

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/FEBRUARY 15, 2006

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

Mr. Stormont led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Corporal Ing announced a new deputy for the T-32 car Deputy Weiner.

A resident asked if they have caught the shooter at Long Shots. Deputy Weiner responded they have not.

Mr. Mike Ison stated the Sheriff's Department is giving warnings for parking on the sidewalks and how can you give warnings when there is no law. Deputy Weiner responded it is in the Ohio Revised Code.

Mr. Gene Jones asked how do you get action out of the detective bureau. He had some things stolen out of his house that were recovered by the Sheriff's Department. Deputy Weiner responded he has to contact the detective bureau to recover his property.

Mr. Stormont moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board approve the minutes as written for the regular meeting of February 1, 2006 and January 18, 2006 special meeting. Vote; Aye

The Fiscal Officer presented the following items:

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Mr. Stormont moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$99,637.17 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

The Fiscal Officer requested the Board to approve bonds for Tracy Hatmaker, Tammy Carlisle and Connie Swisher in the amount of \$50.00 each. Vote; Aye.

The Fiscal Officer presented to the Board the Local Government Services conference material and requested to return it to her by the next meeting.

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

1. Ms. Swisher stated two weeks ago the Board voted on two recommended changes to the zoning resolution. Amendments were recommended by the Zoning Commission changes to Section 960, Section 1230 and Section 1015 #5. Section 1015 #5 was not voted on and was advised by legal counsel to vote on it.

Mr. Stormont stated there were no changes but that the vote was not properly taken and therefore a vote was needed even though it was past the twenty days.

Mr. Nick Soulas stated a vote is necessary that at the last meeting the motion died due to lack of a second and it needs to be addressed either approve the recommendation, approve with modification or denied.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board deny Zoning Text Amendment Section 1015 #5: Eliminating the time frame established for vehicles making a temporary service or delivery calls. A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/FEBRUARY 15, 2006

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

1. Chief Feustel requested the Board to approve the Board of Elections Memorandum of Understanding using Firehouse 243 at 451 Hubbard Road as a polling facility and authorize the Chair to sign.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board to approve the Board of Elections Memorandum of Understanding using Firehouse 243 at 451 Hubbard Road as a polling facility and authorize the Chair to sign. A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye.

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

1. Mr. McAninch updated the Board on the vandalism at Alton cemetery Modlich Monument repaired all the headstones except for one and they donated all their services. Mr. McAninch is going to send a letter thanking them for their services.
2. Mr. McAninch requested the Board to approve Contract Sweepers for \$8,030.00 for two street sweeps the weeks of April 10th and September 11th.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board to approve Contract Sweepers for \$8,030.00 for two street sweeps the weeks of April 10th and September 11th. Vote; Aye.

3. Mr. McAninch requested the Board to approve up to \$20,000.00 for Metropolitan Environmental Services to vacuum the storm sewers and catch basins in the township.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board to approve up to \$20,000.00 for Metropolitan Environmental Services to vacuum the storm sewers and catch basins in the township. Vote; Aye.

4. Mr. McAninch updated the Board on the tile on South Grener Avenue and he didn't feel there was any damage done to the tile.

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

1. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board to approve and sign the 2006 Sheriff's Department contract for \$264,433.27.

Mr. Kennedy stated the Sheriff's Department is obligated to provide us service this is over and above the regular service. The fee is for one additional car twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, and a second additional car Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 4:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. We can direct these cars anyway we need to. The only time the cars leave the township if there is a call that an officer is down or an officer needs assistance. Mr. Kennedy stated a couple of things he likes about this is 1.) We are getting added services over and above what they normally provide. 2.) It affects every resident equally.

Mr. Holderby stated there is a crime wave that has been going on for about a year and a half now. From South Grener to Hilliard-Rome Road every business has been robbed at least once some four, five and six times. Both hotels have been in the news for prostitution and drugs. Do you think the extra money we are paying possibly there could be more of a presence from the Sheriff's Department. We have a major problem out here with robberies and shootings and nothing is improving. With the additional two hundred plus thousand we are paying can't we get something done.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/FEBRUARY 15, 2006

Mr. Stormont requested he fill out the Sheriff's Department's form so they can fax it to the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Mike Ison stated the attitude that the Sheriff's Department has that they can not depend on the judges to put these criminals away and if they do put them away they get out. He doesn't feel we get sufficient coverage from the Sheriff's Department. He would like to see the contract canceled and see what happens, it can't get any worse than it is right now.

Ms. Schlosser stated that Mr. Holderby hasn't filled out the form and put the address on it, in order for the Sheriff's Department to be effective they need the community support to try to communicate it to the field. They can not be at all palaces at all times. So what we can let the Sheriff know not only the addresses where they are so they can get to the addresses that they can.

Mr. Holderby stated the ball has been dropped. It doesn't matter what form is filled out. He feels there should be more control and put more heat on the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Kennedy stated we have to have the information. He can tell you if you fill out the form it works. The sidewalk issue is being address because the form was filled out.

Mr. Russ Pitts stated agreed the other residents that spoke that when the Deputies stands up there and states it is up to the Deputies discretion of whether or not to write a ticket when it is clear the law is being broke it is a problem. He stated that Sheriff Karnes himself stated the Deputies will right tickets if the O.R.C. is being violated. He is on the Village Park Residents Association Board and people call him with problems and he tells them to call the Sheriff and he will meet them there and the Sheriff sometime shows sometimes they don't

Mr. George Nunamaker asked if the contract for the hours on the second car could be changed from 8:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. and that would give the township better coverage.

Mr. Kennedy stated that was a great idea and thinks it is open for negotiation and they will check in to it.

Mr. Holderby stated that since Mr. Nunamker retired from the Sheriff's Department maybe to have him look at the reports and decide when is the most efficient time to have coverage is.

Mr. Kennedy is in disagreement with that he thinks the Sheriff's Department does an excellent job. They do the best with what they have to work with.

Mr. Stormont moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board to approve and sign the 2006 Sheriff's Department contract for \$264,433.27. A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye.

2. Mr. Hatmaker updated the Board on the MORPC fees for \$2,391.00 for the Antrim property purchase of 100 acres pending the grant monies.
3. Mr. Hatmaker updated residents regarding the transfer of the 2000 GMC pick-up truck from the zoning department to the fire department. The zoning department no longer needs the truck due to the loss of the position. The fire department has been using a 1994 crown victoria with over 135K miles on it as a service vehicle. Moving a more reliable service vehicle into the fire department will all more flexible and responsive in reacting to various types of calls.

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23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/FEBRUARY 15, 2006

Old Business:

New Business:

Mr. Holderby stated he had worked for the township for seven years. There has been a lot of talk going around regarding the property in Galloway and the zoning on it. He would like to get a few thing clarified. The Zoning Department did nothing wrong they went by the book. There have a lot of accusations against Connie Swisher which are untrue and unfounded. He informed everyone that the property was being rezoned. His job was to post the property which the property was posted and additional sign was posted.

Public Comment:

Mr. Bernie Heisner, General Manager, COBA Select Sires, they have property in Prairie Township and he is interested in learning what the Trustees stance is in regards to the Big Darby Accord and how the people in the green spaces will be fairly compensated for their land that is in the green space. They have approximately 100 acres which is in both in Prairie Township and Brown Township. Mr. Hatmaker responded that it is in the scope of services for the remainder of the project to lay out a system for acquiring that property but also raising revenue to acquire that property. Mr. Bernie Heinsner asked if the Trustees' have any concern about the amount it is going to cost the township and how it is going to be done before the moratorium is listed if they continue to move on. Mr. Kennedy responded he is willing to wait to see what is being offered. No decisions have been made by any jurisdictions except to go further with the testing. His outlook on the Big Darby is the future of Prairie Township and he is willing to see what the recommendations are before he makes a decision. He personal view is that he is not going to sell any land owner out on any vote he make and wants to see that everybody gets a fair compensation for the land they have. Mr. Bernie Heiner stated that fourteen months ago they were offered four million dollars for seventy acres. Anything less than that would not be fair.

Announcements:

Mr. Stormont moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board adjourn in to executive session at 8:04 p.m. to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee pursuant to ORC 121.22 (g) (1). A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board resume the regular meeting at 9:05 p.m. to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee pursuant to ORC 121.22 (g) (1). A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Chairperson

Fiscal Officer