

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 15, 2023 - REGULAR MEETING 7 :00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Doug Stormont called the Prairie Township Board of Trustees regular meeting to order on November 15, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall. In attendance were Trustee Rod Pritchard, Trustee Cathy Schmelzer, Trustee Doug Stormont, Fiscal Officer Alec Milam, Township Administrator James Jewell, Assistant Township Administrator and Roads Superintendent Dave McAninch, Fire Chief Scott, Zoning Director Dana Scott, Recreation Director Michael Pollack, and Franklin County Sheriff's Office Deputy Adkins.

Mr. Stormont led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes - November 1, 2023 regular meeting minutes and November 1, 2023 special meeting minutes

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the November 1, 2023 regular meeting minutes and November 1, 2023 special meeting minutes. Ms. Schmelzer seconded. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Updates from the Franklin County Sheriff 's Office

FCSO Deputy Dan Adkins gave the Sheriff's Office report for the period 10/30/2023-11/13/23.

Total Calls for Service/Self-Initiated Runs: 580

Total Reports Taken: 62

Total Arrest/Citations: 44

Thefts: 11

Suspicious activity stops/calls: 77

Traffic Stops: 84

Stolen Vehicles: 5 (200 Block of Pasadena, 4900 Block of Eastham, 6700 Block of Broad, 200 Block of Grener, 600 Block of Alton)

Drug-Related Arrests: 3

Overdose: 0

Burglaries/B&E: 2 (1400 Block of Walcutt and 6400 Block of Tamara)

OVI: 0

Vandalism: 3 (6000 Block of Bausch, 200 Block of Mix, 100 Block of S Grener)

- On 11-02-2023, Prairie Twp Fire and FCSO responded to a fire in the 100 Block of Oxley on the report of a vehicle fire. The investigation is ongoing.
- On 11-02-2023, FCSO Patrol responded to a theft from a vehicle. It was determined that several items were taken from the vehicle, including a credit card. After collaborating with CPD, two suspects were identified, and an arrest was made.
- On 11-3-2023, FCSO Patrol responded to a stabbing at a business in the 4600 Block of W Broad. A suspect was taken into custody. The investigation is ongoing.

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- On 11-05-2023, Deputies responded to a business in the 4700 Block of W. Broad. on an alarm drop. Responding Deputies discovered the glass on the door broken, and various items were missing. There is no suspect information at this time ; the Investigation is ongoing.
- On 11/10/23, Deputies were dispatched to an apartment on Eastham Way on a report of a stolen Kia. The Kia was stolen overnight. Deputies utilized the FLOCK license plate readers and were able to locate the Stolen vehicle at the rear of 400 Block of Emmitt within 15mins of taking the dispatch.
- On 11/13/2023, FCSO Patrol recovered two stolen vehicles using the FLOCK camera system. A total of three suspects were apprehended, and the investigation is ongoing.

Fiscal Office

Approval of Warrants/Payroll: This week's warrants list detailed payments to 72 vendors totaling \$1,571,957.48 (\$1,196,552.88 to the Franklin County Engineers for 2022 road resurfacing).

Mr. Milam requested the Board's approval to pay all items on this week's warrant list totaling \$1,571,957.48 along with 11/10/23 payroll of \$196,301.72 for a total cash disbursement of \$1,768,259.20.

Mr. Stormont motioned "So Moved". Ms. Schmelzer seconded. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

STANDING BUSINESS

Fire Department

Extended Warranty for Medic: Chief Scott asked the Board to purchase an extended warranty from Ford at a cost not to exceed \$8,200.00 for the new medic. We have purchased the same warranties for the last 2 medics and have had great success with them. As you know, the medic came in less than expected and the money is already appropriated.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve purchasing the extended warranty for the new Medic 241 at a cost not to exceed \$8,200.00 from Ford and authorize the Fire Chief to execute the necessary documents. Ms. Schmelzer seconded. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Change Healthcare Contract: Chief Scott asked the Board permission to notify Change Healthcare / Optum that Prairie Township intends to end our EMS billing relationship at the end of the current contract. Chief Scott said he is currently researching another billing agency and hopes to have a recommendation for you before Mid-December.

Comments/Issues: Mr. Pritchard asked about the reasoning behind cancelling this contract.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board authorize the Fire Chief to notify Change Healthcare / Optum that Prairie Township intends to end our EMS billing services at the end of the current contract. Ms.

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Schmelzer seconded. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Resignation of Part-Time Firefighter: Chief Scott asked the Board to accept the resignation of PT FF Jake Gibson, effective November 9, 2023. Jake has accepted a full-time position at Heath Fire Department. We want to wish him well in his future.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board accept the resignation of part-time firefighter Jake Gibson effective November 9, 2023. Ms. Schmelzer seconded. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Announcement: PTFD will be conducting a live burn training on Monday, November 20th near the Darby Dan Airport. Traffic should not be affected, However, there may be heavy smoke in the area during the training.

Comments/Issues: Mr. Pritchard inquired about the procedure and protocol required prior to conducting a live burn.

Chief Scott brought the new medic to the meeting.

Monthly Report:

Chief Scott gave the monthly report for October 2023.

Count of Incident Type

- Rescue & EMS: 318
- Good Intent Call: 94
- Service Call: 34
- False Alarm: 14
- Hazardous Condition: 9
- Fire: 8

Automatic Aid Given

- Columbus: 728
- Franklin Twp.: 5
- Brown Twp.: 5
- Jefferson Twp. (Madison Co.): 1

Automatic Aid Received

- Columbus: 79
- Franklin Twp.: 7
- Norwich Twp.: 2
- Pleasant Twp.: 4
- Jefferson Twp. (Madison Co.): 7

Station Responses

- 241s 395
- 243s 82

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- Fire Prevention Talks with 1,629 SWCSD students
- 34 inspections
- 133 Hours of Training
- New Grass Fighter placed in-service
- New Medic placed in-service

Community Center

Monthly Report:

Mr. Pollack delivered the monthly report for October 2023.

- Total Current Community Center Members: 7,297
- Total Members that are Prairie Township Residents: 2,193 (30.05%)
- Total Members that are Non-Residents: 5,104 (69.95%)
- Total Members that are JEDZ: 1.37 (1.88%)
- Total Members that are Senior Citizens: 5,014 (68.71%)
- Total Unique Senior Citizen Visits: 6, 204
- Memberships Expired that were not renewed: 161
- Retention Rate (%): 99%

Events or Significant Programs Attendance

- Group Fitness Classes: 708
- Basketball: 463
- Pickleball: 77
- Pumpkin Swim: 80
- Trick or Treat Trail: 1,200
- Parents Night Out: 12
- Halloween Escape Room: 23
- Clay Pumpkin: 6
- Karate: 12
- Crochet: 10
- Family Fishing Day: 9
- Senior Social Programs: 276
- Kinderdance: 5

Roads, Cemeteries, and Parks

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Hiring Two Part-Time Road Laborers: Mr. McAninch recommended the Board approve hiring Gavin Campbell and Jarrett Simmons to a part time road laborer position. Gavin started on November 7, 2023 and already completed his pre-employment drug screen. Dave called the Trustees individually and asked permission for him to start then with Dave bringing his hiring to the meeting on November 15, 2023. Jarrett's hiring would be contingent on him passing a pre-employment drug screen. Gavin and Jarrett starting pay would be \$15.00 per hour based on the part time scale approved by the Board of Trustees on December 15, 2021. Jarrett's start date would be November 16, 2023.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve hiring Gavin Campbell as a part-time Road Laborer effective November 7, 2023 at a rate of \$15.00 and Jarrett Simmons as a part-time Road Laborer effective November 16, 2023 at a rate of \$15.00 contingent on Jarrett passing a pre-employment drug screen. Ms. Schmelzer seconded. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Truck on GovDeals: Mr. McAninch recommended the Board approve putting the 2002 International on GovDeals with a minimum bid of \$30,000.00. The replacement truck for this vehicle has arrived and is in use now.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board authorize the Road Superintendent to place a 2002 International on Govdeals with a minimum bid of \$30,000.00. Ms. Schmelzer seconded. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Monthly Report

Mr. McAninch provided the monthly report for October 2023.

- 8 Graves sold
- 9 funerals
- Chipped tree limbs at 62 address's
- Trash, weeds W Broad Street also cut down daylilies and blood grasses
- Groom OneField 1 time
- Nuisance abatements at 9 properties
- Mow parks, cemeteries and PTSC
- Mower 6 days
- W Broad Street Sweep
- Topsoil, seed, fertilize and straw sidewalk program 3 properties
- Hot Mix Sidewalk Program 1 property
- Trim headstones cemeteries 2 days
- Fix irrigation W Broad and PTSC
- Speed Trailer out collecting data 2 weeks
- Install 5 wooden street signs
- Finish painting curbs from earlier this year
- Add ballfield mix to remaining dirt infields PTSC

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- Replace bench PTSC and fix bench Carl Frye Park
- Topsoil, seed, fertilize and straw 2 ditched PTSC electric for cameras
- Winterize irrigation W Broad and PTSC
- Pour new concrete lids 2 days
- Safety Town 1 day
- Vehicle maintenance 4 days
- Haul chips away from Cole Road 2 days 33 loads
- Add ADA ramps and crosswalk Arnold Ave
- Kuhlwein tile job 6 days
- Start 2023 Leaf Pick up program 3 complete trips through township and 17 loads to Kurtz Brothers

Commercial Building and Zoning

Request for Public Hearing 189-RZ-23: Ms. Scott asked the Board to set a public hearing on November 29, 2023 at 6:30 PM to consider the following application which proposes to amend the Prairie Township Zoning Resolution and map. Zoning Amendment Application No. 189-RZ-23 proposes to rezone from MFR-12 (multi-family residential) to R-6 (medium density residential) for properties located at 4619-4625 Stiles Avenue, 299-305 Mix Avenue and 329 Mix Avenue (Parcel No. 240-001252, 240-001317 and 240-00968). The Zoning Department will handle the advertising of this special meeting.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve a special meeting on November 29, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the Township Hall for a public hearing on Zoning Amendment Application No. 189-RZ-23. Ms. Schmelzer seconded. Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Monthly Report

Ms. Scott gave the monthly report for October 2023.

- Franklin County Courthouse: 2
- Development/Informational Meetings: 144
- Nuisance Inspections: 149
- Declared Nuisances: 31
- Junk Motor Vehicle Inspections: 4
- Declared Junk Motor Vehicles: 1
- Unsafe Structure Inspections: 1
- Unsafe Structure Violations: 1
- Trash Resolution Inspections: 23
- EPMC Com+MFR Inspections: 18
- EPMC Com+MFR Violations: 18

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- Zoning Inspections: 241
- Zoning Violations: 109
- Do Not Knock Registries: 11
- Zoning Permits: 31
- MS4 Land Disturbance Permits: 1
- Transient Vendor Permits: 1
- Variance Applications: 3
- Zoning Revenue: \$7,641.67
- Commercial Building Revenue: \$2,892.90
- Property Maintenance Citation Revenue \$3,250.00

Administration

Nuisance Resolutions: State for the record any addresses that will not be declared (if any).

Galloway Village:

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

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-70-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with refuse and debris." Ms. Schmelzer seconded. ROLL CALL Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Remaining Nuisances:

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
√	240-002877 N Grener Avenue	240-002877

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-71-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with uncontrolled vegetation." Ms. Schmelzer seconded. ROLL CALL Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
√	17 Lennox Avenue	240-000388
√	80-160 Old Village Road	240-006829

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√	4637 Hilton Avenue	240-004324
√	4772 Hilton Avenue	240-004267
√	80 S Murray Hill Road	240-004307
√	1881 N. Main Street	240-001746
√	8582 Abbot Cove Avenue	240-005234

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-72-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with refuse and debris. " Ms. Schmelzer seconded. ROLL CALL Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
√	350 Pasadena Avenue	240-005088
√	8800 Hubbard Dr North	241-000469
√	259 Evergreen Terrace	240-002253
√	240-002252 Evergreen Terrace	240-002252

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-73-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with uncontrolled vegetation and refuse and debris. " Ms. Schmelzer seconded. ROLL CALL Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Ordering Vacation of Twp Road (Res. 39-23): Mr. Jewell asked the Board to adopt Resolution 39-23, ordering the vacation of Rosanna Drive and Dallas Drive. At the July 26, 2023 Trustee meeting, the Board approved moving forward with vacating the right of way located on O'Harra Road west of Galloway Road surrounded by parcel 240-004137 that is now owned by Today's Church. Per the Recorders Office, this was originally supposed to be Rosanna Terrace subdivision and this ROW reflected the proposed streets Rosanna Drive and Dallas Drive. The County Commissioners approved a resolution for this vacation.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution 39-23, "A resolution ordering the vacation of a portion of township road ". Ms. Schmelzer seconded. ROLL CALL Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Discarding of Filing Cabinets (Res. 40-23): Mr. Jewell asked the Board to approve the disposal of 13 filing cabinets at the Township Hall. At the June 28, 2023 Trustee meeting I asked the Board to place these cabinets on GovDeals but they did not sell. These filing cabinets were used by the Zoning Department and are no longer needed as the documents have been digitized. These filing cabinets are located in the room behind the meeting room.

Comments/Issues: None

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Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution 40-23, "A Resolution authorizing the discarding of 13 filing cabinets ". Ms. Schmelzer seconded. ROLL CALL Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Public Comment

None

Announcements

Ms. Scott announced that the Commercial Building and Zoning Department is looking for letters of intent to volunteer for both the Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. She asked that letters be delivered no later than December 3, 2023 by the end of day.

The next regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees will be on November 29, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

Mr. Stormont declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Chairman Doug Stormont

Fiscal Officer Alec Milam