

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE

REGULAR MEETING/AUGUST 13, 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 in attendance were Fire Chief Feustel and Mr. Hatmaker, Township Administrator. (See attached list).

Ms. Schlosser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the minutes for the regular meeting of July 30, 2008. Vote; Aye.

Corporal Goodrich gave the Sheriff's report. There have been a few burglaries in the Lake Darby area. There have also been a few car vandalisms in the Lincoln Village North area.

Corporal Goodrich highlighted the monthly statistics for July: 608 dispatched runs, 636 pick up runs, 44 domestic runs, 10 gun runs, 111 reports taken, 242 record checks, 135 business checks, 36 misdemeanor arrests, 5 felony warrant arrests, 40 prisoners conveyed, 34 traffic warnings, and 56 non-crash citations. Copies of this Patrol Bureau Report are available in the Township Hall.

Corporal Goodrich will get information from the OVI stop that was set up on July 4<sup>th</sup> and e-mail it to the trustees as the media release was not printed in the Columbus Dispatch.

A resident asked if there was a law against panhandling as it has been happening at the freeway and Broad Street. Corporal Goodrich stated that they are not allowed to be in the road and if they are on the freeway, they will be asked to move down the road. The resident then questioned if a sign could be put up. Corporal Goodrich explained that would not be something that the Sheriff's office could do, and that would fall more in line with the Franklin County Engineer. Mr. Hatmaker stated that ODOT would be responsible for putting up a sign at that location.

Ms. Schlosser brought a concern from the Open House regarding speeders on Darien and Hilton Avenues on the curve, also on Grener by Home Depot and on Gladys. Corporal Goodrich stated that he would pass the concerns on to others that work the area so that the streets can be monitored.

The Fiscal Officer presented the following items:

After the Trustees reviewed the pending warrant list, Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the pending warrant list of \$255,460.59 and payroll in the amount of \$112,613.04, for a combined sum of \$368,073.73. Vote; Aye. (See pending warrant list).

Mr. McCardle presented supplemental appropriations to the Board for approval. The first supplemental appropriation was for \$12,061.00 as part of the FEMA fund for snow removal to appropriation code 2902-760-599-0000, \$809.05 from 1000-110-382-000 liability insurance to 1000-110-345-0000 advertising, and \$4,000.00 from 1000-110-315-0000 election expenses to 1000-120-360-0000 contracted services.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the board approve the supplemental appropriations as presented by Mr. McCardle. Vote; Aye.

Standing Business:

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

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1. Chief Feustel presented Resolution No. 22-08 "A Resolution Adopting A New Township Fire Prevention Code" and the permit fee schedule. The approval of this Resolution will abolish the 1996 BOCA fire code as the Prairie Township fire code, adopt the 2007 Ohio Fire Code as the official fire code for Prairie Township and establish the Permit Fee Schedule.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board adopt Resolution No. 22-08 "A Resolution Adopting A New Township Fire Prevention Code" and the attached permit fee schedule. This resolution will abolish the 1996 BOCA fire code, adopt the 2007 Ohio Fire Code as the official fire code for Prairie Township and establish the Permit Fee Schedule. Roll call: Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye; Ms. Schlosser, Aye.

2. Chief Feustel requested the Board approve \$11,060.00 for concrete repair on the front apron at Station 241. The Chief has received four bids for repairing the concrete apron and has chosen Berkshire Boys as the lowest and best bid for the work. This work wasn't originally budgeted for this year however the Fire Department has adequate funds appropriated.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve the payment of \$11,060.00 to Berkshire Boys for concrete repair on the front apron at Fire Station 241. Vote; Aye.

There was no standing business for the Zoning Department.

There was no standing business for the Road and Cemetery Departments.

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. Kennedy seconded the Prairie Township Board of Trustees find the conditions at 4701 Stiles Avenue, 4670 Frost Avenue, and 265 Danhurst Road to be a nuisance (grass & weed) 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. Stormont seconded the Prairie Township Board of Trustees find the conditions at 185 Sturbridge Road to be a nuisance (trash & debris) 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.

2. Mr. Hatmaker presented Change Order #2 for the Inah Avenue Road and Drainage Improvements which will be for waterline lowering, sanitary sewer lowering, existing pipe connection to a new storm and manhole, and water valve adjusted to grade. The cost of this change order will be \$12,451.51 which will make the new contract price \$1,244,257.60. This amount does not exceed the grant amount.

Mr. Stormont moved, Mr. Kennedy seconded the Board approve Change Order #2 for the Inah Avenue Road and Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$12,451.51 for field adjustments during construction and authorize the Chairperson to sign the Change Order. Vote; Aye.

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3. Mr. Hatmaker presented an agreement with the Natural Resource Conservation Service allowing the Township to take the lead on a wetlands restoration project at the Phillips property. The township is already committed to allowing this project to take place (through the easement agreement put in place when the property was purchased), but the proposed agreement defines an active role for the township. All costs, except bid process costs, would be reimbursed. The engineering has been completed and the NRCS will do copies of plans and bid materials. The township is also working with NRCS to address issues raised by the County Engineer and Darby stakeholders regarding drainage issues and potential future stream restoration.

Ms. Schlosser moved, Mr. Stormont seconded the Board approve Long Term Agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service for the wetlands restoration project that was agreed to as part of the grant for purchase of the property known as the Phillips property and to authorize the Township Administrator to execute the agreement. Vote; Aye.

4. Mr. Hatmaker presented the Board with an intergovernmental agreement with the Franklin County Commissioners for a three year interest free loan for the purpose of installing tornado sirens at a cost of \$20,000.00 each. The payments for each year would be \$20,000.00. Mr. Hatmaker spoke with Art Baker with Emergency Management and Homeland Security. He proposed sitting down and having a more specific conversation on how many sirens the township needs and where the township needs them. Mr. Baker recommends taking a closer look at where the sirens should be rather than rushing in to purchasing three sirens to get the interest free loan. Mr. Hatmaker received a call from the Franklin County Commissioners asking that the agreement be signed by Tuesday.

Chief Feustel stated that the need for the rush is that the County Commissioners are in danger of losing the grant. There is a window that it needs to be completed by. There has been a lot of confusion due to changes in directors.

Ms. Schlosser questioned why we could not enter into the agreement to purchase three sirens since the township does not have to commit to where they would be placed, and then sit down with the EMA to discuss where they should be placed.

Mr. Hatmaker stated that the problem with this would be if Mr. Baker suggested that we only need to purchase one siren but we are now committed to purchasing three through the agreement with the Franklin County Commissioners.

Mr. Kennedy stated that the Township has four sirens already that cover over 90% of the population. The sirens cover about 2 miles each. The only area that does not seem to be covered is the Johnson and Kunz Road area. Mr. Kennedy suggested adding extra sirens one at a time and choosing to do so in the fourth quarter where it would be apparent that there is extra money to cover the costs. Mr. Kennedy suggested that the Township sit down with the EMA to determine exactly where they would suggest putting another siren.

Ms. Schlosser stated that if the EMA did state that if there was a deficiency, the Township would need to purchase a siren at that point.

A resident stated that if we did need to purchase a siren, the finance cost would be minimal.

Mr. Kennedy added that if the need arose, the Township would pay cash for the siren rather than financing. Mr. Kennedy explained that Pleasant Township maybe an example of an entity that would need the use of an interest free loan.

The Intergovernmental Tornado Siren Agreement was tabled.

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A resident asked Mr. Hatmaker about a property on 99 N. Grener Road. Mr. Hatmaker stated that Zoning is working on that property. Mr. Stormont added that the house is in foreclosure which is why the house is boarded up.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comments: None

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