

Held At 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228 DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2008

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees called to order by the Chairperson Ms. Schlosser, with Mr. Stormont, Mr. Kennedy 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 scheduled meeting of November 5th, 2008. Votes: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion passed

Public Hearing held for the West Point Two Subdivision, Sections 3, 4 and 5 Lighting District

Ms. Schlosser moved to reopen the public hearing on the Westpoint Two Subdivision, Section 3, 4 and 5 Lighting District Ms. Schlosser asked that if there is anyone in attendance that would like to testify, either for or against the lights, to please stand to be sworn in. All participants stood up and were sworn in by Ms. Schlosser.

Resident speaking for the lights:

Kay Phillips of 991 Master Drive spoke: "I just moved into the district about a year ago and since then there has been a considerable amount of vandalism and car break-ins. We went around the neighborhood to secure signatures to get these lights installed. We feel that with these lights will provide a higher level of safety for all of the homeowners and children in the neighborhood.

Resident speaking against the lights:

Doug Owsley of 976 Military Drive spoke: "In general, I am opposed to having these streetlights in the neighborhood. I have done some research work on streetlights in neighborhoods and for the most part they do not prevent or reduce crime. I do have a concern on how these lights would be funded and maintained. If at all possible I would like to have my concern answered at this meeting." Mr. McCardle, Fiscal Officer, replied: "The lights are installed and maintained by American Electric Power. They do not charge any installation fees, but there are costs incurred to restore the lawns after the lights have been installed. These costs, along with a few additional related set-up costs are combined and passed onto the property owners of the lighting district over a 60 month period along with AEP's monthly fees via the Real Estate property tax assessments. There are 202 parcels in this light district and I anticipate that the assessments will be approximately \$5 - \$6 per month, per parcel, for the initial 60 months. After the initial 60 months have elapsed, the monthly fees are reviewed and the assessments will be either increased or decreased to cover the ongoing costs to operate the lights only. We recently reassessed 6 other light districts this past September and in each of those districts, the assessment amount was reduced an average 10% over their previous assessment amounts. As noted previously, the lights are maintained by AEP. We ask the residents to call our Road and Cemetery Department if they notice that a street light is out or in need of repair. The Road & Cemetery department has done a very vigilant job of forwarding maintenance information onto AEP for follow-up service."

Ms. Schlosser made a motion to close the hearing for the Westpoint Two Subdivision, Section 3, 4 and 5 Lighting District. At 7:10pm. Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye.

Ms. Schlosser gave the following summary of tonight's hearing. At 6:00 p.m. the Trustees visited the

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District to observe first hand the need for the streetlights. They observed how dark it was in the district and how much traffic there was. They then came back to the Township Hall to reconvene for the public hearing where they have listened to comments from the residents who were either for or against the lights. Although I know there have been several residents against the lights, the majority of the residents are for the lights. So therefore, as a Trustee, I must vote for the lights. Per the petition filed and certified by the Fiscal Officer there were 129 petition signors for the lights and another 73 property owners who neither signed for or against the lights (there is a total of 202 properties within this lighting district).

In light of the above, Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board adopt resolution 43-08, a resolution declaring the necessity of artificial lighting along designated streets and public ways within the West Point Two Subdivision, Sections 3, 4 and 5". Motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Roll call votes were: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Resolution passed.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Mr. McCardle had two items on the agenda for tonight's meeting. The first item was a request to the Board to approve supplemental appropriations to move \$3,414.45 from Zoning's "Garbage and Trash Removal" (1000-130-322-0000) and \$1,000 (1000-130-330-0000) from Zoning's "Travel and Meeting Expenses" to Zoning's (1000-130-221-0000) "Medical Expenses" and \$9,400 from Administration's "Contracted Services" (1000-110-360-0000) to (1000-110-221-0000) "Medical Expenses".

The above supplemental appropriations are necessary because the HRA (Health Reimbursement Account) expenditures were higher in these departments than initially anticipated. As of October, we had spent 39% of our HRA funds (we had spent \$64,877.13 of our total \$165,600 exposure). To date, we have now expended \$77,526.47 (approximately 46% of our HRA funds).

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "So Moved". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion Passed.

The second item for the Fiscal Officer was to request the Board to approve the payments itemized on this week's Warrant List totaling \$108,835.46 and also this week's payroll in the amount of \$121,667.69. The total amount requested for disbursement was \$230,503.15.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "So Moved". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes were: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Ms Schlosser-Aye. Motion Passed.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Goodrich stated that most of the calls they made over the past two weeks were nothing but routine calls. Sheriff Goodrich stated that there was nothing new to report for this meeting.

Zoning Department

The Zoning Department had no items for the agenda and Ms. Swisher had been excused from attending the meeting.

Road and Cemetery Department

The Road Department had no items on the agenda and Mr. McAninch had been excused from attending the meeting.

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Fire Department

Chief Feustel announced to the Board and to those in attendance, the arrival of the Fire Department's RAD 57 monitors. Mr. Waller of the Ohio Shriners presented to Chief Feustel a check in the amount of \$12,000.00 to cover the cost of these RAD 57 monitors. Dr. Lowe, Fire Department EMS advisor, was in attendance to speak about the benefits of the RAD 57 monitors as well.

Chief Feustel also announced the implementation of the new EKG modems and explained how they will tie in with Doctor's Hospital's STEMI research project. Dr. Low, Fire Department EMS Advisor, spoke and explained explain how this program will benefit the community.

Chief's next item was a request for the Board to approve the purchase of a Chevy Tahoe 4-wheel drive vehicle with a towing package for a total cost of \$31,739.00. This vehicle will be purchased through the state-bid contract therefore no bidding process is necessary. The Chevy Tahoe will replace the current Assistant Chief's vehicle and this purchase was included in the Fire Department's 2008 budget and appropriations. Upon arrival in 2009, the vehicle will need to have a light package, striping and radios installed at a total additional estimated cost of \$3,500.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board approve the purchase of a Chevy Tahoe 4-wheel drive vehicle with a towing package under the State Bid contract for a total cost of \$31,739.00 and approve additional purchases for a light package, striping and radios installed upon receipt of the vehicle in the amount of \$3,500". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms Schlosser-Aye. Motion passed.

Chief Feustel also requested the Board's approval of Assistant Chief's Good \$1,000 per year increase based on item #4 of his April 9, 2008 revised employment agreement. Chief Feustel made this recommendation based on the results on the second of two performance evaluations which were conducted as per the April 9 agreement.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board increase Assistant Chief Good's compensation by \$1,000 per year as per the April 9, 2008 employment agreement". Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Votes: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion passed.

Chief Feustel stated that he had one addendum item which is a request to hire the following 6 part-time firefighters pending passage of their physical and drug test: Jacob Farrell: Anthony Harding: Jason Klaus, Sean McGrath, John Wisenbargar and Matt Tacket. The hourly rates of these 6 part-time firefighters will start at \$8.50 per hour. We are trying to get these part-time people trained over the next 4 weeks so that most of them may be ready to fill crews and function as full capacity part-time help during the holidays.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board approve the hiring of Jacob Farrell, Anthony Harding, Jason Klaus, Sean McGrath, John Wisenbargar and Matt Tacket as part-time firefighters pending passage of their physical and drug tests". Motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Votes: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion passed.

Administration

Mr. Hatmaker announced that this meeting's "Trash and Debris" complaints are now in compliance and no further action is required at this time.

Mr. Hatmaker announced that on December 2, the Township will host an Open House to report on a wide range of initiatives that have been undertaken in order to implement the Big Darby Accord plan. The open house will be held at Westland High School from 6:00pm until 8:00pm. The following is the press release issued today on behalf of the Board.

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"The Prairie Township Trustees announced today that they are working with other Big Darby Accord partners in order to host an open house designed to be a progress report on a wide range of Accord initiatives. This open house will mark the end of the second year of since the partners have turned their attention to making the Accord a reality.

Members of the public that attend this open house will have a chance to hear from a wide range of the interest that is involved in implementing the Accord. The open house will feature displays and brief presentations including information about Accord initiatives. These initiatives address topics such as open space preservation, stream restoration, revenue generation and disbursement, town center planning and innovative zoning efforts. Individuals who have been involved in local progress in these areas will be available to discuss various initiatives, recent progress and future directions.

The Big Darby Accord represents unprecedented cooperation among central Ohio jurisdictions. Accord partner jurisdictions include Franklin County and Brown and Pleasant Townships, as well as the cities of Columbus and Hilliard. However, this partnership goes beyond these jurisdictions to include stakeholders such as conservation entities and building and development interests."

Mr. Hatmaker presented to the Board a resolution revising the application fee for modifying an Exceptional Use district from \$100 to \$350. The Board discussed this matter at their October 22nd meeting and agreed to move forward with the increase.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move that the Board adopt Resolution 39-08, a resolution to increase the application fee for Modification of an Exceptional use district from \$100 to \$350." Motion was seconded by Mr. Stormont. Roll call votes were: Mr. Kennedy-Aye; Mr. Stormont-Aye; Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Resolution passed.

Mr. Hatmaker also requested the Board's approval of a snow and ice agreement with the City of Columbus for the winter of 2008-2009 and he requested the Board to authorize the township administrator to sign all necessary agreements. The Road Department will be removing snow and ice on the same roads as in the past: Johnson Road, Doherty Road and a portion of Della Road. David McAninch, Road Superintendent, has recommended that instead of taking payment for the snow and ice removal, we exchange this service for salt. The City of Columbus has proposed that the township receive 134 tons of salt instead of the cash payment of \$7,842.91. The cost per ton under this agreement is \$58.42 which is \$6.83 per ton less than what the Township will pay through the County Engineer's Office. The Road Department will pick up the salt from the Columbus facility located on Nationwide Boulevard. The Township will save nearly \$1000 in road salt costs through this agreement.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion; "I move the Board approve the snow and ice agreement with the City of Columbus as presented and authorize the township administrator to sign the agreement." Motion seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Votes: Mr. Stormont-Aye; Mr. Kennedy-Aye and Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board's approval of an agreement with JD Equipment to replace a 2008 John Deere 5426 Tractor with a 2009 John Deere 5085 Tractor for a trade difference of \$3,500 and authorize the township administrator to sign all necessary agreements.

Mrs. Schlosser commented that in years past she has questioned the feasibility of such transactions, but she has been convinced that the maintenance costs that have been avoided along with the improved reliability of the new equipment outweigh the \$3500 cost.

Mr. Kennedy noted that under this agreement, the township effectively utilizes a new piece of equipment for less than \$300 per month.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move the Board approve an agreement with JD Equipment to replace a 2008 John Deere 5425 Tractor with a 2009 John Deere 50085 Tractor for a trade difference of \$3,500 and authorize the township administrator to sign all agreements." Motion was seconded by

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Mr. Stormont. Votes: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye and Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Hatmaker then requested the Board's approval to proceed with the replacement of the Prairie Township Hall roof. This project will include gutter repair and replacement of damaged aluminum facing. This work is necessary because of damage resulting from the September 14, 2008 wind storm. The estimate we received from John Ross Roofing and Siding was the basis for OTARMA approving a claim for reimbursement for the entire cost of the work. The total cost of replacement roof is \$19,485, of which \$17,100 is covered under our Township insurance policy. A \$1,000 deductible is expected to be reimbursed to the Township by FEMA, and the additional \$1,385 cost above the insured coverage is for an upgrade to 30 year shingles over the standard 25 year shingles.

Ms. Schlosser made the following motion: "I move the Board approve the expenditure of \$19,485 for the replacement of the township hall roof and related items as per the October 6, 2008 estimate from John Ross Roofing and Siding." Motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye and Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion passed.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Public Comments

None


Announcements

None

They're being no further business to come before the Board; the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Chairperson



Fiscal Officer