

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/JANUARY 22, 2003

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order by the Chairperson, Ms. Keller, with Mr. Wharton, Mr. Nourse and Ms. Easter present. Also attending were: Chief Lavelly, Capt Terry Sanders, Dave McAninch, Jim Strunk and Elizabeth Anderson. (See attached list).

Ms. Keller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the minutes as written for the regular meeting of January 8, 2003. Vote; Aye.

Deputy Maggie Brown addressed the Board and stated that there have been break-ins into newly built homes in the Westpoint and Lake Darby areas. Deputy Brown asked the residents to report any suspicious behavior and the Road Superintendent stated that he will make his department aware as they are out plowing snow in the evening. To request a cruiser or to report suspicious behavior residents should call 462-3333 and Deputy Brown's pager number is 631-1099.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the following supplemental appropriation:

\$15,000.00 from 2031-760-740-0000 to 2031-330-420-0000

\$ 3,000.00 from 2281-230-420-0000 to 2281-230-360-0000

1. The Clerk informed the Board that the Division of Liquor Control has rescheduled the hearing upon the advisability of the issuance of the permit for 67-71 South Murray Hill Road to February 10, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. at the Division of Liquor Control, 6606 Tussing Road, Conference Room #1, Reynoldsburg, Ohio.
2. The Clerk stated that Mr. Pitts, Village Park Residents Assoc., inquired about holding the residents association meeting in the Trustees meeting room on February 6, 2003 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the Village Park Residents Association hold their association meeting at the Township Hall on February 6, 2003 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Vote; Aye.

3. The Local Government Officials' Conference is planned for March 27 & 28, 2003 at the Convention Center at a cost of \$90.00 for one day or \$135.00 for two days. The cost includes all conference materials, continental breakfast, lunch and break refreshments and is open to Trustees and Clerks. The Clerk requested two day attendance and reimbursement for travel and parking expenses.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve covering the expenses for all elected officials to attend the Local Government Conference on March 27 & 28 at the Convention Center to include registration at \$90.00 for one day or \$135.00 for two days attendance. Vote; Aye.

4. The Clerk presented a contract from the Franklin County Sheriff for police services in Prairie Township for the year 2003 at a cost of \$23,399.31 per month for a total of \$280,791.78 for the year.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the Board approve the 1 (one) year contract for 2003 for police services in Prairie Township at a cost of \$23,399.31 per month or a total of \$280,791.78 for the year. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of

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\$101,376.77 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent, addressed the Board with the following Road/Cemetery Department matters:

Elie Sabbagh; Feller, Finch & Assoc., addressed the Board regarding the Ohio Public Works applications that have been submitted. Mr. Sabbagh stated that both of OPWC projects that have been submitted, Medfield Road Improvements and 2003 Curb Ramp Improvements, have been recommended for approval. The Community Development Block Grant project (CDBG) for Roadway Improvements in Lincoln Village North has also been recommended for approval. The Franklin County Commissioners will have a meeting on February 4, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. to take any comments on the CDBG projects. Mr. Nourse stated that the Inah Avenue road project is likely to proceed this year. M/I Homes has agreed to install curbs, gutters and sidewalks on Inah Ave., Owen Street and Palmetto Street and Prairie Township has to do the engineering to guarantee that the elevations match Norton Road which is going to be lowered 18" at the intersection of Inah Ave., Norton Road and Palmetto Street. Inah Avenue may have to be lowered to coordinate this construction. Mr. Nourse would like to meet Friday, January 24, 2003, at 9:00 a.m. with Elie Sabbagh and Dave McAninch.

1. Dave McAninch stated that the tree work is close to completion in the Alton M.E. cemetery and presented prices for installation of the chain link fence to include a 12' gate around the cemetery. Trudeau Fence quoted \$3,993.00 and Byers Fence quoted \$4,096.00. The Road Superintendent recommended Trudeau Fence Co. Dave McAninch stated that depending on the weather, the installation will take place within the next few weeks.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the installation of a 726 feet of fence to include a 12' gate around the Alton M.E. cemetery by Trudeau Fence Co. at a total cost of \$3,993.00. Vote; Aye.

2. The Road Superintendent reported that Operation Flag through Mr. Joe Testa's office is going to adopt the cemetery for the project. Mr. Joe Testa is willing to give a presentation about the Operation Flag Organization to any senior or community groups. If anyone is interested, please call Dave McAninch, Road/Cemetery Superintendent.
3. The Road Superintendent presented prices as requested for the asbestos abatement at the Cole Road Property recently acquired by the Township. A survey was conducted by AHC Inc. and the findings were that there is approximately 125 LF of ductwork covered with asbestos containing tape, 1,300 square feet of transite siding on the house and 1,500 square feet of transite roofing shingles on the garage and shed. These materials will need to be removed by a licensed abatement contractor prior to demolition or burning of the property. The prices quoted to complete the work are as follows: AHC Inc.; \$6,300.00 including the survey, Clinton Carvell Inc.; \$11,067.00 and Columbus Abatement Co., Inc. \$2,475.00. The Ohio EPA has worked with all three companies.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve AHC Inc. at a total cost of \$6,300.00 for the removal of all asbestos containing materials as identified in the report on the old Phillips property at Cole Road. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

4. Dave McAninch received an E-mail message from Paul Rosile with the Franklin County Board of Health stating that we are fast approaching the mosquito season and for 2003 the Franklin County Board of Health will finance the mosquito control program and they will do our best to provide the

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maximum level of service to all communities.

5. Dave McAninch presented the laboratory results from the raccoon trapped on Kuhlwein Road which tested positive for canine distemper.

James Strunk, Zoning Inspector, addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department matters:

1. The Zoning Department has sent out 30 violation letters since the last meeting. A new policy has been implemented for junk vehicles whereas a verbal consultation with the resident will be attempted to improve communication between the Township and residents with regard to the zoning code.
2. Mr. Strunk stated that the Board of Zoning Appeals is scheduled to hear an application for a conditional use permit for a home occupation at 2744 Kunz Road at their February meeting. The property owner is seeking to sell firearms out of his residence and has conditional approval from the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms. The property owner currently has a "Class A" firearms license at another address and wants to transfer this license to the Kunz Road address. Mr. Nourse asked Mr. Strunk to pull the file on Mr. Mike Cordle who lives in the Mix addition. Mr. Cordle has a FFL license and was granted permission for a home occupation to sell firearms out of his home with stipulations, approximately 6 years ago. Mr. Nourse stated that he would like to be consistent with the stipulations if the Board of Zoning Appeals should approve.
3. The Zoning Inspector stated that the preliminary plat and request for rezoning for a portion of the Westpoint subdivision has passed formal tech review with the Franklin County Development Department. Additional information will be required from the Ohio EPA before Franklin County can recommend final platting. A traffic study is being conducted for a portion of the Westpoint area. Mr. Strunk stated that he understands that the Township would like road improvements to eliminate the stub streets.
4. Mr. Strunk met with Don Brosius, Township legal counsel, to discuss possible amendments to the zoning resolution to include changes or additions to the definition section, providing access to properties for inspection after permit issuance and parking issues.
5. Mr. Strunk attended a zoning seminar today and attained valuable tips in addressing code issues through code amendments.

Chief Lavelly addressed the Board with the following Fire Department matters:

1. Chief Lavelly requested the replacement of 6 lounge chairs for Station 241. A quote was presented from La-Z-Boy Furniture Gallery for 6 recliners to include stain guard at a total cost of \$3,739.70. Mr. Nourse asked of the age and condition of the other furniture in the firehouse. Chief stated that the mattresses and bed springs would have to be replaced soon and the firemen would like to build bed frames with 3 drawers underneath.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve purchasing six recliner chairs from La-Z-Boy with stain guard at a total cost of \$3,739.70. Vote; Aye.

2. Chief Lavelly reported the Fire Department responded to a working fire on Arnold Avenue where ashes were removed from a wood burning stove and placed in a bucket inside the house. Also Prairie Township assisted Hilliard last evening with a house fire on Roberts Road in the bitter cold temperatures.

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3. The Fire Department has implemented the training program and some discussions were held about some minor changes. The Fire Investigation and Prevention report prepared by Capt. Sanders was discussed and property losses were up seven times from 2001 to \$441,164.00. Capt. Sanders stated that basically all the losses were from residential properties. Mr. Nourse requested a report from Chief Lavelly by the next meeting, explaining how equipped Prairie Township is in handling a large commercial fire. This report should include staffing capabilities. Mr. Nourse and Mr. Ziegler, City of Columbus Public Safety Department, will be visiting Prairie Township next Thursday and will be bringing a directional tech van with him to look into the dead zones in the Township. Ohio American Water has offered the water tower at Westpoint for erecting the antennae. If this is a suitable site then a presentation will be made before the 800 MHZ advisory committee. Mr. Nourse invited Chief Lavelly, Capt. Sanders and George Nunamaker to join Mr. Ziegler and himself next Thursday, January 30, 2003. A map will be produced in about one month with exact points indicating where the signal begins to fade.

Ms. Elizabeth Anderson, Township Administrator, addressed the Board with the following Administrative issues:

1. The Administrator requested that the Board rescind the motion that was made at the meeting on January 8, 2003 to purchase a Dell Latitude C-64 laptop computer and projector from CDWG at a cost not to exceed \$4,700.00.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board rescind the motion made on January 8, 2003 to purchase a Dell C-64 laptop computer and projector from CDWG at a cost not to exceed \$4,700.00. Vote; Aye.

2. The Administrator requested the Board approve the purchase of a Latitude C-640 Mobile Pentium 4 Processor and a Dell 3200 MP projector/data viewer with software from Dell on State Contract #533195-2 at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the purchase of a Latitude C-640 Mobile Pentium 4 Processor and a Dell 3200 MP projector/data viewer with software from Dell on State Contract #533195-2 at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00 Vote; Aye.

Mr. Nourse stated that the Development Department has invited Mr. Randall Arendt, Land Use Planner and Conservationist, to speak at the Darby House on January 29, 2003 from 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. The cost is \$45.00 per person for the seminar, dinner and the workshop. Mr. Nourse invited James Strunk; Zoning Inspector and Kathleen Easter; Clerk as well as other trustees to attend also. Mr. Wharton and Kathleen Easter will not be attending and Ms. Keller has previously responded and made payment for herself.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the attendance of Mr. Nourse and Mr. Strunk to the discussion with Randall Arendt hosted by the Franklin County Planning Commission on January 29, 2003 at a cost of \$45.00 per person and the reimbursement of \$45.00 to Ms. Keller who has previously paid for her attendance. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Art McCade addressed the Board inquiring about the status of the Tamara Avenue ditch petition. Ms. Keller stated that Franklin County will do the work but the City of Columbus will not pay for it. The cost will have to be covered by either Prairie Township or by the residents that will benefit from the improvement. Mr. Brady Koehler; Franklin Soil & Water, initially stated in writing that the ditch petition was necessary and would solve the problems, now he has changed his attitude and the assessment. Mr. Nourse further explained that Prairie Township has three

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options:

1) The ditch petition has been initiated and has never been revoked. Prairie Township can continue and let the assessments go where they might, although Columbus may press that 100% of the value and benefit will be to Township residents at no cost to Columbus. The City of Columbus may ask for permission to tap into the new tile to drain the property to the north. 2) Wait until the new City of Columbus Utility Director is in place and approach this person about the opportunity. 3) Township residents in the area and Prairie Township tie the existing tile from Tamara north and instead of continuing to dump into the Hellbranch, run west and connect to the structure in the City of Columbus, which is on the verge of collapsing or replace the structure. The expense will have to be covered by the residents and Prairie Township. Mr. Nourse stated that the options will be clearer at the next meeting. The entire project is estimated to cost \$42,000.00.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk