

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/JANUARY 3, 2007

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.

Mr. Kennedy requested changes to the December 20, 2006 meeting minutes and tabled approval until next meeting.

Mr. Stormont made the following statement:

As the outgoing chairman I would like to comment on some of the high points of the last year:

For the first time in five years we had a balanced budget and stayed within our revenues without touching the reserve funds. It required the board to make some difficult decisions at the beginning of the year. We realigned appropriation practices to better account for spending and matching department costs with the appropriate funds. In doing so we were still able to provide the same level of township services that our residents are used to.

After going to Ohio Township Associations Conference in February and listening to a lecture on use of the nuisance statute under the Ohio Revised Code we established our own Nuisance Policy and now we can control our weed and grass, trash and other nuisance complaints in a more effective and efficient way.

With the board's passage of the Darby Accord Agreement, we can now see development within our township without annexation. This will not only allow our township to grow in the coming years but this will also help preserve the Darby for future generations. I want to thank Mayor Coleman and hope that this is just the start of many future partnerships between our township and the City of Columbus.

The West Broad Street corridor plan while slow to get started was gaining momentum toward the end of the year and expect to see a huge leap forward on this initiative in the next year.

The senior center, after having its staff cut for budget reasons and many people claiming that we were closing it down, is still up and running. This is possible due to the efforts of Robin and his volunteer staff who deserve great credit for their efforts.

I believe that we owe a lot of thanks to the township employees for their dedication to the township. Without them and their efforts we could not provide our residents with top quality services that they have grown used to.

I would like to also thank my fellow board members for a great year. It has not always been easy nor have we always agreed but we did agree to disagree in a professional way.

Ms. Montag presented the following items:

Mr. Kennedy conducted the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman as follows:

Ms. Schlosser nominated Mr. Kennedy for Chairman.

Mr. Stormont seconded the nomination.

Ms. Schlosser moved the nominations be closed.

Mr. Stormont seconded the motion.

Roll call vote on the motion to close the nominations resulted as follows:

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Mr. Kennedy	Abstain
Ms. Schlosser	Aye
Mr. Stormont	Aye

Roll call vote on the nomination as Chairman resulted as follows:

Mr. Kennedy	Abstain
Ms. Schlosser	Aye
Mr. Stormont	Aye

Ms. Montag declared Mr. Kennedy the duly elected Chairman for the year 2007.

Mr. Kennedy nominated Ms. Schlosser for Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Stormont seconded the nomination.
Mr. Kennedy moved the nominations be closed.
Mr. Stormont seconded the motion.

Roll call vote on the motion to close the nominations resulted as follows:

Mr. Kennedy	Aye
Ms. Schlosser	Abstain
Mr. Stormont	Aye

Roll call vote on the nomination for Vice-Chairman resulted as follows:

Mr. Kennedy	Aye
Ms. Schlosser	Abstain
Mr. Stormont	Aye

Ms. Montag declared Ms. Schlosser the duly elected Vice-Chairman for the year 2007.

The Chair was turned over to Mr. Kennedy, Chairman to complete the meeting.

Mr. Kennedy appointed Ms. Schlosser and Mr. Stormont to serve on the Volunteer Firefighters Indemnity Board for the year 2007. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested a motion from the Board to appoint Assistant Fire Chief Mark Good as Fire Marshall for the year 2007.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded, the Board to appoint Assistant Fire Chief Mark Good as Fire Marshall for the year 2007. A roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Stormont; Aye, Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested a motion from the Board to retain the Prosecuting Attorney as Law Director for the Board for the year 2007.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded, the Board to retain the Prosecuting Attorney as Law Director for the Board pending renegotiation and renewal of the existing agreement for the year 2007. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested a motion from the Board to continue the employment of Floyd Cochrun, Chain & Flag, Galloway Cemetery at a rate of \$150.00 per month and Alton Cemetery at a rate of \$200.00 per month.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board continue the employment of Floyd Cochrun, Chain & Flag, Galloway Cemetery at a rate of \$150.00 per month and Alton Cemetery at a rate of \$200.00 per month. Vote; Aye.

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Ms. Montag requested a motion from the Board to rehire all township employees for the current year.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded, the Board rehires all township employees for the current year. Vote; Aye.

FIRE DEPT.	Wages per negotiated contracts
ROAD/CEMETERY DEPT.	Wages per contracts and/or employee manual
ZONING DEPT.	Wages per contracts and/or employee manual
ADMINISTRATION DEPT.	Wages per contracts and/or employee manual

MISCELLANEOUS LABOR:

Cemetery Chain-Alton	\$2,400/year, payable \$200 per month
Cemetery Chain-Galloway	\$1,800/year, payable \$150 per month

TRUSTEES:

DOUG STORMONT	\$20,008.00 ANNUAL SALARY
STEVE KENNEDY	\$20,008.00 ANNUAL SALARY
NICOLE SCHLOSSER	\$20,008.00 ANNUAL SALARY

FISCAL OFFICER:

LORI MONTAG as per Section 507.09 of the ORC

Ms. Montag requested a motion from the Board the cemetery charges remain at present levels.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the cemetery charges remain at present levels as follows: Vote; Aye.

Graves:	\$600 per grave	
Township Residents:	Opening & Closing Weekdays	\$300
	Opening & Closing Saturday until noon	\$400
	Opening & Closing Holidays until noon	\$500
Non-Resident	Opening & Closing Weekdays	\$450
	Opening & Closing Saturday until noon	\$575
	Opening & Closing Holidays until noon	\$700
Cremation:	Weekdays	\$150
	Saturday & Holidays until noon	\$300
Baby Burial:	36-40 inch	\$150
	Saturday & Holidays until noon	\$300
Foundations:	30 cents Per Square Inch	
Disinterment Fee:	Resident	\$800
	Non-Resident	\$1,150

No burials Sunday Memorial Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. All charges to be paid by cash, certified or cashier's check. Prices subject to change without notice.

Ms. Montag requested the Board approve the regular meeting times be set for every other Wednesday beginning with the next meeting on January 17, 2007 and every other Wednesday thereafter at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall 23 Maple Dr. Columbus Ohio.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the regular meeting times be set for every other Wednesday beginning with the next meeting on January 18, 2006 and every other Wednesday thereafter at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall 23 Maple Dr. Columbus Ohio. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested the Board the allow administrative expenses at actual cost,

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including parking, meals and mileage at .34/mile for all travel outside of the township and further these expenses be allowed at the same rate and on the same basis for any other township employee authorized to travel on behalf of the township and that the Zoning Inspectors be allowed mileage at a rate of .34/mile for all travel within the township if the zoning vehicle is not available.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board allow administrative expenses at actual cost, including parking, meals and mileage at .34/mile for all travel outside of the township and further these expenses be allowed at the same rate and on the same basis for any other township employee authorized to travel on behalf of the township and that the Zoning Inspectors be allowed mileage at a rate of .34/mile for all travel within the township if the zoning vehicle is not available. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested the Board authorize to request advances of tax monies from the Franklin County Auditor in 2007 as money becomes available.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded to authorize to request advances of tax monies from the Franklin County Auditor in 2006 as money becomes available. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$105,133.53.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$105,133.53. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested the Board to approve online payment of the child support payments through automatic withdraw from the checking account.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve online payment of the child support payments automatic withdraw from the checking account. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested the Board to approve online payment of the Ohio Public Employee's Retirement payment automatic withdraw from the checking account.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board to approve online payment of the child support payments automatic withdraw from the checking account. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Montag requested the Board to approve online payment of the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund payments automatic withdraw from the checking account.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve online payment of the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund payments automatic withdraw from the checking account. Vote; Aye.

Corporal Eing reported to the Board that Deputy Weiner was on a burglary call on Hilton Avenue. He reported in Lincoln Village North juveniles are still throwing rocks through windows. Corporal Eing stated they have been running radar checks on Prairie Road. There is a low speeding problem but nothing over 31 miles per hour. They will continue to work the area.

Mr. Elie Sabbagh requested the Board to approve the final payment request for Decker Construction for \$110,384.67 and \$54,000.00 to Franklin County Engineers for a total of \$164,384.67, OPWC Payment Disbursement Form for completion of work on the Eastham Way Project and return the retainage funds.

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Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve the final payment request for Decker Construction for \$110,384.67 and \$54,000.00 to Franklin County Engineers for a total of \$164,384.67, OPWC Payment Disbursement Form for completion of work on the Eastham Way Project and return the retainage funds. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Elie Sabbagh requested the Board authorize the chair to sign the OPWC forms.

Mr. Stormont moved, Ms. Schlosser the Board authorize the chair to sign the OPWC forms. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Heather Bowden, with R.D. Zande, Transportation Department, presented a grant opportunity that would provide funding for planning and implementing projects that will improve the safety of routes used by students that walk or bike to school.

Mr. Elie Sabbagh requested the Board to approve \$1,000.00 for the Safe Routes to School Grant application preparation.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve \$1,000.00 for the Safe Routes to School Grant application preparation. Vote; Aye.

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

1. Chief Feustel requested the Board to accept part-time firefighter Dan Tilley letter of resignation.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board to accept part-time firefighter Dan Tilley letter of resignation. Vote; Aye.

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

1. Ms. Swisher presented to the Board a proposed plat called "Prairie Run" submitted by M/I Homes, 157 acres and proposing 266 lots with 86 acres of open space in the Westpoint area.

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

1. Mr. McAninch requested the Board to approve the purchase of a new tractor contract for \$1,605.00 for JD Equipment for mowing.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve the purchase of a new tractor contract for \$1,605.00 for JD Equipment for mowing. Vote; Aye.

2. Mr. McAninch requested the Board to approve pay request number one to McDaniel Construction for the new salt storage facility for \$90,988.00 and authorize the chair to sign.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve pay request number one to McDaniel Construction for the new salt storage facility for \$90,988.00 and authorize the chair to sign. Vote; Aye.

3. Mr. McAninch thanked Mr. Elie Sabbagh for all his work on the Eastham Way Project which was 100% funded by grants.

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Old Business:

New Business:

Mr. Bruce Whyte, Zoning Commission Board Member, asked the Board to consider his request to be appointed to the Darby Accord Advisory Council. Mr. Kennedy responded they did receive his letter and would consider his request.

Public Comment:

Announcements:

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board adjourn in to executive session at 8:00 p.m. for pending litigation, imminent litigation and personnel matters. A roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Stormont; Aye, Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board resume the regular meeting at 8:35 p.m. A roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Stormont; Aye, Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approved the Prosecutor drop the ERAC case. Vote; Aye

Mr. Kennedy stated no action taken on the audit issue.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the January 2007 pay rate increases per the sheet and department heads, Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Chief receive a three percent pay increase effective January 10, 2007. Vote; Aye.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Chairperson

Fiscal Officer