

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/APRIL 12, 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: Assistant Chief Good, Mr. Hatmaker and Ms. Swisher. (See attached list).

Mr. Stormont led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve the minutes as written for the regular meeting of March 29, 2006. Vote; Aye

Deputy Weiner, Lieutenant Bain and Corporal Ing highlighted the March monthly report, 592 dispatch runs, 745 pick-up runs, 41 domestic runs, 20 gun runs, 134 reports, 11 felony arrests, 38 misdemeanors, 17 warrant arrests, 59 warrant arrests misdemeanors, 7 recovered stolen vehicles, 38 traffic warnings, 90 traffic citations, 24 crash citations. Deputy Weiner reminded everyone to take valuables out of their vehicles and to lock their vehicles that there has been an increase in vehicles being broken into.

Deputy Weiner updated everyone the homicide at Village Park they did apprehend two people that day.

Mr. Neil Distlehorst stated from what he saw on the news and read in the newspaper that the neighbors were afraid of the place and asked if the Sheriff's Department had ever been called to the residence. Lieutenant Bain responded that he pulled reports from 2004 to current and they had 18 calls to the residence, of the 18 calls, 13 were from outside the residence and 5 calls were from the actual residents. Most of the calls were disturbance and a few domestic calls and one weapon call. Out of the 18 calls 5 reports were taken and one arrest was made.

Ms. Betty Danish asked how many break-ins have there been in Lincoln Village North. Deputy Weiner responded he did not have the break-ins broken down by area but break-ins have been on the rise.

Lieutenant Bain stated there is a grand jury hearing on April 13, 2006 in regards to the Village Park homicide and there will be an eviction as well.

Mr. Russ Pitts stated to Major Mann that he would like to see more of a Sheriff's presence in the Village Park area. Major Mann responded he personally rides through Village Park area Tuesday through Saturday and has instructed his department to do the same. A discussion followed.

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 \$103,707.86 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

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

1. Ms. Swisher requested the Board to approve a Resolution Appointing Christopher Finn and Bruce Whyte Alternate Members to the Prairie Township Zoning Commission.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve a Resolution

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Appointing Christopher Finn and Bruce Whyte Alternate Members to the Prairie Township Zoning Commission. A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye.

2. Ms. Swisher requested the Board to approve a Resolution Appointing Betty Danish and Lee Shoaf Alternate Members to the Prairie Township Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve a Resolution Appointing Betty Danish and Lee Shoaf Alternate Members to the Prairie Township Board of Zoning Appeals. A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye.

3. Ms. Swisher updated the Board on the Spring Clean Up there are hand outs with information of what is not being accepted at the landfill and where the dumpsters will be located. They are also looking for volunteers to assist with the clean-up.

A resident asked how the alternate board members are selected. Ms. Swisher responded it is in the Township Newsletter and residents are asked to submit a letter of interest to the Zoning Department and they interview everyone and send their recommendations to Administration and the Board for their decision. They try to get all areas of the Township represented on each board.

Mr. Neil Distlehorst read the following statement:

“I thought this would be a dead issue by now but I was in the library the other day and I picked up a copy of the Lincoln Village Newspaper called the Rail splitter, and I looked through it and I found an article or letter either by or from Lori talking about this senior center initiative petition again. She states some of the facts where the regulations are stated in the Ohio Revised Code, then she goes on to say, the obligation to enact the required resolution to place an initiative petition on the referendum on the ballot rests exclusively with the board of trustees, their legal counsel, the township law director, the boards administrative staff and the township administrator and his assistant. I am here to tell you there is nowhere, NOWHERE in the Ohio Revised Code that any of these people have any responsibility for initiative petition. All of the responsibility lies with the fiscal officer and she has two responsibilities and I will be happy to read them.”

“When a petition is filed with the city auditor, replace that with fiscal officer, signed by the required number of electors proposing an ordinance for the measure such clerk shall after 10 days transmit a certified copy of the text of proposed ordinance to the board of elections. I guess that was done. The clerk shall transmit a certified copy of the text of the proposed ordinance to the board of elections. I guess that was done. The clerk shall transmit the petition to the board together with a certified copy of the proposed copy of the ordinance or measure, the board of elections shall examine all signatures on the petition to determine the number of electors for the municipal corporation, replace that with township, who signed the petition. The Board of elections shall return the petition to the auditor or clerk within 10 days after receiving it together with a statement attesting the number of electors who signed.”

“Her second responsibility, the board of elections shall submit such proposed ordinance for approval or rejection to the electors of the municipal or corporation at the next general election, occurring subsequent to 75 days after

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the auditor or clerk certifies the sufficient and validity of the petition to the board of elections. Nowhere, nowhere in the Ohio Revised Code does this list of people that Lori said is obligated about the initiative petition. They are not mentioned. They have no responsibility. The resolution she talks about that was done the last time was done at the request of the Franklin County Board of Elections. That is all it was, a request. They have no legal authority to demand that. And whether you gave it to them or didn't give it to them is the fiscal officer fulfilled her responsibilities it would have been on the ballot. I don't know whether the second part of that got done or not. My reason being up here tonight I think Lori has put an obligation on a lot of people that work for this township in addition to yourselves that she had no way to know ...I don't know who is advising her or if she got this on her own, but she got this wrong. She asked for an apology from you Mr. Kennedy for things you allegedly said. I think she owes an apology to this group of people for saying they have the responsibility for which they have none."

Assistant Chief Good addressed the Board with the following Fire Department matters:

1. Assistant Chief Good updated the Board the week of May 8th, 2006 the fire department will be conducting hydrant flushing in the Township from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
2. Assistant Chief Good updated the Board on the concrete bids for the bay floor rehab. One bid from Galloway Builders at \$15,139.69 and a bid from Berkshire Boys, Inc for \$13,720.00. Assistant Chief Good requested the Board accept Berkshire Boys, Inc. bid for \$13,720.00.

Mr. Stormont moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board accept Berkshire Boys, Inc. bid for \$13,720.00 for the bay floor rehab. A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Abstain, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Mr. Stormont; Aye.

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

1. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board adopt A Resolution Declaring Intent to Repair Certain Sidewalks and Levy Special Assessments and Setting Hearing. Advertising on April 19th, 26th and May 3rd, 2006, public hearing date on May 10, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board adopt A Resolution Declaring Intent to Repair Certain Sidewalks and Levy Special Assessments and Setting Hearing. Advertising on April 19th, 26th and May 3rd, 2006, public hearing date on May 10, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. A roll call resulted as follows: Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye, Ms. Schlosser; Aye.

Old Business:

Mr. Ed Anthony asked about the West Broad Street Corridor income tax and who is going to be paying the tax? Mr. Hatmaker responded the employees of the businesses in the Corridor would be taxed for working in the Township. A discussion followed.

Mr. Russ Pitts asked if the nuisance code was being pursued. Mr. Stormont responded they were having the Prosecuting Attorney look into it.

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New Business:

Ms. Schlosser stated she received a letter from Ohio American Water regarding their petition to the PUCO for approximately a 25% rate increase and asked everyone to please attend the next meeting which she will give the date to the newspapers.

Public Comment:

Mr. Andy Burns asked about the Property Maintenance Code and if it could be brought back up and break it down by high density residential, low density residential and rural because the community is really going downhill. Ms. Swisher responded the nuisance code could address some of the issues. A discussion followed.

Announcements:

Mr. Stormont announced the passing of long time resident Mr. Glen Dyer and his viewing is on April 13, 2006 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Chairperson

Administrator