

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

July 14, 2010– REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

The regular meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees was called to order on July 14, 2010 at 7:00 PM by the Chairman, Trustee Steve Kennedy, with Trustee Doug Stormont, Trustee Ron Ball, and Fiscal Officer Dan McCardle present. Also in attendance were Tracy Hatmaker, Township Administrator, and Fire Chief Stephen Feustel. (See attached sign in sheet for a complete list of additional attendees).

Mr. Kennedy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing – 2011 Budget

The 2011 Budget public hearing was opened at 7:00 PM by Trustee Kennedy. Mr. Hatmaker summarized various components of the 2011 proposed budget.

Trustee Kennedy explained that due to cutbacks in state funding (\$950K received in 2009 versus \$750K anticipated for 2011); the Board agreed to fund the Road District with \$250,000 out of the rainy day fund.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve the proposed annual budget for the year commencing January 1, 2011 and submit said budget to the Franklin County Budget Commission pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.30. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Kennedy closed this public hearing at 7:10 PM.

Sheriff's Report

Deputy Weiner spoke before the Board. He discussed a recent robbery. He also spoke of the normal summertime trends in law enforcement – traffic accidents, domestic violence, etc.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Liquor Permit

Mr. McCardle asked the Board if it wishes to request a hearing concerning a liquor permit application filed by Cameron Mitchell Restaurants /Darby House at 925 Darby Creek Drive. Board members collectively agreed that no action was necessary regarding this Liquor Permit application.

Letter to the Budget Commission

Mr. McCardle asked the Board to approve a request to the Franklin County Budget commission for additional appropriations in the amount of \$15,000 for line item 1000-110-311-0000 (Accounting and Legal Fees) and in the amount of \$27,500 for line item 1000-110-360-0000 (Contract Services). These funds are needed in order to pay for costs related to special projects. The additional funding for accounting and legal fees is needed to cover costs related to the Seeger zoning case, JEDD work by attorney Stephen Grassbaugh (over and above Loveland and Brosius JEDD-related billings) and CIC-related legal costs. The additional funding for contract services is needed to replace expenditures related to the Hometown Inn acquisition efforts and costs related to the demolition of houses on Evergreen and Mix.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board authorize the Fiscal Officer to forward a letter to the Franklin County Budget Commission requesting additional appropriations in the amount of \$15,000 for line item 1000-110-311-0000 (Accounting and Legal Fees) and in the amount of \$27,500 for line item 1000-110-360-0000 (Contract Services). Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

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Approval of Warrants and Payroll

Mr. McCardle requested the Board's approval to pay this week's warrants summing \$ 202,098.04 and this week's payroll of \$139,223.66 for a total cash disbursement of \$341,321.70.

Mr. Kennedy motioned "so moved". Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Standing Business

Zoning Department

Ms. Swisher was previously excused from attending tonight's meeting.

Roads and Cemetery Department

Mr. McAninch was previously excused from attending tonight's meeting.

Fire Department:

Request for Levy Amount Certification (Resolution 21-10)

Chief Feustel requested that the Board adopt a resolution requesting that the County Auditor certify the current tax valuation of the Township and the amount of funding that would be generated by replacement of the May 1993 and May 1999 fire levies. This is the first of two resolutions that would be required to place a levy on the November ballot. It is anticipated that the second resolution, a resolution asking the Board of Elections to Place the levy on the ballot, will come before the Board on July 28th.

Trustee Kennedy asked that Chief Feustel provide revenue figures, true carryover and expectation of hitting the budget number in advance of the next meeting.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board adopt Resolution #21-10, "A Resolution Requesting that the County Auditor Provide Certain Information Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.03." Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Ball, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye. The resolution passed.

Appointment of Firefighter / Paramedic

Chief Feustel spoke of the recent extensive selection process involving 32 part-time firefighters currently employed by our Fire Department, and then requested that the Board hire Mathew Powers as a Firefighter / Paramedic.

Mr. Kennedy explained that although he agrees that Mr. Powers is a fine choice, Mr. Kennedy felt that another candidate, who grew up in Prairie Township would have been a better choice. For that reason, he will vote "No" on the hire of Matt Powers.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board hire Mathew Powers as a full-time Firefighter / Paramedic. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Nay; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

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Administration

Nuisance Cases

Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board's guidance on the nuisance cases that were forwarded in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Prairie Township Board of Trustees find the conditions at 4678 Hilton Avenue; 4702 Hilton Avenue; 138 Woodlawn Avenue; and 21 Center Street to be a nuisance and that the Board hereby directs staff to abate said nuisance(s) at the expense of the property owner(s) as per the requirements in Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Grener Avenue Phase II Pay Request #1

On behalf of Mr. McAninch, Road Superintendent, Mr. Hatmaker requested that the board approve pay request number 1 to Decker Construction Company for work on the South Grener Issue II Phase 2 project in the amount of 89,018.46.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve Pay Request #1 in the amount of \$89,018.46 from Decker Construction Company for the South Grener Avenue Road Improvement Project – Phase II and authorize the Chairperson to sign the change order. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Grener Avenue Phase II Change Order #3;

On behalf of Mr. McAninch, Road Superintendent, Mr. Hatmaker requested that the board approve change order number 3 for the South Grener Issue II Phase 2 project in the amount of \$157.50 for additional signs that state that there is access to local businesses on Grener Avenue

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve Change Order #3 for additional signs for the South Grener Avenue Road Improvement Project – Phase II in the amount of \$157.50 and to authorize the chairperson to sign the change order. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Purchase of Pickup Truck;

On behalf of Mr. McAninch, Road Superintendent, Mr. Hatmaker requested that the board approve the purchase of a new 2010 F-250 Super cab XL with a gas motor. The cost of the truck under the state of Ohio contract is \$21,685.00. He also requested that the board approve the trade-in of a 2003 F-250 Super cab XL for \$8,400.00 credit to be applied to the purchase of the new truck. The net difference between the trade-in and the purchase price of the new truck is \$13,285.00.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board approve the purchase of a new 2010 F-250 Super Cab XL pickup truck with a gas motor at the State Contract price of \$21,685 and also authorize the trade in of the 2003 truck for \$8,400.00. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Grener Avenue Road Improvement Project – Phase III Agreement

Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board to approve and execute an agreement with the Ohio Public Works Commission for completion of the South Grener Avenue Road Improvement Project – Phase III. Total funding for the project will be in the amount of \$2,378,137, consisting of a \$1,781,225 grant and a \$596,912 no-interest 20 year loan. Mr. Hatmaker also asked the Board to authorize him to forward a letter to the OPWC informing them that Steve is the current Chair of the Board and, as such, is authorized by the Board to execute documents on its behalf.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the Ohio Public Works Commission Project Agreement for the South Grener Avenue Road Improvement Project – Phase III; authorize the chair to execute the agreement; and authorize the township administrator to forward a letter to the OPWC notifying them that Trustee Steve Kennedy is the Chair of the Board and is, as such, authorized to execute documents

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related to this project on behalf of the Board. Mr. Ball seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

2010 Mosquito Program Agreement

Mr. Hatmaker asked the Board to approve and execute an agreement with the Franklin County Board of Health for Integrated Mosquito Management Services for 2010. The service is provided at a cost of \$0.29 per capita with the total cost to not exceed \$5,080.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the Franklin County Board of Health Integrated Mosquito Management Services Contract for 2010 and authorize the Chair to execute the agreement. Mr. Ball seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Re-appointment of Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel Member

Mr. Hatmaker requested that the Board re-appoint Ashley Hoyer as its member on the Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel for a term ending June 30, 2013. Mr. Hoyer has been informed about this recommendation and has stated that he is willing to continue to serve.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board adopt Resolution #22-10, A "Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Ashley Hoyer, Sr. as the Prairie Township Representative to the Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel" Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Ball, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye. The resolution passed.

Letter to the Owners of the Property Located at 4601 West Broad Street

Mr. Hatmaker requested that the Board approve a letter to Mahasagar, Inc. restating the Township's offer for the Hometown Inn property; informing them that the Township will begin taking steps to initiate appropriation proceedings (including filing a deposit for control of the property with the court) if the offer is not acceptable to them; and outlining the owner's options if such steps are taken by Prairie Township. While this is one of three options that may be recommended to the Board for follow-through at this point, this letter should be taken as an initial step to keep the process moving.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board notify Mahasagar, Inc. that it is prepared to proceed with appropriation proceedings in order to secure the property at 4601 West Broad Street and authorize the Township Administrator to forward a letter to Mahasagar providing this notice. Mr. Stormont seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Mr. Ball, Aye. The motion passed.

Old Business

Pam Williams spoke of the special meeting held on June 30, 2010. Ms. Williams was concerned that the township did not have an engineer on hand to answer questions from the Board or the residents in attendance. Ms. Williams had questions that could not be answered by anyone other than the applicant's engineer.

Emery Miller spoke before the Board regarding Lots 90 and 91 North of 370 S. Greener (North of Frost) regarding nuisances on his property. Mr. Miller explained that although he attempted to mow the lawn with a tractor, he could not access the lot. He is concerned about no curb cuts or access to his lots. Mr. Kennedy explained that the Board is willing to work with Mr. Miller to allow more time to mow the lots. Mr. Miller committed to mowing the lawn within one week – by July 21, 2010.

New Business

None

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Public Comment

Linda Pitts, a twelve year resident introduced herself to the Board. She is part of the Western Area Commission and her commission will be revising the local Columbus Development 10 year plan.

Announcements

Pat Sherman, a representative from the Prairie Township Senior Citizen Center, announced upcoming fundraisers including:

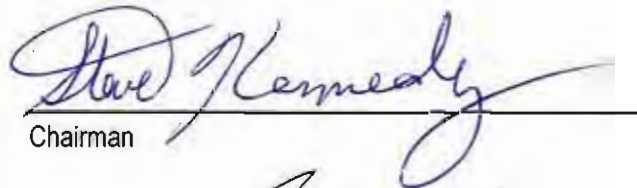
July 17	Build a Salad
August 13-14	Coney Hot Dog Sale
August 20	Steak Fry


Proceeds from these fundraisers will be used to replace furnishing and equipment at the Senior Citizen Center.

Trustee Ron Ball thanked the Fire Department for boarding up a local abandoned home located near Alkire and Galloway Roads.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.


Chairman


Fiscal Officer