

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/SEPTEMBER 3, 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: Peter Griggs; Loveland & Brosius, Jason Thomas, John Holderby, Chief Lavelly and Dave McAninch (See attached list).

Ms. Keller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the regular meeting minutes of August 20th and the special meeting of August 22nd as written. Vote; Aye.

Deputy Foster addressed the Board and stated that there have been several "convenience type" auto thefts. Deputy Durbin was introduced as the additional deputy and will work from 4:00 - 12:00 midnight and has started September 1, 2003 and in January, an additional car will be based in Prairie Township.

Ms. Keller opened the meeting to residents for comments on storm water issues. Several residents have experienced water damage and expressed their concerns and explained the damage they have experienced. The following residents expressed concerns: Angel & James Aldridge, 133 Oxley Road; Frank Turner, 125 Oxley Road; Arthur Osborne, 468 Maple Drive; Carol Young, 211 Oxley Road; Brian Marquard, 66 Lennox Avenue. A draft letter is being sent to Mr. Tom Shockley, Franklin County Sanitary Engineer, was read regarding the sanitary flooding during the Labor Day weekend and requested the Franklin County office survey or camera the sanitary sewer lines servicing this area in Prairie Township. Several residents indicated that they would like to accompany Franklin County when the survey is being done and several would like to receive a copy of the results of the survey. The tape of the survey will be shown at a public meeting. Mr. Nourse explained that inadvertently, the sanitary sewers may have been tied together with the storm water sewer system. The sanitary sewer system is owned by the City of Columbus and is maintained by Franklin County. The camera project will probably take about two weeks to complete. Mr. Nourse and Mr. Wharton gave out their telephone numbers enabling residents to call them when they are experiencing similar water/sewer backup problems in the future. Mr. Nourse recommended that residents send a letter to their insurance company with a copy of the Livingston Court Apartment court cases and a copy of the letter that the Township is sending to Mr. Tom Shockley. Mr. George Nunamaker, 279 Cole Road, identified an area to be surveyed at the Home Depot location and will identify this location with Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent, in an effort to locate the source of the problem.

Ms. Marian Reeves, 415 Alton Road, addressed the Board regarding the recent flooding. Mr. Nourse explained the history of the problem in this area of the Township. The system handled the 3" rain on Saturday and the system worked as expected. The drawback to the system is Hellbranch Run.

Ms. Keller thanked all of the residents for their comments.

Ms. Dawn Sekol, 330 Weymouth Lane, requested permission from the Board of Trustees to hold a block party on September 27, 2003 from 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. Mr. McAninch stated that "road closed" signs are available and the Fire Department will send fire trucks over for the block party. After checking with the Fire Department and the Franklin County Sheriff, the recommendation was to come back to the Board of Trustees for permission to hold this event.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/SEPTEMBER 3, 2003

The Clerk presented the following items:

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the following supplemental appropriations:

\$60,664.99 from 1000-330-360-0000 to 1000-920-920-0000

1. The Clerk mentioned that several inquiries have been made, at the Township Hall, to purchase a copy of The Comprehensive Plan and would like to set a fee to be added to the zoning fee schedule. The Clerk recommended a \$25.00 fee for the purchase of The Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Nourse moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board establish a price of \$25.00 per copy of the Comprehensive Plan which is available at the Township Zoning Office. The Comprehensive Plan will also be available on the website when it is completed. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye. Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye. (Resolution 19-03)

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board accept the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the Franklin County Auditor. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

The Trustees received and reviewed financial statements for the month of August, 2003.

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 \$80,518.31 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

Ms. Jason Thomas, IT Coordinator, addressed the Board with the following computer related issues:

1. Computer classes were discussed and Mr. Nourse contacted Mr. Herb Asher, at Ohio State University, the University grants each college within the University 7 seats in the computer classes. The University is willing to allow Prairie Township to send a representative, if the slots are not filled by an Ohio State University employee. The Township will be permitted to fill two seats per quarter, a total of 8 per calendar year. A course syllabus will be given to Mr. Nourse on September 19th at the Mid Ohio Regional Planning meeting.
2. A generator update including installation was presented. Buckeye Power Sales is on State Bid and Jason Thomas will present a bid at the next meeting for the state contract brand. The Clerk clarified that if the purchase is for \$15,000 or more, and is not on state bid, it will have to be advertised and bid out.
3. The laptop computers will be set up by Monday, September 8th and also the computer for Connie Swisher, Zoning Inspector, will be ready by her start date of September 8, 2003. The website will be completed by September 17, 2003.

Ms. Keller mentioned that the Board has hired Ms. Connie Swisher, Zoning Inspector, and she will start with Prairie Township on Monday, September 8, 2003.

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

1. A physical agility test will be offered on Saturday, September 13th for the new part-time firefighters. When successfully completed, the information will be submitted to BCI for a record check.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/SEPTEMBER 3, 2003

2. Firefighter Goldhardt has been approved for light duty starting Friday, September 5th.
3. The next training session will be on chain saws and Mr. Wharton requested an outline of the program when it is prepared.

Ms. Debbie Newell, Oxley Road, addressed the Board, assisted by a 3-wheeled scooter, and expressed her concern with the handicap accessibility on roads in the Township particularly along West Broad Street. Mr. Nourse explained that the Ohio Department of Transportation owns and operates West Broad Street and preliminary discussion has begun for curbs, gutters and sidewalks with plantings for the 2007 State funding. Mr. Nourse expressed his concern due to the fact that Creative Living owns 120 homes in the eastern portion of the Township. Mr. Nourse requested the Squad at Station 241 transport Ms. Newell to her home on Oxley Road.

Ms. Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent, addressed the Board with the following Road/Cemetery department matters:

1. The Road Superintendent presented an option to replace the light in Carl Frye Park at a total cost of \$933.00 for an in ground fixture including labor and material from Jim's Electric.

Mr. Wharton moved, Ms. Keller seconded the Board approve the purchase, installation and labor of an in ground light for Carl Frye park at a total cost of \$933.00 from Jim's Electric Service. Vote; Aye.

2. The hanging pipes in Lake Darby have been repaired by Franklin County and pictures were presented. The cost to repair both pipes exceeded the estimate by \$557.57 and by approving the warrants this overage is authorized. Mr. Nourse asked the Road Superintendent to inspect the pipe, after the recent heavy rains, to determine if there was any erosion. Discussion followed.
3. Dave McAninch gave the Board an update on the odor problem at 340 Lawrence and 5275 Kanard Avenue and the Franklin County Board of Health assessment was read aloud. Both properties are under orders to correct the problem and in the near future a second letter will be issued referring the nuisances to the Franklin County Prosecutor with a deadline of September 17th to comply.
4. The Road Superintendent stated that Mr. Tom Nutini, Franklin County Highway Maintenance Superintendent, suggested the Board of Trustees send a letter to Franklin County Engineer Dean Ringle regarding the drainage problem at the rear of Lennox Avenue and the flooding of Rome Hilliard Road. The letter would request the City of Columbus and the State of Ohio together; find a solution to this problem. Mr. Nourse stated that "as Prairie Township and the City of Columbus are designated management agencies (DMA's) how do we resolve conflicts between the agencies?" District 5 of the US EPA is investigating the process for reconciling storm water management issues between two DMA's and the local involvement is with the US attorney's office. Mr. Nourse will review the storm water diagrams from Rome Hilliard to Oxley.

Mr. John Holderby, representing the Zoning Department, addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department matters:

1. Mr. Holderby stated that the trucks and trailers have been removed from the Galloway Mill and the railroad is handling the dumping on the railroad easement.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/SEPTEMBER 3, 2003

Mr. Nourse gave an update on the Nationwide contract for a 7,440 square foot Senior Center located at 4746-4656 West Broad Street. An annual base rent is \$57,660.00 and the contract is for 3 years. Two additional handicap parking spaces will be installed and the parking is guaranteed. The internal updates include additional restroom facilities. After the improvements, the center will be available the end of November or December, 2003.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board enter into a 3 year contact with Nationwide for a proposed senior center at a cost of \$57,660.00 per year (\$4,805.00 per month) at 4746-4656 West Broad Street and the Board will initiate a resolution at the next meeting. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

Mr. Elie Sabbagh, Feller, Finch & Associates, addressed the Board and stated that he has received a set of drainage plans from Burgess & Niple for the Presbyterian Church on Old Schoolhouse Lane and there are concerns and he would like to set up a meeting with a Township representative to reach a decision and reply. Mr. Nourse recommended that Mr. Sabbagh meet with Mr. Ken Hibbert, the Chairperson of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Fred Scior made a suggestion for naming the park on Deerfield and Ms. Keller asked that the suggestion be put in writing and submitted to the Trustees. Mr. Nourse stated that the children at Prairie Lincoln School will be naming the park by holding a contest and the Trustees personally, will purchase a savings bond for the winner.

Ms. Keller mentioned the offer that was received on the Norton Road widening project from MS Consultants. Mr. Peter Griggs, Loveland & Brosius, recommended that the Board have the property appraised to determine a value of the land and determine what the land is worth after the project.

Mr. Nourse moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve Brian Barnes submit an estimate for the appraisal of the property at the corner of Palmetto and Norton Road for the purposes of reviewing the offer in conjunction with the Norton Road widening project. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Tad Hay addressed the Board with a concern that was raised at an earlier meeting regarding former Trustee Larry Worthington. Mr. Hay stated that Franklin County records reflect that Mr. Worthington did not secure a permit for construction of a barn and installation of a driveway on his property. An aerial photograph was presented of the property in question. Mr. Hay would like to make it clear that a lot of things go on within the Township that are not right as Mr. Worthington was a Trustee at the time that these improvements were made to his property without a permit. Mr. Hay feels that everyone that comes in this office should be treated equally.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board adjourn into executive session at 9:55 p.m. for the purpose of discussing township personnel matters. Roll call vote resulted as follows: Mr. Nourse; Aye, Mr. Wharton; Aye, Ms. Keller; Aye.

The regular meeting resumed at 11:20 p.m.

The discussion in executive session involved paid personnel and no decisions were made and this issue will be revisited at the Chairpersons discretion.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Keller, moved, Mr. Nourse seconded the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

Chairperson

Clerk