; Aye

The Clerk presented the following items:

1. Mr. Elie Sabbagh presented to the Board for signature the final contracts for the 2003 Curb Ramp Improvement Project that was awarded to G. Marchi & Sons. Also to sign a letter updating the new Chairperson to Mr. Wharton.
2. Mr. Sabbagh updated the Board on the Medfield Way Improvement Project a change order was needed for drainage pipe for a total of \$6,550.00 which is still under the contract price.
3. Mr. Sabbagh presented to the Board for signature the partial payment estimate schedule for the Medfield Way Improvement Project for a total of \$71,346.07. The Township's portion is \$18,549.98 and OPWC's portion is \$52,796.09.
4. Mr. Sabbagh announced the pre-construction meeting for the 2003 Curb Ramp Improvement Project will be May 21, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. at the Township Hall meeting room.
5. Mr. Sabbagh presented to the Board preliminary drawings for the Township Hall rehabilitation.

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the payment of the Paycor payroll in the amount of \$93,658.26 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

Deputy Foster reported to the Board an increase in burglaries in the area. Gave a description of two white males driving an older model blue Oldsmobile car.

Ms. Cunningham ask the Sheriff to monitor the woods behind Prairie Lincoln Elementary School, kids are drinking and smoking in the woods. Deputy Foster responded that anytime residents see or hear anything to call the Sheriff's Department.

A resident asked about getting the speed monitor on Lumbar Road for speeders. Deputy Foster responded to call the Sheriff's Department to request the monitor.

Ms. Pitts asked about the car jacking at 800 Galloway Road, she found the victim at approximately 6:00 a.m. Deputy Foster was unaware of the status of the victim.

Mr. Jones asked about getting speed bumps on Lumbar Road. Mr. Wharton stated the ORC does not give the Township the authority to put speed bumps on our roads. Mr. Wharton suggested that residents write our State Representative Mr. Larry Wopert expressing their concerns giving home rule townships the proper authority. A discussion followed.

A couple of residents thanked the Sheriff's Department on a job well done.

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

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1. Ms. Swisher updated the Board on the Annual Spring Clean-Up efforts. Thanked the volunteers of Lake Darby Estates for all their efforts in cleaning up vacant properties in the area.
2. Ms. Swisher updated the Board on several court cases. The property in Little Farms is now in compliance. The property on West Broad Street awaiting signature for a judgment entry. The appellant court rendered a decision in our favor. Contempt charges being filed on another case.
3. Ms. Swisher updated the Board that the Zoning Commission held a special meeting to review the three new conservation districts and will hopefully have a final copy ready by the next trustees meeting.

A resident asked about a vacant property where trash was left on the porch and in the shed. Ms. Swisher assured the resident that zoning is doing everything possible to get it cleaned up.

A resident who lives on Fernhill stated the Township needs the property maintenance code to get these properties cleaned up.

A resident asked who is responsible for easements. Doctors Hospital is dumping trash into utility easement. Ms. Swisher said she would contact the utility company to get the easement cleaned up.

Mr. Reynolds asked about the used car lot next to him. Ms. Swisher stated property was re-zoned for business use and she would continue to make sure the owners are in compliance. Mr. Reynolds thanked Ms. Swisher and her department for all their hard work.

Ms. Marjorie Deuschle, Senior Center Director, addressed the Board with the following Senior Center matters:

1. Ms. Deuschle requested the Board to approve bonding for Ms. Deuschle and Ms. Scior, Treasurer at \$50.00 each.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve bonding for Ms. Deuschle and Ms. Scior, Treasurer at \$50.00 each. Vote; Aye.

2. Ms. Deuschle requested the Board to approve Fitness Equipment Experts for exercise equipment for \$7,000.00.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board to approve Fitness Equipment Experts for exercise equipment for \$7,000.00. Vote; Aye.

3. Ms. Deuschle updated the Board of hiring Ms. Shannon Shull a fitness instructor as a sub-contractor for the Senior Center.
4. Ms. Deuschle updated the Board the Senior Center will be open on June 1, 2004 and tentatively scheduled a open house for June 16th or 17th.

Mr. Distlehorst asked why non-residents membership fee is so low. Ms. Deuschle responded that non-resident memberships are increased approximately ten percent. All the activities are at an additional cost as well with non-residents being increased.

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

1. Chief Feustel updated the Board on the Chiefs vehicle, lights and radios have been installed and the striping should be completed within the next two weeks.

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2. Chief Feustel requested the Board to approve Boiland and Cannon for \$2,500.00 to upgrade the fire departments walkie talkies and radios.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve Boiland and Cannon for \$2,500.00 to upgrade the fire departments walkie talkies and radios. Vote; Aye.

3. Chief Feustel requested the Board to approve \$890.00 to purchase a training dummy.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve up to \$900.00 to purchase a training dummy. Vote; Aye.

4. Chief Feustel updated the Board the hydrant flushing is completed with the exception of Darby Estates and a private contractor will be conducting that flushing the week of May 18, 2004.
5. Chief Feustel updated the Board on the completion of the Captain and Lieutenant Assessment upon receipt of the scores he will present the scores to the Board at that time.
6. Chief Feustel updated the Board on the part-time firefighters waiting for the background checks to be completed and will update the Board when the results are received to complete the hiring process.
7. Chief Feustel requested the Board to approve \$750.00 to repair tanker 241.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve \$750.00 to repair tanker 241. Vote; Aye.

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

1. Mr. McAninch updated the Board on mid-block crosswalks according to Mr. Meeks from Franklin County Engineers office an engineering study needs to be done prior to installation. Mr. McAninch requested the Board to approve sending a letter to the Franklin County Engineers office requesting a study be done Township wide.
2. Mr. McAninch updated the Board on the catch basin cleaning. The Board approved up to \$30,000.00 the final bill was for \$13,000.00.
3. Mr. McAninch presented information to the Board on bio-diesel alternative fuel and will present future updates.
4. Mr. McAninch presented to the Board an estimate from Franklin County Engineer for the Townships 2004 Road Work for \$928,688.10.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve Franklin County Engineer to prepare plans for bidding for the Townships 2004 Road Work. Vote; Aye.

5. Mr. McAninch announced Memorial Day Services at the cemeteries. May 31, 2004 at 11:30 a.m. Alton Cemetery and May 31, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. Galloway Cemetery.

Ms. Cunningham asked when mosquito spraying would start. Mr. McAninch responded it has been dictated by how many phone calls he receives.

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

1. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board to approve Ohio Insurance Agency for \$600.00 for the Cobra Administration contract

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve Ohio Insurance agency for \$600.00 for the Cobra Administration contract. Vote; Aye.

2. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board to approve a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Land to the City of Columbus for it's Norton road Improvement Project.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Land to the City of Columbus for it's Norton Road Improvement Project. Vote; Aye.

3. Mr. Hatmaker updated the Board on the 2005 Budget process and will have a draft ready by June 9, 2004.
4. Mr. Hatmaker updated the Board on the property maintenance code draft is ready and public meetings are tentatively scheduled on June 2, 2004 and June 7, 2004. A discussion followed.

Old Business:

Ms. Pitts asked about the forming of the Trash collection committee. Mr. Hatmaker stated the Township is currently working on budget priorities and it will be forth coming.

Mr. Greg Hart addressed the Board about the Township doing storm sewer improvements on property in the Township. Mr. Wharton responded that it is a complicated matter and the Board is reviewing the matter.

New Business:

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded, the Board adjourn into Executive Session to discuss with council pending legal matters at 9:03 p.m. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded, the Board to resume the regular meeting at 9:30 p.m. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Chairperson

Clerk