

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 19, 2010– REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order on May 19, 2010 at 7:00 PM by the Chairman, Trustee Steve Kennedy, with Trustee Doug Stormont, Trustee Ron Ball, and Fiscal Officer Dan McCardle present. Also in attendance were Tracy Hatmaker, Township Administrator and Fire Chief Stephen Feustel. (See attached sign in sheet for a complete list of additional attendees).

Mr. Kennedy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Kennedy asked the board to approve the meeting minutes for the May 5, 2010 regular meeting and the May 7, 2010 special meeting. Mr. Stormont seconded. **The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. Motion passed.**

Sheriff's Report

Deputy Weiner went over the April Crime Statistics Report – highlighting various categories. Copies of this report are available for pick-up at the Township Hall. Deputy Weiner added that the suspect who robbed a local Subway shop turned himself in within a couple of days of the crime.

Franklin Co. Economic Dev. and Planning Director Jim Schimmer

Mr. Schimmer presented an overview of the Westland Area Interim Development Framework prepared for portions of Franklin and Prairie Townships by his department. This document is intended to provide general guidance to local officials reviewing applications for development in the area around the proposed casino.

Paul Wenning of the Franklin County Board of Health:

Mr. Wenning gave his annual update of Franklin County's efforts to comply with it's NPDES Phase II storm water permit and other topics. Mr. Wenning answered several questions from those in attendance.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Hometown Inn Sale Deposit Check

Mr. McCardle requested that the Board approve a series of three actions which will allow Township representatives to attend the June 4, 2010 sheriff's sale with a cashier's check in the amount of \$373,187.50 as a deposit for the purchase of Hometown Inn property. This will be required if the Township is the winning bidder. The first action will be to approve moving the funds from the Fifth Third Money Market account to the Township's PNC checking account. The next action is to approve a letter to the Franklin County Budget Commission requesting that the additional funds be appropriated in the General Fund. The final action would approve that the funds be used to have a cashier's check prepared for possible use at the sale. The Board will meet in executive session on June 2nd to discuss the ceiling to which it wishes to bid on this property, after which it will authorize the Township's representatives to go to the sale and according to its instructions. This purchase is 100% reimbursable via grant monies.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve moving \$373,187.50 from the Fifth Third money market account to the Township's PNC checking account. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

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Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board authorize the Township Administrator to send a letter to the Franklin County Budget Commission requesting that an additional \$373,187.50 be appropriated in General Fund line item 1000-710-710-0000. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve the expenditure of \$373,187.50 for the preparation of a cahiers check in the name of the Franklin County Sheriff or the Prairie Township Board of Trustees for use as a deposit for the purchase of the property at 4601 West Broad Street if needed. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Approval of Warrants and Payroll

Mr. McCardle requested the Board's approval to pay this week's warrants summing \$52,115.68 and this week's payroll of \$136,970.17 for a total cash disbursement of \$189,085.85.

Mr. Kennedy motioned "so moved". Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Standing Business

Zoning Department

Mrs. Swisher was previously excused from attending tonight's meeting.

Roads and Cemetery Department

Mr. McAninch was previously excused from attending tonight's meeting.

Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief Appointment Resolution

Chief Feustel requested that the Board adopt a resolution appointing Chris Snyder as the Prairie Township Assistant Fire Chief. The Board will adopt the resolution and then the Assistant Chief will be sworn in. The Fire Department has arranged for a reception at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board adopt Resolution 15-10, "A Resolution Hiring and Establishing the Terms and Conditions of Employment for the Prairie Township Assistant Fire Chief. Mr. Stormont seconded the resolution. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Ball, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye. The resolution passed.

A reception for Assistant Chief Snyder was held at the conclusion of the regular meeting.

Administration Department

Nuisance Cases

Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board's guidance on the nuisance cases that were forward in advance of the meeting.

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Mr. Kennedy moved that the Prairie Township Board of Trustees find the conditions at 461 Smith Road; 371 Evergreen Terrace; 274 Maple Drive; 21 Center Street; 138 Woodlawn Avenue; 4789 Stiles Avenue; 370 Darby Court; 26 Lennox Avenue; 374 Kellybrook and 115 Maple to be a nuisance and that the Board hereby directs staff to abate said nuisances at the expense of the property owners as per the requirements in Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

MORPC Payment for OPWC Grant Process Administration

MORPC administers the District 3 Integrating Committee of the Ohio Public Works Commission grant / loan review process. This is the process through which Prairie Township has funded several projects, including the South Greener Avenue projects. MORPC bills 0.196% of the grant amount for this activity. We have received the

bill for the recently completed South Greener Phase II project, which was part of Round 23 funding. The amount of the grant and loan awards was \$3,064,953, resulting in a billing of \$6,024.00.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve payment of \$6,024.00 to the Mid Ohio Planning Commission for administration and oversight of the South Greener Avenue Phase II Road Reconstruction Project. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Acceptance of Donation of Land at Hubbard and Dellinger Roads

Davis and Son, Incorporated, is donating two parcels of land (241-000877 and 241-000835) consisting of a total of 5.48 acres, to Prairie Township. The land is located at the southeastern corner of the intersection of Hubbard and Dellinger Roads. Davis and Son has asked that, once they have received an appraisal of the property, the township sign an IRS Form 8283 "Noncash Charitable Contributions" form acknowledging this donation.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board accept Davis and Son, Incorporated's donation of tax parcels 241-000877 and 241-000835 to the Township, authorize the Township Administrator to have the parcels transferred and the deed recorded; and authorize the Township Administrator to execute IRS Form 8283 acknowledging this donation. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Employee Step Increase In Pay

Mr. Hatmaker recommended that the Board approve the final step increase in pay for Zoning Field Inspector Kelvin Ferguson. Kelvin has recently completed training on the nuisance abatement administrative process and the building department administrative process. He now has knowledge of all department operations. This pay increase, which raises Kelvin's hourly rate from \$18.43 per hour to \$19.35 per hour, has been budgeted and appropriated for. Pending Board approval, this raise will be effective on May 12th.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve a step increase for Kelvin Ferguson, which would bring him to the top Assistant Zoning Inspector pay level of \$19.35 per hour. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Temporary Staff for the Zoning Office

The Zoning Clerk will be out of the office on sick leave for up to nine weeks starting today. The Zoning office is requesting permission to hire temporary help for 25 hours per week to help cover department operations during that time. This is especially important given the fact that we are entering a busy season for nuisances. Mrs. Swisher is requesting a pay level of \$9.50 per hour so that she can hire an adult with relevant office experience. Mrs. Swisher believes that the overtime saved in her department so far this year, as well as the overtime that would be saved by providing this position, will ensure that she has the money appropriated to cover this expense.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve the hiring of a temporary office assistant for the Zoning Department to work 25 hours per week at a rate of \$9.50 per hour for a period to begin as soon as a candidate is selected and to end no later than July 20, 2010. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The

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votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Health Insurance Renewal

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve the renewal for the 2010 / 2011 township employees' health insurance benefit plan (Medical Mutual SM Plus 4000) proposed by, and to be administered by, Ohio Insurance Services and authorize the Township Administrator and other township officials as necessary to prepare and execute the necessary documents. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Road Projects

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve the 2010 road improvement project program submitted by the Road Superintendent, David McAninch, at an estimated cost of \$255,000. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Old Business

The topic of the installation of park benches along township streets was raised and discussed.

New Business

None

Public Comment

None

Announcements

Doctors West is conducting an open house of their newly opened emergency room where the facility has expanded from 15 rooms to 50 rooms.

The Township Senior Center will be conducting a health fair on May 21, 2010 from 1:00-4:00.

Memorial Day Services will be held at 9:30am at the Galloway Cemetery and at 12:00 noon at the Alton Cemetery.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Handwritten signature of Steve Kennedy in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Chairman

Handwritten signature of the Fiscal Officer in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Fiscal Officer