

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**JUNE 3, 2009 – REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M.**

**23 MAPLE DRIVE
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228**

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order on June 3, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Stormont, with Mr. Kennedy and Ms. Schlosser. Also in attendance were Mr. Hatmaker, Township Administrator, Chief Feustel and see attached list.

Mr. Stormont led the Pledge of Allegiance.

In the absence of Dan McCardle, Fiscal Officer, Mr. Stormont moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded, the Board appoint Tracy Hatmaker as Clerk Pro Tem.

Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. This motion passed.

Sheriff's Report

Deputy Weiner appeared before the Board and stated they had an incident at Prairie Lincoln Elementary School with graffiti and thanks to a watchful neighbor; three individuals were caught ranging in age from 12 to 16. In the Lake Darby/West Point area, there have been issues with vehicles being broken into and there have been plain clothes detectives out in the area. The deputies have been working on several traffic complaints in the area and there have been several accidents in the last few weeks. Mr. Kennedy stated that Deputy Weiner represents the township very well.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Mr. Hatmaker, Clerk-Pro-Tem, stated the Zoning Department had flooding in their offices in early May and there was a loss of three computers. This loss was covered by insurance however in order to pay for the replacements, monies need to be appropriated in the Zoning – Machinery, Equipment and Furniture -line item. He requested the Board approve moving \$2,000.00 from Zoning – Other Expenses 1000-130-599-0000 to Zoning – Machinery, Equipment and Furniture 1000-130-740-0000.

Mr. Stormont motioned "So Moved". Motion was seconded by Ms. Schlosser. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion Passed.

Mr. Hatmaker stated due to an eye injury sustained by Dan McCardle, Fiscal Officer, Dan was unable to have the warrants prepared in time for this meeting and has therefore requested that the Board hold a special meeting on June 9th to review and approve the warrants payable.

Mr. Hatmaker then requested the Board to approve remittance of today's payroll cash requirement summing \$133,709.95.

Mr. Stormont motioned "So Moved". Motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion Passed.

Standing Business:

Fire Department: Chief Feustel appeared before the Board to discuss the following items:

1. Chief Fuestel requested the Board's approval of 192 hours of disability leave for Lieutenant Rick Critchfield per the union contract.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the use of 192 hours of disability leave by Lt. Rick Critchfield as per the current collective bargaining agreement.

This motion was seconded by Ms. Schlosser. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. This motion passed.

2. Chief Fuestel is requesting the Board's approval for converting 46 hours of sick leave to injury leave for Firefighter Kevin Wade for an on-duty injury per the union contract and also credit the 46 hours back

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to his sick leave balance.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the use of 46 hours of injury leave by Firefighter Kevin Wade and that the sick leave that was previously used be credited back to Firefighter Wade.

This motion was seconded by Ms. Schlosser. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. This motion passed.

3. Chief Fuestel requested the approval of the use of 89 hours of disability leave for Captain Jeff Route as per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the use of 89 hours of disability leave by Captain Jeff Route as per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

This motion was seconded by Ms. Schlosser. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. This motion passed.

4. Chief Fuestel announced that Firefighter Mike Altomare who has been doing the fire investigations for Prairie Township, passed the International Association of Arson Investigators test and is now considered a Certified Fire Investigator. Firefighter Altomare has achieved quite an accomplishment as they aren't many fire departments in the Central Ohio area that have a Certified Fire Investigator.

5. Chief Feustel requested that the Board approve the hiring of three part-time dispatchers, Samuel Keller, Gary Waples and Brandi Rose.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the hiring of Samuel Keller, Gary Waples and Brandi Rose as part-time fire dispatchers at a rate of \$9.00 per hour effective June 4, 2009.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. This motion passed.

Chief Feustel was asked about the apartment fire on Tarryton Court West and he stated that the fire was in an eight unit apartment complex and seven units were occupied. The eight one, where the fire started, was unoccupied. The fire is under investigation and the fire department will be giving a solution to the fire by the next meeting.

Administration:

Mr. Hatmaker appeared before the Board to discuss the following items:

1. He informed the Board there was a lot of high grass nuisance cases and he is looking to the Board for their guidance in these cases.

Mr. Charles Trudeau, 1445 Bolingbrook Drive, appeared before the Board to discuss the nuisance case filed against his property. He stated "he his stunned that he is even at the meeting and that he has done a lot of work over the winter and he continues to work on the yard on a weekly basis. He doesn't know what else the Board wants him to do". He has taken truck loads to the composite facility on a regular basis. Ms. Schlosser stated "the Board went to the property on June 3rd and the biggest concern she has is the fence along the railroad and on the other side that is not connected due to the extensive growth on the inside of the fence." Mr. Trudeau stated "he intentionally left the growth as he does not want to see the railroad". She also stated "she can understand growth along the fence line, if the fence was standing but not the amount." The growth is fifteen to twenty feet from where the fence should be standing". Mr. Trudeau stated "it is no different depth wise than it was over the winter when the Board said everything was fine".

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Mr. Stormont stated "part of the nuisance issues is you have varmints running around and there are all kinds of trash in the back. A discussion followed concerning the pictures taken of the property.

Ms. Schlosser stated "the whole purpose of the nuisance law is to make sure that vegetation and growth doesn't get to a point to harbor vermin and she thinks this case is at that point". Mr. Kennedy stated "his view is that he always stays away from fence lines and if it was just a fence line, he would not have an issue with it". There are some fences that are torn down and the Zoning Code states that if there is a fence, it has to be maintained. Mr. Kennedy also stated "he has a problem with the poison ivy" and Mr. Trudeau stated "he has cut it down to the ground numerous times and weeded and within three weeks you can't tell he has worked on it".

Mr. Kennedy stated "both parties are in attendance and hopefully they can reach some conclusion so both sides are happy either by declaring this a nuisance or come to an agreement where everyone can get along". A discussion followed regarding the spraying of the poison ivy.

Mr. Kennedy asked Mr. Trudeau if he was asking for an extension. He said he was. Mr. Kennedy said he would like to see this issue end in a two week period. Mr. Kennedy asked Mr. Trudeau if he would be willing to meet with township representatives and the neighbors before the next township meeting and he stated "he would". Mr. Hatmaker will schedule a meeting with all parties involved on Monday or Tuesday before the next Trustee meeting.

Mr. Kennedy spoke with a representative from the railroad and they requested a two week extension as well due to the fact someone borrowed their mowing equipment and didn't return it.

The Board proceeded to declare the following properties nuisance cases.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Prairie Township Board of Trustees find the conditions at 4757 West Broad Street, 8817 Canoe Drive, 21 Center Street, 200 Darbyhurst Road, 6677 Hall Road, 341 North Greener Road, 42 Rome Hilliard Road; to be a nuisance and that the Board hereby directs staff to abate said nuisance at the expense of the property owner(s) as per the requirements in Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. This motion passed.

2. Mr. Hatmaker requested the Board approve an agreement for the placement of the new SWACO welcome sign at US 40 and Hubbard Road. The agreement allows for the placement of the sign at this location and stipulates that the owner of the property may have the sign removed to another location if the property is developed.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the Road Sign Agreement with the William C. Davis Trust and authorize the township administrator to execute the agreement.

This motion was seconded by Ms. Schlosser. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. This motion passed.

3. Mr. Hatmaker's requested the Board approve the transfer of \$15,977.68 from the General Fund – Transfers Out – 1000-910-0000 to the Palmetto Street Improvement Project Fund – Transfers In – 4405-931-0000 for two 2009 loan payments to the Ohio Public Works Commission and authorize the payment of \$7,988.84 each to be paid in June and December of this year.

Mr. Stormont motioned "So Moved". Motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Votes were: Mr. Stormont-Aye: Mr. Kennedy-Aye: Ms. Schlosser-Aye. Motion Passed.

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Old Business: Mr. Stormont announced that the pedestrian bridge on South Greener Avenue will not be removed. The road will be built around the bridge.

None

New Business:

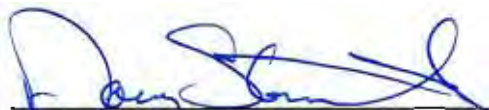
None

Public Comments: A resident stated since the township has welcome signs at the east and west entrances of the township, it would be nice to have them at the north and south entrances of the township as well.

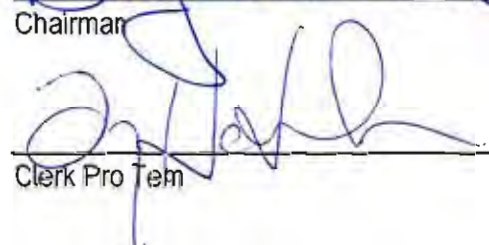
None

Announcements: On June 23rd, 9:00 A.M., there will be a walking audit of the Lincoln Village South area around Stiles Elementary School. This audit is related to the Stiles Elementary Safe Routes to School program which is a grant the township receives from the Ohio Department of Transportation. This program is designed to help children bike and walk to school safely. The public is encouraged to attend.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.



Chairman



Clerk Pro Tem