

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 8, 2008

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order by the Chairperson Ms. Schlosser, with Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Stormont and Mr. McCardle present. Also in attendance were Fire Chief Feustel and Mr. Hatmaker, Township Administrator. (See attached list).

Ms. Schlosser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded and the Board approved the minutes for the regular meeting of September 24, 2008. All voted-Aye.

Sheriff's Report

Corporal Goodrich gave a brief sheriff's report, explaining that his staff is continuing to monitor all school zones for traffic and speed violations and that they are also pursuing the break-ins and burglaries that were mentioned during the last meeting.

Fiscal Officer

Mr. McCardle had two items on the meeting's agenda. The first item was to present to the board a petition for a Lighting District for the portions of Lake Darby Estates No. 2 and Lake Darby Estates No.2 Extended, as well as the entirety of Lake Darby North. He requested a motion from the board to hold a public hearing on November 5, 2008.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move to accept the petition for street lighting in unincorporated districts including portions of Lake Darby Estates No. 2 and Lake Darby Estates No. 2 Extended, as well as the entirety of Lake Darby North and to set a public hearing on November 5, 2008, 6:00p.m. at the site of the proposed district and then be adjourned and reconvened at 7:00p.m. at the Township Hall to hear any and all proof offered by any of the parties affected by such improvement and other persons competent to testify". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes were: Mr. Kennedy: aye, Mr. Stormont: aye, Ms. Schlosser: aye. Motion passed.

Mr. McCardle also requested a motion from the board to approve the warrant list of items totaling \$67,916.79 and payroll totaling \$132,311.79 for a combined sum of \$200,228.58. Ms Schlosser so moved. Mr. Stormont seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Zoning Department

There are no items listed on the agenda for the Zoning Department for this meeting.

Road and Cemetery Department

There are no items listed on the agenda for the Road and Cemetery Department for this meeting.

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Fire Department

Chief Feustel announced that Lt. Ron Kern has resigned from the Prairie Township Fire Department effective October 9, 2008. Lt. Kern has accepted a position as a Battalion Captain with the Washington Township Fire Department located in Montgomery County, Ohio. Chief Feustel asked that the board accept Lt. Kern's resignation.

The following motion was made by Ms. Schlosser and seconded by Mr. Kennedy: "I move that the Board accept the resignation from Lt. Ron Kern, effective October 9, 2008." Votes were: Mr. Stormont: Aye: Mr. Kennedy: Aye: Ms. Schlosser: Aye. Motion passed.

Chief Feustel then requested the Board to approve the hire of Tom Collins as a full-time firefighter to fill the open position that has been created with the resignation of Lt. Kern. Chief explained that Collins has been a part-time firefighter with Prairie Township since 2006. Chief requested that firefighter Collins' promotion be effective October 10, 2008 at an annual salary of \$40,337 (which is the beginning pay step of the Local 2985 union contract pay scale).

Ms Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board approve hiring Tom Collins as a full-time firefighter, effective October 10, 2008 at an annual salary of \$40,337, which is the beginning step of the Local 2985 union contract pay scale". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes were: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Mr. Stormont-aye: Ms Schlosser-aye. Motion passed.

After the Board approved the above motion, Chief Feustel swore in firefighter Tom Collins.

Chief Feustel also requested the board's approval to spend up to \$8,000 for a promotional assessment center to be conducted in October to establish promotion lists for the position of Lieutenant and Captain. The assessment center will be conducted by T & G Enterprises. The test will be given on October 20th and the assessment center will be on October 23, 2008. The present promotion list was established in 2004 and it is two years beyond the expiration date. The fire department has budgeted for this expenditure.

The following motion was made by Ms. Schlosser and seconded by Mr. Kennedy: "I move that the Board approve up to \$8,000 for a promotion test and assessment center conducted by T & G Enterprises, which will establish promotion lists for the position of Fire Department Lieutenant and Captain". Votes were: Mr. Stormont-aye: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Ms Schlosser-aye. Motion passed.

Township Administration

Nuisance Cases: Tracy Hatmaker requested the Board's guidance on the nuisance cases that have been forwarded in advance of the meeting. The following properties were considered at this meeting: 4757 West Broad Street: 200 North Murray Hill Road and 42 Rome-Hilliard Road.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion which was seconded by Mr. Stormont: "I move that the Prairie Township Board of Trustees find the conditions at 4757 West Broad Street, 200 North Murray Hill Road and 42 Rome-Hilliard Road to be nuisances and that the Board hereby directs staff to

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abate said nuisances at the expense of the property owners as per the requirements in Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87". Votes were: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Mr. Stormont-aye: Ms Schlosser-aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Hatmaker presented to the Board a proposed resolution requesting that the Franklin County Engineer's office conduct a speed study of Alton Road between West Broad Street and Hall Road. On October 1st Mr. Hatmaker forwarded a preliminary request to Mike Love, the Assistant Traffic Engineer, requesting that the study be conducted and also requesting that the speed limit be reduced from the current 55 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour instead. A board resolution is required to finalize the request.

The following motion was made by Ms Schlosser and seconded by Mr. Stormont: "I move that the Board adopt Resolution 34-08, a resolution requesting that the Franklin County Engineer conduct a speed study on the section of Alton Road beginning at U.S. Route 40 and ending at Alton Road's intersection with Hall Road". Roll Call votes were: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Mr. Stormont-aye: Ms Schlosser-aye. Resolution adopted.

Mr. Hatmaker also presented to the Board a proposed resolution creating a land reutilization program, or land bank, in the township. This is a tool that the Board could choose to use in cases, such as the Mix and Stiles case, to move forward on its own initiative in order to gain control of a delinquent property in need of redevelopment. This would remove complications that might arise from depending on the Franklin County program. This tool may be used for economic development or to turn over problem properties within residential neighborhoods. The most immediate use for the program would be to gain control of the Hometown Inn property in order to sell it for redevelopment within the JEDD.

Ms Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board adopt Resolution 35-08, A Resolution Electing to Facilitate the Reutilization of Nonproductive Land in Prairie Township, Franklin County and Adopting a Land Reutilization Program and Implementing the Procedures Set Forth in Sections 572.02 through 5722.15 of the Ohio Revised Code". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Roll Call votes were: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Mr. Stormont-aye: Ms Schlosser-aye. Resolution adopted.

Mr. Hatmaker then presented to the Board an application to close a section of Greenlake Street, between Dalebrook Court and Canyon Cove Road, on October 25th from 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. for a neighborhood Halloween party. All township department heads have already signed off on this request. Chief Feustel added a qualification that no tents, cars or other obstructions should be permitted on the west side of the street in order to maintain emergency access. Five driveways will be directly affected.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board approve the requested closing of a portion of Greenlake Street on October 25, 2008 from 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m., which was filed by the residents at 216 Greenlake Street on September 30, 2008, with the stipulation that no obstruction will be permitted on the west side of the street in order to maintain emergency access". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes were: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Mr. Stormont-aye: Ms Schlosser-aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Hatmaker also requested that the Board approve rescheduling the December 31st (New Year's Eve) regular board meeting to Monday,

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December 29, 2008 instead.

Ms Schlosser made the following motion: "Due to New Year's Eve, I move the Board change the December 31, 2008 Trustee meeting to Monday, December 29, 2008." Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. All voted-aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Hatmaker then explained that the Franklin County Engineers office has requested that the 1st phase of the South Greener Road improvement project include the replacement of sewer lines. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board's approval to take this item to the Ohio Public Works Commission (which funds this project) to obtain additional funding to cover the sewer line replacement on the first phase of the South Greener Avenue improvement project.

Ms Schlosser made the motion: "So moved". Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. Votes were: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Ms Schlosser-aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Hatmaker then requested that the Board approve moving \$2,000 from line item 1000-110-240-0000 (Unemployment-Administration) to line item 1000-120-599-0000 (Other Expenses-Township Hall). This request was made due to the anticipated costs of certified postage required for the upcoming lighting district hearing notices.

Ms Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board approve moving \$2,000 from line item 1000-110-240 (Unemployment-Administration) to line item 1000-120-599 (Other Expenses-Township Hall)". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes were: Mr. Kennedy-aye: Mr. Stormont-aye: Ms Schlosser-aye. Motion passed.

Standing Business: None

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comments:

Mr. Gary Leasure and Mr. Ed Palmer, of the Southwestern City School District, gave a presentation to the Board on the Southwestern City School District Issue 81 which the residents will vote on in the upcoming election. They explained to the Board how this issue came about, and what it will do for the district if passed.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05p.m.

Chairperson

Fiscal Officer