

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 - REGULAR MEETING 7 :00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO
43228

Trustee Doug Stormont called the meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees to order on September 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall with Trustee Cathy Schmelzer, Trustee Rod Pritchard, Township Administrator James Jewell, Road Superintendent Dave McAninch, Zoning Director Dana Scott, Director Michael Pollack, Fire Chief Allen Scott, and Deputy D. Adkins 1120 present.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Stormont opened the meeting and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board appoint Dave McAninch as Fiscal Officer Pro Tem. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Annual Stormwater Update

Franklin Soil and Water and Franklin County Public Health were in attendance to provide updates on the storm water management program. Mr. Jewell asked the Board to approve Resolution 34-23 recognizing Stormwater Awareness Week as October 1-7th, 2023.

Mr. Pritchard asked about the project on Murnan Road. Franklin Soil and Water provided an update. Mr. McAninch asked if they handle the construction site for the City of Columbus. The Franklin Soil and Water representative said no but she will get the contact information for Mr. McAninch.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve adopt Resolution 34-23 "Stormwater Awareness Week". Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Roll Call Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes - September 6, 2023 regular meeting minutes and September 11, 2023 special meeting minutes.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont made a motion to approve the September 6, 2023 regular meeting minutes and September 11, 2023 special meeting minutes. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Franklin County Sheriff 's Office

Our new Community Liaison, Deputy D. Adkins 1120 gave the Sheriff's report for the last two weeks as follows:

9/6/2023 - 9/20/2023	Total
Total Calls for Service/Self-Initiated Runs	547
Total Reports Taken	74

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Arrests/Citations	51
Thefts	9
Suspicious Activity Stops / Calls	87
Traffic Stops	70
Stolen Vehicles	1
Recovered Stolen Vehicles	1
Drug Related Arrests	4
Overdose	0
Burglaries / B&E	3
OVI	0

- The FCSO SIU executed a search warrant in the 8500 Block of Major Place based upon a tip from a community member. This is a reminder to all community members that each tip is greatly appreciated and that the FCSO follows up on each.
- The FCSO is excited to announce an upcoming project. The Sheriff's Office will collaborate with Law Enforcement, Public Health, ADAMH, and community outreach partners to present Operation Bridge (Bridging Recovery Interdiction Data Gathering Enforcement). This project will focus on Prairie and Franklin Twp in the upcoming weeks. This initiative attempts to limit the demand for controlled substances by the FCSO and other Ohio law enforcement agencies partnering with mental health professionals to focus on diversion (away from incarceration, towards treatment) and community outreach (door knocks, pop-up informational tents, social media contacts, etc.). First responders and/or mental health professionals will assist in prearrest diversion and post-overdose response. Non-government resources and community partners will be on hand to raise awareness about treatment and/or recovery centers in the area. More information will be available soon through news outlets and social media.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Approval of Warrants: This week's warrants list detailed payments to 76 vendors totaling \$341,622.56. Mr. McAninch requested the Board's approval to pay all items on this week's warrant list totaling \$341,622.56.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont motioned "so moved". Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Approval to Process 9/25 Payroll Related Payments: Mr. McAninch asked the Board for approval to process 9/25/23 payroll related warrants for Deferred Compensation, Short-Term Disability and Long-Term Disability once payroll is finalized.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board authorize the Fiscal Office to process payroll-related warrants as presented. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr.

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Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Increase to Appropriations: Mr. McAninch asked the Board to approve increasing appropriations in the following lighting district funds:

Fund 2407 (Clover Estates) by \$150.00
Fund 2414 (Young Estates) by \$200.00
Fund 2419 (Westpoint 2 Sec. 3, 4 + 5) by \$2,500.00

Comments/Issues: Ms. Schmelzer asked why we are increasing appropriations in these funds. Mr. McAninch gave a brief explanation.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve increasing appropriations in the lighting district funds as submitted. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Standing Business

Fire Department

Hiring Full-Time Firefighter: Chief Scott asked the Board to approve hiring Olivia Nester as a full-time firefighter/medic, effective October 3rd, 2023. Olivia will serve a one-year probation. This offer will be conditional upon the completion of a pre-employment physical.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve hiring Olivia Nester as a full-time firefighter effective October 3, 2023 with a one year probation upon successful completion of the onboarding process. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Additional Repairs to Engine 243: Chief Scott asked the Board to approve additional repairs to engine 243 by Pierce Mfg. at a cost not to exceed \$70,000.00. This amount will exceed the original budget cost by about \$30,000.00. However, this refurbishment cost was estimated 2 years ago, and the cost of parts and labor has increased exponentially. Eng243 only has 50,000 miles and with the exception of cosmetic items, will be a nearly new truck when it returns to us.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve additional repairs to Engine 243 by Pierce Manufacturing Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$70,000.00. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Community Center

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Mr. Pollack announced that the Community Center is hosting candidates' night on September 26th. The meet and greet is at 6:30 and the event starts at 7p.m.

Roads, Cemeteries, and Parks Department

Hiring Part-Time Road Laborer: Mr. McAninch recommended the Board approve hiring Jacob P Endicott to a part time road laborer position. This hiring would be contingent on Jacob passing a pre-employment drug screen. Jacob's starting pay would be \$15.00 per hour based on the part time scale approved by the board of trustees on December 15, 2021. Jacob's start date would be September 25 2023.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve hiring Jacob P Endicott as a part-time Road Laborer at a starting pay of \$15.00 effective September 25, 2023 upon successful completion of a pre-employment drug screening. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Commercial Building and Zoning Department

Court Cases: Kevin & Nanciann Lilly at 308 Hubbard Road, Galloway, Ohio 43119. This injunction would be for operating a business, "ASA Carpentry," on the property without first obtaining a Conditional Use Permit and having open storage of materials on the property.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve starting the legal process for an injunction against Kevin and Nanciann Lilly at 308 Hubbard Road, Galloway, Ohio 43119, as presented, and giving Brosius, Johnson, and Griggs permission to represent this case on behalf of Prairie Township. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Columbus 4875 LLC (Marathon) at 4875 West Broad Street (and all parcels owned/operated by this LLC), Columbus, Ohio 43228. This injunction would be for numerous violations on the properties (junk vehicles, signs, open storage, donation bins, fencing, illegal business activity, E.U. Development Plan, off-site parking, etc.).

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve starting the legal process for an injunction against Columbus 4875 LLC (Marathon) Columbus, Ohio 43228, as presented, and giving Brosius, Johnson, and Griggs permission to represent this case on behalf of Prairie Township. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Administration

Nuisance Resolutions: No one was in attendance to speak on behalf of tonight's nuisance cases.

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William Hill, 486 Maple Drive, helps friends and neighbors fix vehicles. Ms. Critchfield has spoken with the landlord. Ms. Scott stated you cannot work on other vehicles in a residential area based on the Zoning code.

1. Galloway Village - Refuse & Debris:

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
X	4820 Medfield Way	240-004847
X	4960-4982 Medfield Way	240-004837

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 55-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with refuse and debris. " Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

2. Remaining Nuisances:

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
X	331 N Murray Hill Road	240-003783
X	163 Fernhill Avenue	240-002581
X	122 Norton Road	240-003088

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 56-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with uncontrolled vegetation. " Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
X	115 Gladys Road	240-002459
X	4540-4560 Hilton Avenue	240-004745
X	487 Lombard Road	240-004696

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 57-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with refuse and debris. " Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
X	300 Evergreen Terrace	240-002138
X	240-002136 Evergreen Terrace	240-002136
X	174 Norton Road	240-000948

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Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-5 8-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with uncontrolled vegetation and refuse and debris. " Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

BRT Letters of Support: Mr. Jewell asked the Board to approve signing two letters of support for the West Broad Street BRT (Bus Rapid Transit). The first letter of support is in regards to the TOD Pilot Grant. This Pilot Program for Transit Oriented Development (TOD) will conduct comprehensive capacity, economic, and market analysis as well as resource and policy recommendations for the remaining transit stations along the West Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor. The second letter is in regards to the NAE Grant. Neighborhood Access and Equity (NAE) is funding from Capital Construction and Regional Partnership Challenge Grants within the USDOT NAE Grant Program for the West Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve signing two letters of support for the TOD Pilot Grant and the NAE Grant Program for the West Broad Street BRT project. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Land Acquisition Application: Mr. Jewell presented a Land Acquisition application we received for parcels 240-001414, 240-001415, 240-001416, 240-001417, 240-001425 and 240-001426. Staff is recommending we do not move forward with selling these parcels at this time. / No Board action was required at this time.

Old Business

Mr. Zalenski, 4752 Hilton Avenue, asked about the possibility of a conditional use permit for 486 Maple Drive. Ms. Scott said no it is not possible.

New Business

None

Public Comment

Mr. Zalenski recognized vocation counselor Tim McNish with Jewish Family Services. He is at the Lincoln Village Public Library on Wednesdays from 4-6p.m.

Announcements

None

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Adjournment

Mr. Stormont declared the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Chairman Doug Stormont

Fiscal Officer Pro Tem Dave McAninch