

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/MAY 7, 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 attending were: Chief Feustel, Mr. Hatmaker, and Ms. Swisher. (See attached list).

Ms. Schlosser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the minutes with corrections for the regular meeting of April 23, 2008. Vote; Aye

Corporal Goodrich stated that a lot of garage doors are still being left open. Corporal Goodrich encouraged everybody to close their garage doors to prevent theft. There were some complaints regarding Hubbard Road behind and beside the firehouse where motorcycles and four wheelers have been riding. One officer was able to get a hold of three riders this evening and advised them that they were not allowed on the property. Corp. Goodrich stated that without having the property signed there is not a lot that they can do. He questioned whether the Township property across the bridge had signs posted on it.

Deputy Taupe reported that an individual who was stealing hammers from Home Depot was apprehended as well as the people with him. They have also caught the individual who was stealing car radios. The person who bought the radio was cooperative, gave the radio back and he therefore was not charged.

The crime statistics for April were not available yet.

A resident questioned about gas being stolen from gas tanks by drilling holes into the tanks of cars. Corp. Goodrich replied that he has not received any more complaints since it was discussed previously.

Another resident commented that on Cole Road, north of Broad, there were dirt bikes and quad runners all weekend. It is posted that there are no motorized vehicles allowed. Corp. Goodrich will mention this to the other deputies so that they can patrol this area more often.

Deputy Taupe questioned the Board on whether they should charge individuals that are caught riding on the Township properties. The Board agreed that they would like the individuals charged and offered to provide a blanket statement to that effect.

A resident wanted to thank the deputies for all of their effort in keeping the area safe.

Another resident had questions about the property down Galloway Road before the tracks that has been posted. He stated that he has permission from the owner to hunt back there and be back there. The resident asked the owner about the signs but he claimed to have no knowledge of them. Ms. Schlosser stated that it is possible that the farmer that farms it is the one who put up the signs.

There was a question if a speed trailer could be put up on Galloway Road in the town of Galloway. Corp. Goodrich stated that he would check into it. Deputy Taupe said that they would speak with accident investigation because they are responsible for the trailers.

The Fiscal Officer presented the following items:

Mr. McCardle stated that there are a couple of sets of meeting minutes dating back to October 11, 2006 and more recently March 26, 2008 that have not been signed.

Mr. Stormont moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the board to amend the minutes from the October 11, 2006 and March 26, 2008 regular meeting so that they may be reasserted and signed by the current chairperson, and attested to by the current fiscal

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officer and included in the minute book. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Schlosser explained that while Mr. McCardle was taking office and getting the books in order he realized that there were some minutes that were not executed by the prior fiscal officer. This was to ensure that we have a correct proceeding of everything so based on the prosecuting attorney's office; they said that this is what we need to do. Ms. Schlosser will resign them and Mr. McCardle will sign them as the current fiscal officer.

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board to approve the pending warrant list of \$93,560.37 and the ADP payroll in the amount of \$116,706.27 for a combined sum of \$210,266.64. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

There was no standing business for the Road Dept.

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

1. The Chief announced that they will begin flushing fire hydrants in Lincoln Village North and Lincoln Village South.

There was no standing business for the Zoning Dept.

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

1. Mr. Hatmaker requested the board's guidance on a nuisance case on Sullivant Avenue.

Ms. Schlosser stated that she talked to the owner on Murray Hill and they think they have it worked out with the owner of the drive thru now. If the property is assessed there is no clear answer on who to assess due to the plotted subdivision.

Mr. Kennedy stated his concern that this is a grown-up fence line and there are hundreds in the Township. If we start declaring nuisances on tree lines and fence lines it could set a precedent that he doesn't think the Board wants to get into.

Ms. Schlosser answered that we have cleared some of them when they rise to a level of a nuisance. Ms. Schlosser's only concern is that this is overgrown and it does collect a lot of trash.

Mr. Kennedy stated that if this were on farmland or suburban residential it would be easier because there is a law that says each property owner is required to clean half. Mr. Kennedy would like to think that the property owners could work it out themselves.

Ms. Schlosser stated that it does sound as though the property owners have worked it out; however, she wants to make sure that it does get done and there is not another complaint in the month.

The Board decided that they should not declare this a nuisance property because the property cannot be assessed and to do so would result in an improvement to private property with no ability to recover the costs.

Ms. Schlosser stated that she will go back to the owners to make sure the property is taken care of.

2. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board to authorize the Township Administrator to forward a letter to the Franklin County Budget Commission requesting that Fund 4401 be established for the Inah Avenue Road and Drainage

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Improvement Project and that the Township's 2008 revenue and appropriations be increased by \$1,420,000 in said fund to meet expenses.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board authorize the township administrator to forward a letter to the Franklin County Budget Commission requesting that Prairie Township be granted approval to establish Fund 4401 (Inah Avenue Road And Drainage Improvement Project) and that the township's 2008 revenue and appropriations be increased by \$1,420,000 in said fund to meet expenses. Vote; Aye.

New Business:

Mr. Hatmaker explained that the West Broad Street Improvement Project, Economic Development Initiative includes a piece where the Township is pursuing working with ODOT in their improvements on West Broad to enhance those improvements to provide better pedestrian facilities, better aesthetic look to the project and to enhance the transit facilities. In order to do that the Township has long established that they would like to pursue a Transportation Enhancement Grant. The appropriated grant cycle is coming up and given work that was done by the City of Columbus Planning Division there is a basic plan and scenario to pursue in that application. The Engineer that is working with ODOT on the main project (which is the safety project to resurface and do some of the access management) met with Mr. Hatmaker on May 7 to coordinate the Township's application and project for the enhancement work with the ODOT application. In doing this, they would help refine the proposals and estimates of the Columbus Planning Division's study, coordinate with the US 40 project and ODOT, coordinate with MORPC (which administers and oversees the grant application process) and prepare the actual application materials. This will establish an important link with the ODOT project, which will strengthen the chances of success with the application. The application is estimated to be \$2,000,000 or more. The requested amount for the application preparation is \$2,500. The work will take place between now and July 31, 2008 (the application due date).

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board authorize the Township Administrator to execute an agreement with LJB to prepare an application for the Transportation Enhancement Funding of West Broad Street and authorize the payment of up to \$2,500 for that work. Vote; Aye

Ms. Schlosser announced that there is one less apartment building at Mix and Stiles.

Ms. Schlosser announced that a letter was received from the Assistant Traffic Engineer about the Murray Hill and Amesbury Way intersection and that it does qualify for a four way stop.

Announcements:

The Senior Center will have a Plant and Bake Sale on May 16 and May 17, 2008 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM.

Mr. Kennedy announced that there have been additional recycling dumpsters placed at 23 Maple and at the firehouse on Hubbard Road at 451 Hubbard Road.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Chairperson

Fiscal Officer