

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/MARCH 30, 2005

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

Mr. Stormont led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stormont requested the approval of the minutes be tabled until April 13, 2005 regular meeting.

The Clerk presented the following items:

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$94,911.49 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

Mr. Kennedy asked about the status on the minutes. The Clerk replied that the Board gave their changes on Monday and they will be done by next meeting.

Mr. Elie Sabbagh requested the Board to approve payment number two for 2K General for \$27,937.84 for the Township Building Renovation Project.

Mr. Elie Sabbagh updated the Board on the Palmetto Project the drawings are at the County for review and construction should start in June 2005.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve payment number two for 2K General for \$27,937.84 for the Township Building Renovation Project. Vote; Aye.

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

1. Mr. McAninch requested the Board to approve advertising for the 2005 Summer Youth Program.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve advertising for the 2005 Summer Youth Program.

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

1. Chief Feustel updated the Board on the Fire Levy and presented a draft copy of the flier.

Deputy Timbrook reported to the Board an increase in drug arrest. In Lincoln Park there was a drug arrest. There have been a lot of attempted burglaries, Speedway was robbed and LA Tan was robbed.

Ms. Jeri Stumbo said the small grey car with one headlight is still driving around the Garden Heights area.

Ms. Lani Cunningham asked about the shooting on Hilton and Sturbridge. Deputy Timbrook replied he was not on duty and he would look into it.

Deputy Downing said to report frequent people coming and going from homes to the Sheriff's Department.

A resident complained about no one stops at the stop sign on Green Street.

Mr. Hatmaker asked where to send a letter to ask the Sheriff's Department for

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increase patrolling on Palmetto when construction starts. Deputy Timbrook said to mail it to 1945 Frebis Avenue, Columbus, OH 43206.

Ms. Jeri Stumbo said people don't stop at Old Village and Beacon Hill stop sign. A discussion followed.

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

1. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board to approve the 2005 Permanent Appropriations.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve the 2005 Permanent Appropriations.

2. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board to approve and the Chair to sign AEP utility easement approval at Norton and Palmetto Roads.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve and the Chair to sign AEP utility easement approval at Norton and Palmetto Roads. Vote; Aye.

3. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board to approve the Group Life Insurance renewal with no rate increase.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board to approve the Group Life Insurance renewal with no rate increase.

4. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board to approve vacation carry over of 32 hours for Chief Feustel.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve vacation carry over of 32 hours for Chief Feustel. Vote; Aye.

A resident asked if Mr. Hatmaker contacted COTA about the buses on Frost and Grener. Mr. Hatmaker replied that he contacted COTA and Frost and Grener are part of COTA's route 10.

A resident complained about trains sitting at Rome Hilliard track for extended periods. Mr. Hatmaker said he would look into it.

Announcements:

Ms. Ardis Offensend announced there will be a public rally at Westland Mall in front of Macy's on April 4, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. in support for the South Western School Levy.

Ms. Keller announced on April 16, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. on the Phillips property there will be a tree planting

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve up to \$100.00 for the tree planting and hot dogs.

Old Business:

Mr. Stormont opened the floor for comments on the Solid Waste Contract. Mr. Stormont stated the Township has ability to enter into an exclusive contract to service the entire Township. A Committee was put in place with thirteen members and Mr. Hatmaker. The Committee met six times and delivered their report to the Board on March 23, 2005. The Committee voted 9 votes to keep it as is and 3 votes to enter into a contract. They also voted if the Township entered into a contract what form

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should it take single hauler they voted for two. Single hauler dividing into districts voted one, non exclusive nine.

Mr. Stormont opened the floor for comments and stated the rules for public comment will be followed.

Ms. Diana Fine stated her concerns were she didn't want the large containers everywhere and whoever they choose were they going to take everything.

Mr. Tony Taylor stated he was a member of the committee and gave the recommendation to the Board already and no further discussion was needed.

Mr. Robert Cumberlander owner of Cumberlander Refuge stated he was not aware that the Board was looking into this. His number one priority is to give good service. He has put lift axels on his trucks to decrease the loads he carries. He is concerned for his customers that they will not get the good service that he provides.

Ms. Mary Farley stated she has had Cumberlander all her life. She stated you get what you pay for. She likes the service that Cumberlander provides. If a committee makes a decision that should be a done deal.

Mr. Bob Schultz stated he also served on the Committee and it started out what are we doing here. He stated there were pros and cons. He stated everyone is happy the way things are so do what the people want.

Mr. Bill Hoyt stated why not take the committee's advice and leave it the way it is.

Ms. Jan Pitts stated she was on the committee and stated the reason most of the members of the committee joined was they wanted to keep Cumberlander. She stated not everyone in the Township has the opportunity to have Cumberlander. She stated that Cumberlander has the same opportunity to bid on the contract as other companies.

Mr. John Waldman stated why isn't the Board supporting local businesses.

Ms. Lani Cunningham stated she also had the privilege serving on the committee. She stated recycling is very important and in the next 20 years our landfills will be full.

Mr. Bob Fill served on the committee and with 75% of the committees vote. He wants to stay with a non exclusive contract.

Ms. Marian Reeves stated she is very happy with her hauler. Why take away one of her last rights to choose who hauls her trash away.

Ms. Stephanie Prince who represents Mr. Cumberlander stated any government at any level is held accountable by their constituents. She stated she has been approached by residents and willing to follow this thru to referendum.

Ms. Brenda Hoy stated she has a choice which hauler she has and wants to keep it that way.

Ms. Ardis Offensend stated she has had Cumberlander for years and is happy with them.

Mr. Dennis Skaggs also was on the committee. He wanted to know if the Board has gone out in the community and spoke with residents of what they want. Mr. Wharton replied that he has spoke with lots of residents. Ms. Keller stated she also has spoken with residents who want a single hauler over a couple of years.

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Mr. Neil Distlehorst stated his big concern is putting a small business man out of business or hurt his business extensively. He asks the Board if they could enter into a non exclusive contact. Mr. Pete Griggs stated the Board could.

Mr. Charles Rearick stated their are five school buses three times a day and they are doing just as much damage to the roads as the trash haulers.

Mr. Steve Kennedy stated he didn't think the Prairie Township Government body should be in charge of their trash.

Mr. Gene Jones stated he has Cumberlander and is very happy and doesn't want to change.

Mr. Stormont stated he heard the public speak and the committee speak and as far as he was concerned he was with them. He didn't see a reason to go with it but he is only one vote.

Ms. Keller stated she had some questions for the committee which was her purpose getting questions answered different points which she felt should be in a contract. She feels there should be a lot of stipulations of what can and can't be done. There should be a complaint driven system. Her opinion is she hopes Mr. Cumberlander looks at this as an opportunity. The bid is not always the cheapest it is the best and the lowest. It is her opinion that the Board needs to do this. She asked the committee for recommendations of what stipulations should be included in a contract. She hopes that Mr. Cumberlander includes himself in the bid process.

Mr. Wharton stated he is in the same lines with Ms. Keller. As many of the recommendations from the committee should be included in the bid package.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve Mr. Hatmaker put an exclusive trash hauler bid package together. A roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Nay.

New Business:

Public Comment:

Mr. Russ Pitts glad to see the Board make a decision and applauds them.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Clerk