

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/JUNE 4, 2008

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order by the Chairperson Ms. Schlosser, with Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Stormont and Mr. McCardle present. Also attending were: Chief Feustel, Mr. Hatmaker, and Ms. Swisher (see attached list).

Ms. Schlosser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board approve the minutes for the regular meeting of May 21, 2008. Vote; Aye

Deputy Weiner reported that the past couple of weeks have been pretty busy which is normal for this time of year.

Deputy Weiner also reported that there was a drive by style shooting into a house on Palmetto. It was related to a domestic situation. An arrest was made with the individual being charged with shooting into a habitation. Nobody was hurt.

Deputy Weiner stated that a traffic stop was made and a loaded fire arm along with several balloons of heroin were taken off the streets. There were three or four arrests made as a result.

Deputy Weiner again encouraged residents to keep an eye out for anything out of the ordinary and to keep an eye out for their neighbors.

A resident questioned if Prairie Township had a curfew such as Columbus.

Deputy Weiner responded that there is a curfew for the Township that is enforced. He explained the curfew as 16-18 is midnight and under 16 the curfew is an hour and a half after dark.

There was a question regarding an incident in Pleasant Township.

Deputy Weiner explained that Pleasant View Middle School was evacuated after a bomb went off. The students were brought to Westland High School. The evacuation was already in progress when he came on.

Another resident made a complaint about regarding portable basketball hoops. She stated that when kids play with these they are in the street and are not moving for cars.

Deputy Weiner stated that the sheriff's office can be called in situations like this. The basketball hoops are not to be in the streets.

Ms. Swisher stated that the Township can also be called on cases where the basketball hoop is in the street.

Ms. Schlosser advised Deputy Weiner that calls being made from cell phones to 911 and are not getting the right response and at times no response due to a misunderstanding of whether the City or County should respond. Ms. Schlosser would like to see more of a "respond first, ask questions later" type of reaction.

Deputy Weiner answered that 911 is supposed to be getting software so that when a cell phone call is made, it will indicate the location of the caller.

Ms. Schlosser responded that aside from technology she would like to see a collaboration with the City to respond first and then sort out later so as the public is not put in harm while figuring out who should respond.

Deputy Weiner stated that it would make more sense to just send the Sheriff's office because they have jurisdiction everywhere. He stated that he will bring this matter up

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to others in his department.

The Fiscal Officer presented the following items:

1. A request for a liquor permit transfer was received from Yash Market, Inc., DBA Rome-Hilliard Market to Yogiraj, Inc., DBA E Z Corner, both located at 5460 W. Broad Street.

Ms. Schlosser stated that no hearing was needed at this time for the transfer.

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the pending warrant list of \$198,952.81 and the ADP payroll in the amount of \$120,821.81 for a combined sum of \$319,774.62. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

There was no standing business for the Zoning Dept.

A resident questioned that if the grass is high on a property, such as N. Murray Hill, if the Township will mow it and send the owner a bill.

Ms. Schlosser explained the process to be if the grass is high, a call into Zoning will need to be made. Zoning will then post it, it will be reviewed by the Trustees and then it will be mowed if not cut after being posted.

Mr. Kennedy asked if this was 200 N. Murray Hill, and stated it was declared a nuisance two meetings ago. The Township needs to wait until we get the mailing card back before we can mow it, but after the card is received, we can go ahead and cut it.

Mr. Hatmaker added that we are required by law to notify all lien holders by certified mail. The Township does have to wait to get that card back and unfortunately it lengthens the process.

Ms. Schlosser stated that once we do receive the card back, the road crew goes out right away and gets it mowed.

Another resident addressed Ms. Swisher regarding property on Hubbard Road. She complained that there are four wheelers, dirt bikes, and other vehicles that are riding on that property. She also stated that there is underage drinking occurring.

Ms. Schlosser stated that in order to help get this stopped, she must call the Sheriff's office whenever this is going on.

The resident stated that she has called and they are very helpful when they come out. However, there is always some confusion as to who owns the property and what is allowed.

Ms. Schlosser requested Deputy Weiner come back in to discuss what can be done.

Upon Deputy Weiner's return, the resident and her spouse explained what is happening and where the access points are. They also stated that there is illegal dumping of construction material and in general the area is unsafe. They stated property owner is not taking responsibility for the property.

Ms. Schlosser advised the couple to leave all of their information so that the Township could work with them to get the problems resolved.

A third resident had questions regarding the property located at Galloway Road and Alkire Road. He stated that the grass was three feet high and wondered if it has been declared a nuisance.

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Ms. Swisher said it was on the list prior to her vacation.

Ms. Schlosser stated that they would make sure that it was done and if not they will make sure that it does get done.

A resident questioned if there was something being built at Galloway Road and West Broad Street.

Mr. Stormont said they received permission from the Army Corp. of Engineers to reroute the creek. The land could not be sold with the creek running through the middle of it. Now that the creek is being filled in and rerouted, the land will go up for sale.

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

1. Chief Feustel stated Tim Hannum required knee surgery for an off duty knee injury which will require a prolonged time to come back to full duty. Chief Fuestel requested the Board approve Tim Hannum's disability leave.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board approve Firefighter Tim Hannum's use of disability leave as outlined in the collective bargaining unit contract. Vote; Aye.

Chief Feustel reminded everyone of the Fish Fry on June 27, 2008.

Mr. Tracy Hatmaker, Administrator, addressed the Board with the following Administrative matters:

1. Mr. Hatmaker requested the board's guidance on several nuisance cases in the Township.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Prairie Township Board of Trustees find the conditions at 186 Postle Boulevard, 509 Lennox Avenue, 212 Oxley Road, 236 Emmit Avenue, 1165 Elm Park Circle, 280 South Murray Hill Road, 740 Cordelia Drive, and 303 Fernhill Avenue to be a nuisance and that the Board hereby directs staff to abate said nuisance at the expense of the property owner as per the requirements in Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87. Vote; Aye.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Prairie Township Board of Trustees find the conditions at 280 South Murray Hill Road, 185 Sturbridge Road, 1165 Elm Park Circle, and 303 Fernhill Avenue to be a nuisance and that the Board hereby directs staff to abate said nuisance at the expense of the property owner as per the requirements in Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87.

2. Mr. Hatmaker requested a motion to approve the final payment for the Mix and Stiles Apartment Demolition to Robertson Construction in the amount of \$11,800.00. This is the final 15% of the contract amount.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the final payment for the Mix and Stiles Apartment Demolition to Robertson Construction in the amount of \$11,800.00. Vote; Aye.

3. Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board to approve the transfer of \$15,977.68 from General Fund line item 1000-910-0000, Transfers Out, to the Palmetto Street Improvement Fund line item 4405-931-0000, Transfers In, for the purpose of making the July, 2008 and the January, 2009 payments toward the 20 year no-interest OPWC loan that was used to partially fund that project.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board approve the transfer of \$15,977.68 from General Fund Line Item 1000-910-0000 to the Palmetto Road

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Improvement Project line item 4405-931-0000. Vote; Aye.

A resident questioned how the Township was receiving the money back once a property was declared a nuisance.

Mr. Hatmaker responded the auditor has been getting most of it back and that there are always delinquent taxes however, the Auditor's office is pretty diligent. Mr. Hatmaker also stated that the Township does track what has been done and what needs to be collected.

Ms. Swisher stated that the program has been the best program that the Township implemented within the last twenty years. It has helped facilitate compliance where as before; the only thing to be done was to send Zoning letters and try to get voluntary compliance.

Another resident asked for an update on the Senior Center move.

Mr. Hatmaker stated that the move is being completed this week. He also announced that the Senior Center Director, Robin Comeans is out of the hospital. Eleanor Jones along with a group of volunteers has helped to put things in order. Mr. Hatmaker stated that everything should be working and ready for the re-opening on Monday, June 9, 2008.

Ms. Jones thanked everyone who helped. She stated that about 90-100 people showed. There were also a few who signed up for membership.

The resident asked if Nationwide Development has ever been approached to help lower the rent.

Both Mr. Hatmaker and Ms. Schlosser assured her that Nationwide has been approached repeatedly.

Ms. Schlosser responded that Nationwide Development has been an excellent partner with the Township in the moving of the Senior Center. They have helped facilitate the move to a smaller space which will ultimately lower other related costs as well.

Mr. Hatmaker stated that every time the Township has approached Nationwide Development, they have been receptive and have helped work something out.

The resident stated that the old Senior Center Space was much better compared to the new space which is just one long room. In her opinion, there is not any room for the exercise equipment.

Mr. Hatmaker explained that the idea behind the move is efficiency and better use of the available space.

Old Business:

A resident asked for an update on the status of the Internal Revenue Service penalties.

Mr. McCardle explained that during 2004, the Township had switched payroll processors from ADP to PAYCOR. There still is some uncertainty as to who is responsible for the reported tax variance. Communication is still ongoing and the Township will continue to work with both payroll processors to get this worked out with the IRS.

New Business:

None

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Public Comment:

None

Announcements:

Ms. Schlosser announced that the new mega city community centers will have a community meeting for the bond package at the Westgate Shelter House on 3271 Wicklow Road, Thursday June 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. This is the Westside meeting.

Mr. Hatmaker stated that he had fliers for this meeting. He encouraged supporters to go and be heard as it does overlap some of the Township business.

Mr. Hatmaker also announced that the Township Trustees have been working on economic development projects for the West Broad Street corridor. The economic development group that is working with the Township is announcing a meeting on transportation enhancements and the West Broad Street Improvement Project to take place in 2012. Business people from the corridor and residents are encouraged to attend. Press releases are available for more information. The meeting will be June 25, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

A resident questioned if the Township minutes were published in the paper.

Ms. Schlosser advised that the Township minutes are not published in the paper however they are posted on the website. Residents are also welcome to view the minute book and copies can be made for a nominal fee.

The resident stated that due to the decisions made at the meeting affecting everyone in the Township, the minutes should be published in the paper because not everyone has a computer.

Ms. Schlosser stated that the library has public access and gave the Township's web address as [www.PrairieTownship.org](http://www.PrairieTownship.org). All minutes are posted there.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Fiscal Officer