

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE REGULAR MEETING/DECEMBER 19, 2007

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order by the Chairperson Mr. Kennedy, with Ms. Schlosser, Mr. Stormont. Also attending were: Assistant Chief Good, Ms. Swisher and Mr. McAninch. (See attached list).

Mr. Kennedy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded to appoint Ms. Swisher Clerk Pro-Tem in the absence of Ms. Montag. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the minutes as written for the regular meetings of October 24, 2007, November 19, 2007 and December 5, 2007 with corrections to October 24, 2007 and December 5, 2007. Vote; Aye

Deputy Weiner and Corporal Goodrich reported to the Board the monthly statistics. 422 dispatch runs, 635 pick-up runs, 41 domestic runs, 115 reports taken, 236 business checks, 6 felony arrests, 25 misdemeanor arrests, 2 felony warrant arrests, 29 misdemeanor warrant arrests, 25 prisoners conveyed, 15 crashes investigated.

There was a business burglarized with three apprehensions that were juveniles. There has been an increase in copper and metal thief s and air conditioning units for metal. Deputy Weiner stated he met with the Columbus Police Gang Unit. He has gotten some good information about gang related activities. There has not been any criminal activity that has been gang related that he is aware. Mr. Kennedy received a complaint today for 52 Woodlawn about the air conditioning unit. Over the last six months they have issues with vandalism and graffiti.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the following supplemental appropriations. Vote; Aye.

\$15,585.58 from 2191-220-215-0000 to 2191-220-221-0000.

\$17.70 from 1000-910-910-0000 to 1000-210-370-0000.

\$5,000.00 from 2031-330-382-0000 to 2031-330-420-0000.

\$3,875.61 from 1000-130-316-0000 to 1000-330-382-0000.

\$1,400.00 from 1000-130-599-0000 to 1000-130-740-0000.

\$4,000.00 from 1000-110-360-0000 to 1000-760-740-0000.

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve the payment of the ADP payroll in the amount of \$102,021.76 and approve payment of the following bills. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

Ms. Schlosser stated she wanted to address the pending ADP warrant that was discussed at the last meeting that was not on the pending warrant list. Mr. Kennedy responded at the last meeting a fee for ADP that was \$1,500.00 over what it should have been. Several meetings ago when we starting getting IRS notices. All the issues were simple keying errors. These errors instead of being caught within a sensible time period, they were left go for what ever reason. Some of these errors when over two years. Some of these errors were social security numbers keyed in wrong and some were tax authority id number were keyed in wrong which still generated tax forms to the municipalities making it look like individuals still owed taxes. To get that corrected there had to be amended taxes forms for that whole period. Most of them are quarterly returns which go back to the first quarter of 2005. It now looks like these issues have been all resolved but we will not know for a matter of time until it washes itself out. He will do everything in his power to stay on top of it and make sure everything is corrected. There are some other issues that at last meeting the correct thing that should have been done was to say I made an error and fess up to it but that did not happen. Anybody can make an error but there are some things that happened here 1. Like when we got billed for \$1,500.00 dollars for doing the amended returns it was never brought to our attention we had to catch it on the

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warrant list. And when we asked about the warrant there was no response when we asked why it was so high. It was for doing the amended returns. We just received another bill today for \$400.00 so this simple keying error has now turned into a \$2,200.00 bill to get it corrected and we don't know if that's the end of it. Ms. Schlosser stated one of the things we were pressing is if ADP was going to cover these as we were originally informed that it was an ADP error as it turns out it was not an ADP error at all. It was a keying error by the fiscal officer that in October there was a document signed with ADP that agreed that we would actually fund. ADP faxed the documents and they were signed stating the client, Prairie Township would be responsible for any liability to the tax authority, so not only is the error costing us money through ADP because ADP has to redo those returns, we are also getting hit from the Regional Income Tax Authority for the amount of money that should have been submitted. So far we are up to about \$3,500.00 that has to be paid out. Mr. Kennedy stated there is going to be another bill come in on it with an adjusted amount. ADP has agreed to deduct \$500.00 from the bill.

Ms. Connie Swisher, Zoning Inspector, addressed the Board with the following Zoning Department matters:

1. Ms. Swisher introduced Mr. Mike Asebrook with Asebrook & Company to introduce consideration of a Commercial Building Department within Prairie Township. Mr. Asebrook is an architect by training and a Chief Building Official. The State of Ohio adopts the Ohio Revised Code which states there will be a building code. In unincorporated areas the State of Ohio has a department, the Department of Commerce Industrial compliance who regulates commercial buildings and enforces the Ohio building code in unincorporated areas. So currently all commercial buildings are reviewed by the State of Ohio. A local municipality or township can request the authority from the board of building standards to enforce the Ohio Building Code at a local level. Enforcement of the building codes is always best done at the local level because the folks that do the enforcement of the building codes are more familiar with the jurisdiction. The benefit ultimately for the applicants and the township is these services are available at the local level. What the township needs to do is pass three resolutions. A resolution to adopt Ohio Building Department, Requesting certification to enforce the Ohio Building Code and fill out the application. Once everything is done it is submitted to the Board of Building Standards there will be a review period and then there will be a public hearing. The public hearing is necessary because we are changing the Ohio Revised Code with the establishment of the Building Department in Prairie Township. All this will take approximately four months.

Neil Distlehorst asked if all commercial business is required to have inspections every so often. Mr. Asebrook responded this would be for the Ohio Building Code, the business will not be inspected by the building department: The Fire Department will generally do an annual fire inspection. This is not any new regulation for any existing business owner.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board adopt A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP, OHIO BUILDING DEPARTMENT. A roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Stormont; Aye, Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board adopt A RESOLUTION REQUESTING CERTIFICATION TO ENFORCE THE OHIO BUILDING CODE WITHIN PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP, OHIO. A roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Stormont; Aye, Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board adopt A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH ASEBROOK AND CO. FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE OHIO BUILDING CODE IN PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE

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THE CONTRACT. A roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Stormont; Aye, Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the contract for Building Department Services with Asebrook & Company. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Dave McAninch, Road Superintendent, addressed the Board with the following Road Department matters:

1. Mr. McAninch requested the Board approve the final proposal from the District 3 Public Works Integrating Committee for Phase 1 of the South Greener Avenue Road Improvement Project, for a grant amount of no less than \$426,863.00 and a loan amount of no more than \$678,982.00 for a total project cost of \$1,105,845.00.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve the final proposal from the District 3 Public Works Integrating Committee for Phase 1 of the South Greener Avenue Road Improvement Project, for a grant amount of no less than \$426,863.00 and a loan amount of no more than \$678,982.00 for a total project cost of \$1,105,845.00. Vote; Aye.

2. Mr. McAninch requested the Board approve pay request #3 to Robertson Construction in the amount of \$82,495.00 for the Road Department Maintenance Building.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve pay request #3 to Robertson Construction in the amount of \$82,495.00 for the Road Department Maintenance Building. Vote; Aye.

3. Mr. McAninch requested the Board approve vacation payout of 32 regular hours to Dale Steinhoff, Road Department employee, per Section 4.04 of the Township Policy and Procedures Manual.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve vacation payout of 32 regular hours to Dale Steinhoff, Road Department employee, per Section 4.04 of the Township Policy and Procedures Manual. Vote; Aye.

4. Mr. McAninch updated the Board on the streetlights in the WestPoint area. All the easements have been secured and he is meeting with AEP to finalize everything.
5. Mr. McAninch updated the Board on 48 Lennox Avenue. He has been in contact with him several times. Mr. Shockley has promised to camera the sewers in front of 48 Lennox Avenue. Mr. McAninch also asked Mr. Shockley to supply him with a map showing what has been camera over the last few years. There has been budgeted amount of \$100,000.00 to camera sanitary sewers in Little Farms, Lincoln Village North, Lincoln Village South, and Rome Heights to find problems and correct them.

Mr. Jones who lives at 48 Lennox Avenue complained about his sanitary sewer problems and would like them resolved. Ms. Schlosser responded we do not have any control over Mr. Shockley that is County. Mr. McAninch is trying to work with Mr. Shockley and to try to resolve his problems. Ms. Schlosser stated we do not have jurisdiction to do anything with the sanitary sewers. A discussion followed.

Assistant Chief Good addressed the Board with the following Fire Department matters:

1. Assistant Chief Good requested the Board approve expenditures in the amount of \$6,800.00 for renovating the bedrooms at Station 241.

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Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve expenditures in the amount of \$6,800.00 for renovating the bedrooms at Station 241. Vote; Aye.

3. Assistant Chief Good requested the Board to approve an expenditure in the amount of \$3,240.00 for the Fire Department PALS course and certifications.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board to approve an expenditure in the amount of \$3,240.00 for the Fire Department PALS course and certifications. Vote; Aye.

4. Assistant Chief Good announced they have received the automatic external defibrillators and installed.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the OPERS rate increases for the employee pick-up contribution (10%) and employer (14%) contribution. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve the annual pay increases for all full-time non-union employees, the Senior Center Director, Department Heads, Township Administrator, Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Chief per the "Recommended Step Rates" for 2008 effective January 1, 2008. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the purchase from Davis & Sons, Inc., parcels #240-006376, #240-006377, #240-006378, #240-006379, #240-006386, #240-006387, #240-006388 and #240-006389, located west of Hubbard Road and Parcel #241-000032, located north of the railroad tracks and west of Hubbard Road in the amount of \$20,000 and authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and/or the Township Administrator to act on the Trustees behalf to finalize the purchase. Vote; Aye.

Mr. Kennedy moved, Ms. Schlosser seconded the Board approve an expenditure in the amount of \$3,960.92 to purchase an IBM System x3400 Express Server and accessories for the Township Hall. Vote; Aye.

A resident asked about the apartments on Mix Avenue. Mr. Kennedy responded they have talked with Zande & Company to put the bid package together for the demolishment. The engineering and asbestos studies are completed. The bid package will hopefully be ready by next meeting.

A resident asked if there are any plans to build on that property. Mr. Kennedy responded that property is put in Franklin County Land Bank. Mr. Kennedy stated he would like to see it used for a commercial or office space.

Old Business:

Ms. Schlosser stated she has the numbers for the Senior Center that was requested at the last meeting. There are 308 members, 202 are residents of Prairie Township and 106 are non-residents of Prairie Township. Approximately \$55,000.00 of the general fund of the seven million dollar budget that was going toward the Senior Center and that works out to about \$178.00 per member of the Senior Center. Ms. Pam Williams stated the last time she asked for the numbers included people that hadn't paid their dues for three years. Ms. Schlosser responded that was under the old administration, Robin ensures the numbers are reflective of active members. She has not had any other groups seek any funding from the township. Ms. Schlosser stated the Senior Center opens its doors to other activities for the community.

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New Business:

Mr. Kennedy moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board adopt A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT THE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER FEE TO BE PAID BY A VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER OFFERING VIDEO SERVICE IN THE TOWNSHIP PURSUANT TO A STATE AUTHORIZATION; AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE PROVIDER FEE. A roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Stormont; Aye, Ms. Schlosser; Aye, Mr. Kennedy; Aye.

The re-elected Trustee Mr. Doug Stormont was administered the Oath of Office by Trustee Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. Terry Allen, President of the Lincoln Village Residents Association (LVRA), asked if the paths in Carl Frye Park would be completed for access on Old Village and Revere Court. Mr. Kennedy responded that is a question for Mr. McAninch and to his knowledge the path was completed. Mr. Allen stated LVRA currently has a graffiti grant and would like to seek a grant for a shelter house for Carl Frye Park and would like the Boards permission to place the shelter house in Carl Frye Park. Mr. Kennedy responded as long as LVRA has the majority of property owners consent around the park he would not have an issue.

Public Comment:

Announcements:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Chairperson

Clerk Pro-Tem