

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OCTOBER 4, 2023 - REGULAR MEETING 7 :00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

Trustee Doug Stormont called the Prairie Township Board of Trustees regular meeting to order on October 4, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall. In attendance were Trustee Rod Pritchard, Trustee Doug Stormont, Fiscal Officer Alec Milam, Township Administrator James Jewell, Fire Marshal Matt Powers, Zoning Assistant Alicia Armentrout, Recreation Director Michael Pollack, and FCSO Deputy Dan Adkins.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

COTA - West Broad BRT Presentation

Representatives from COTA gave a presentation regarding LinkUS and the future West Broad Street BRT (Bus Rapid Transit). The West Broad Street BRT is still in the design phase and COTA hopes to start construction within the next couple of years. COTA anticipates 3.5 million people to be living in the Central Ohio area by 2050 and aims to address the region's growth, affordability of transportation, and opportunity gaps through this project.

Comments/Issues: None

Approval of Minutes - September 20, 2023 regular meeting minutes and September 27, 2023 special meeting minutes.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont made a motion to approve the September 20, 2023 regular meeting minutes and September 27, 2023 special meeting minutes. Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Franklin County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Dan Adkins gave the Sheriff's report for the period September 20, 2023 through October 4, 2023.

Total Calls for Service/ Self-Initiated Patrol Runs	588
Total Patrol Reports Taken	55
Total Patrol Arrest/Citations	51
Thefts	6 (-3)
Suspicious activity stops/calls	90 (+3)
Traffic Stops	95 (+25)
Stolen Vehicles	3 (+2)
Recovered Vehicles	1
Drug-Related Arrests	3 (-1)

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Overdose	0
Burglaries/B&E	1 (-2)
OVI	1 (+1)

- September 21st, 2023: During the early morning hours, FCSO Patrol apprehended multiple Juveniles and a stolen vehicle in Lincoln Village South.
- September 28th, 2023: Shooting in the 400 block of Amity Rd. One victim was seriously injured. One suspect had been arrested. Weapons and narcotics were recovered.
- September 29th, 2023: A shooting victim was dropped off at Doctors West Hospital. The investigation is ongoing.
- September 30th, 2023: Shooting in the 4800 block of West Broad. The victim is stable, and a suspect is in custody. The investigation is ongoing.

During September 25-28th, FCSO SIU and SWAT assisted with Operation Bridge in Prairie and Franklin Townships. This operation's main goal was to help end users and arrest/develop leads on suspects who are trafficking narcotics. This operation resulted in the following:

- Outreach contacts: 277
- Outreach referrals: 74
- 19 people accepted in-patient/out-patient treatment
- Felony arrests (Non-Drug Related) - 36
- Felony arrests (Drug Related) - 35
- Misdemeanor arrest (Non-Drug Related) - 16
- Misdemeanor arrest (Drug Related) - 9
- Firearms Seized - 4
- Traffic stops initiated - 140
- Citations issued - 42
- Arrest warrants (Soliciting, petty theft, traffic, obstructing, falsification) - 38
- Seized Methamphetamine 7 grams
- Seized Marijuana 645 grams
- Seized Fentanyl 132 grams
- Seized Cocaine 390 grams
- Seized Crack 23 grams
- Seized Heroin 5 grams
- Seized RX Pills 4 doses
- Seized Counterfeit pills - 4 doses

Fiscal Officer 's Report

Approval of Warrants/Payroll: This week's warrants list detailed payments to 60 vendors totaling \$361,088.63. Mr. Milam requested the Board's approval to pay all items on this week's warrant list totaling

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\$361,088.63 along with 9/25/23 payroll of \$188,652.73 and 10/10/23 payroll of \$191,129.03 for a total cash disbursement of \$740,870.39.

Comments/Issues: None

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

Transfer: Mr. Milam asked the Board to approve transferring \$55,000.00 from JEDZ Fund (2903) and \$30,000 from the JEDD Fund (2904) to the Community Center Fund (2905) to cover operating expenses.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve transfers to the Community Center Fund (2905) as presented. Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

STANDING BUSINESS

Prairie Township Fire Department

Chief Scott was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Powers provided the monthly report for September 2023.

Fire Department Monthly Report - September 2023:

Incident Type Group	Count of Incidents
100 - Fire	1
100 - Fire Total	9
200 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat	2
300 - Rescue & EMS Total	279
400 - Hazardous Condition Total	5
500 - Service Call	1
500 - Service Call Total	32
600 - Good Intent Call	7
600 - Good Intent Call Total	68
700 - False Alarm Total	16
800 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1

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Grand Total	421
Fire Total	133
EMS Total	288

Automatic Aid Given	108
Columbus	84
Jefferson Twp.	11
Norwich Twp.	5
Franklin Twp.	3
Pleasant Twp.	3
Central Twp.	2

Automatic Aid Received	14
Columbus	6
Franklin	11
Norwich	1

Station Report	
241	271
243	34

Working fires	2
Shootings	2
Total Training Hours	211

Total Life Safety Inspections	44	F.M. Powers: Nat. Fire Academy at an evidence collection class
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Comments/Issues: None

Prairie Township Community Center

Increase to Revenue and Appropriations: Mr. Pollack asked the Board to approve increasing appropriations in the Community Center Fund (2905) by \$152,000.00 and increasing revenue in the same

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fund by \$95,000.00. The increase in appropriations help cover additional costs in the full-time and part-time salaries and OPERS. The increase in revenue is due to increases in passes, classes, and insurance paid.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve increasing appropriations in the Community Center Fund (2905) by \$152,000.00 and increasing revenue in the same fund by \$95,000.00. Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Pollack delivered the monthly report for September 2023.

Community Center Monthly Report - September 2023:

Community Center Monthly Report

Numbers as of **September 27,2023**

		percentage
Total Current Community Center Members	7,309	
Total Members that are Prairie Township Residents	2,208	30.21%
Total Members that are Non-Residents	5,101	69.79%
Total Members that are JEDZ	137	1.87%
Total Members that are Senior Citizens	5,014	68.60%
Total Unique Senior Citizen Visits	4,628	
Number of new members/renewals since last report	116	
How many memberships that expired that were not renewed	92	
Retention rate percentage	99	
Events or significant programs		
Group Fitness Classes	708	
Basketball	472	
Pickleball	14	
Homeschool Gym	35	
Farmers Market Season	3,200	
Parents Night Out	18	
Lego Class	6	
Swim Lessons	213	
Karate	7	

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Golf

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Comments/Issues: None

Roads, Cemeteries, and Parks

Mr. McAninch was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Jewell presented the following items.

Arnold Avenue Crosswalk: Mr. Jewell asked the Board to approve moving forward with constructing a crosswalk on Arnold Avenue. The plan is to install two ADA compliant ramps, replace the curb and gutters, proper striping, and signage. There is an existing pathway between 4657 and 4665 Arnold Avenue that will allow students to safely access Stiles Elementary School. This crosswalk will make it safer for students and pedestrians crossing Arnold Avenue to access this pathway. Mr. Jewell has received a quote from Griffin Pavement Striping in the amount of \$1,696.80 for striping. Mr. McAninch is working on getting a quote from Berkshire Boys for the two ADA ramps and concrete work.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve moving forward with constructing ADA compliant crosswalks and associated work on Arnold Avenue at a cost not to exceed \$9,000.00 and authorize the Road Superintendent to execute the necessary documents. Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Asbestos Survey: Mr. Jewell recommended the Board approve an Asbestos Survey of 454 Mix Avenue by Resource International Inc. for a lump sum price of \$2,965.00 and authorize the Township Administrator to sign any necessary documents. This is the house that caught fire earlier this year and we need to know if there is any asbestos before we tear down the house.

Comments/Issues: Mr. Pritchard asked if the cost could be assessed to the property owners.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve an asbestos survey at 454 Mix Avenue at a cost of \$2,965.00 and authorize the Township Administrator to sign the necessary documents. Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

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Mr. Jewell provided the monthly report for September 2023.

Roads, Cemeteries, and Parks Monthly Report - September 2023:

- 7 Graves sold
- 14 funerals
- Chipped tree limbs at 89 address's
- Trash, weeds W Broad Street
- Groom OneField 1 times
- OneField yearly maintenance by Motz
- Nuisance abatements at 17 properties
- Mow ROW with Flail Mower 6 days
- Mow bigger properties pull behind mower 2 days
- Mow parks, cemeteries and PTSC
- 1 W Broad Street Sweep
- Street Sweep all township roads with curb and gutter 6 days
- Topsoil, seed fertilize and straw sidewalk program 12 properties
- Hot Mix Sidewalk Program 4 properties
- Trim headstones cemeteries 8 days
- Grade and seed William Penn catch basin installation job
- Add playground mulch to Bluelake and Dalebrook 2 days
- Spray weeds playground equipment areas 2 days
- Cut off fresh graves both cemeteries 6 days
- Topsoil Seed Fertilizer and straw graves both cemeteries 3 days
- Cemetery violations 7 days
- Fix irrigation W Broad and PTSC
- Speed Trailer out collecting data 2 weeks
- Paint park sign wooden post and install new doggie bag dispensers 2 days

Comments/Issues: Mr. Pritchard asked about current road work and repairs.

Mr. Zelinski asked about a vandalized bench at Carl Frye Park in Lincoln Village North.

Commercial Building and Zoning

Ms. Scott was unable to be in attendance tonight. Ms. Armentrout provided the monthly report for September 2023.

Commercial Building and Zoning Monthly Report - September 2023:

Zoning Monthly Report - September 2023

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Franklin County Courthouse	1
Development/Informational Meetings	122
Nuisance Inspections	173
Declared Nuisances	29
Junk Motor Vehicle Inspections	3
Trash Resolution Inspections	24
EPMC Com+MFR Inspections	2
Zoning Inspections	380
Zoning Violations	120
Do Not Knock Registries	11
Zoning Permits	47
MS4 Land Disturbance Permits	3
Commercial Permits	4
Zoning Revenue	\$7,225.38
Commercial Building Revenue	\$3,626.32

Comments/Issues: Mr. Zalenski asked about the court case and what was involved.

Administration

Nuisance Resolutions: Mr. Jewell asked for it to be stated for the record any addresses that will not be declared. There were not any.

Galloway Village :

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
Yes	4951-4973 Eastham Way	240-004822
Yes	4820 Medfield Way	240-004847
Yes	4960-4982 Medfield Way	240-004837
Yes	4984-5006 Medfield Way	240-004838
Yes	99 Schoolhouse Lane	240-004824
Yes	111 Schoolhouse Lane	240-004825
Yes	44 Sturbridge Road	240-004839

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-59-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with refuse and debris. " Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Roll Call Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Remaining Nuisances:

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
Yes	4966-4968 Beacon Hill Road	240--003906

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Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-60-23, "A resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with uncontrolled vegetation. " Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Roll Call Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
Yes	34 Lawrence Avenue	240-000563
Yes	17 Lennox Avenue	240-000388
Yes	80-160 Old Village Road	240-006829
Yes	4852-4904 West Broad Street	240-004285
Yes	8487 Blue Lake Avenue	240-005396
Yes	118 Fernhill Avenue	240-002338

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU 61-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with refuse and debris. " Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Roll Call Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

No Commercial Vehicle Parking (Resolution 36-23): Mr. Jewell asked the board to adopt Resolution 36-23. This resolution enacts regulations for commercial vehicle parking on designated streets and right of way in Prairie Township. Areas include Hubbard Road between West Broad Street and Railroad Crossing 525119Y and various area in the Lake Darby Subdivision. Vehicles that violate the parking regulations outlined in this resolution will receive a parking ticket and a fine of \$100.00 per occurrence.

Comments/Issues: Mr. Zalenski asked if the railroad crossing was the overpass near the fire station on Hubbard Road.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution 36-23, "A resolution enacting regulations for the parking of vehicles on a designated street and right-of-way in Prairie Township, Franklin County, Ohio." Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Roll Call Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Flocks Update: Mr. Jewell provided an update on the shot spotters and flock cameras. The shot spotters detected gunshots and alerted the FCSO within 5 seconds, it was understood previously that this was supposed to take upwards of 45 seconds. In the last year, 2.1 million license plates have been checked by flock cameras in Prairie Township with 945 times being stolen car/plate hits, 34 missing person hits. 580 felony warrant hits, and have been used in 1750 Investigative searches by the FCSO.

Comments/Issues: None

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Old Business

None

New Business

None

Public Comment

None

Announcements

Mr. Powers announced during his report the Fire Department will be having a Food Truck and Fire Prevention Festival at Station 241 from 12 - 4 PM on Sunday, October 8, 2023.

Adjournment

Mr. Stormont declared the meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Chairman Doug Stormont

Fiscal Officer Alec Milam