

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



## PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FEBRUARY 8, 2023 - REGULAR MEETING 7 :00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

Trustee Doug Stormont called the meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees to order on February 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall with Trustee Doug Stormont, Trustee Cathy Schmelzer, Trustee Rod Pritchard, Fiscal Officer Natalie McKay, Township Administrator James Jewell, Road Superintendent Dave McAninch, Recreation Director Michael Pollack, Zoning Director Dana Scott, Fire Chief Allen Scott, and Sheriff Deputy B. Haren 1078 present.

### Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Stormont opened the meeting and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Approval of Minutes - January 25, 2023 regular meeting

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont made a motion to approve the January 25, 2023 , regular meeting minutes. Ms. Schmelzer seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard, Aye ; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.**

### Franklin County Sheriff 's Office

Sheriff Deputy B. Haren 1078 gave the Sheriff's report for the last two weeks.

Comments/Issues: None

1/25/23 - 2/8/23	Total
Total Calls for Service/Self-Initiated Runs	545
Total Reports Taken	58
Arrests/Citations	50
Thefts	6
Suspicious Activity Stops / Calls	58
Traffic Stops	62
Stolen Vehicles	2
Drug Related Arrests	3
Overdose	2

On 02/02 deputies were dispatched to a shooting on a COTA bus in the area of N. Murray Hill and W. Broad. When deputies arrived on scene, they took a male into custody. Upon further investigation the male admitted to shooting multiple rounds into the ground because he was frustrated. Deputies also discovered that this male was intoxicated at the time of the shooting. The male was charged with weapons while intoxicated and the gun was impounded.

Deputies investigated a vehicle crash that happened on W. Broad St. at Gladys Rd. It was discovered that the two vehicles involved were racing and the involved parties were issued citations for street racing along with multiple other citations.

This morning myself and three other deputies from my unit executed traffic enforcement in the school

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zones in the township. We executed 9 traffic stops in the hour between 0745 and 0845. We issued 4 citations for speed, 2 citations for operating a vehicle without a license and one citation for expired registration.

### **Fiscal Officer 's Report**

Ms. McKay gave the Fiscal Officer's report.

### **Approval of Warrants and Payroll**

Ms. McKay reported this week's warrants list detailed payments to 75 vendors totaling \$258,870.69. She requested the Board's approval to pay all items on this week's warrant list totaling \$258,870.69 along with the 2/10/23 payroll of \$233,356.12 for a total cash disbursement of \$492,226.81.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont motioned "so moved". Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.**

**Transfer:** Ms. McKay asked the Board to authorize transferring \$100,000 from the JEDZ Fund (2903) to the Community Center Fund (2905) to cover operating expenses.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board authorize the Fiscal Office to transfer \$100,000 from the JEDZ Fund (2903) to the Community Center Fund (2905). Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.**

### **Standing Business**

#### **Fire Department**

**Part-Time Firefighter Resignation** : Chief Scott asked the Board to accept the resignation of part-time FF Devin Wohrle. Devin is a full-time FF at Jefferson Twp. and can no longer fulfill his part-time obligations. Chief Scott thanked Devin for his service to the Township and wished him great success.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board accept the resignation of part-time firefighter Devin Wohrle effective February 8, 2023. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**Fitness Training** : Chief Scott asked the Board's permission to enter into an agreement with 3F Fitness for fitness training at PTFD. The agreement will cover one session per week at each station at a cost of \$80 per session. Chief Scott believes this program will greatly enhance the health and wellness of our members, and falls in line with the health and wellness initiative that the department and the Firefighter's union have been working to establish for several years. The cost of this program will not require any additional budgetary considerations for 2023.

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Chief Scott also noted 3F Fitness staffs exercise physiologists who specialize in firefighter training.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve entering into an agreement with 3F Fitness for fitness training for our firefighters at Station 241 and Station 243 at a cost of \$80.00 per session , and authorize the Fire Chief to execute the necessary documents. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**Turnout Gear** : Chief Scott asked the Board to approve the purchase of 10 sets of turnout gear from Phoenix Safety Outfitters at a cost of \$35,300, or \$3,530 per set. These 10 sets will equip our new full-time members and allow our new part-time members to be fitted for rental gear.

Comments/Issues: Mr. Pritchard asked if this falls within the same agreement as last year. Chief Scott said it did not—the agreement from last year was the rental agreement for gear for part-time firefighters.

**Mr. Stormont moved that Board approve the purchase of 10 sets of turnout gear from Phoenix Safety Outfitters at a cost of \$35,300.00 , and authorize the Fire Chief to execute the necessary documents. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**Engine 243 Repairs** : Chief Scott asked the Board to approve up to \$30,000.00 worth of repairs to the Township's back up engine. This is the truck with the frame rail corrosion that is being repaired at the manufacturer in Wisconsin in May of this year. We have budgeted \$100,000.00 for repair and refurbishment of this truck. This first amount will encompass some of the refurbishment work above and beyond the frame repair. Atlantic Emergency Solutions will be completing the work.

Comments/Issues: Some repairs and upgrades will be done locally, and when it goes to Wisconsin, the repairs off-frame will be done. Mr. Stormont asked if we get a warranty on the frame when we get it back? Yes

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve repairs to Engine 243 at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00 to be completed by Atlantic Emergency Solutions. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**Fuel Bill** : Chief Scott asked the Board to authorize the Fiscal Office to issue a check on Thursday, February 9, 2023 to US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems for the Fire Department fuel bill at a cost not to exceed \$6,000.00. The statement does not close until the 8<sup>th</sup> of each month and the bill is not available until the 9<sup>th</sup> which is after this Trustee meeting. If we wait to pay at the next Trustee meeting, we risk our cards being declined due to the current limit set on the account and we would be unable to purchase fuel for our vehicles. I have submitted a request to US Bank to increase our line of credit.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board authorize the Fiscal Office to issue a check on Thursday, February 9, 2023 to US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems for fuel at cost not to exceed \$6,000.00. Ms.**

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Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.

Chief Scott gave the Fire Department's Monthly Report:

Copy (10) of Annual Performance Report with Monthly Breakdowns	Date: Monday, February 6, 2023 Time: 12:02:02 PM
Alarm Date between 2023-01-01 and 2023-01-31	

### Incident Count By NFIRS Code

Incident Type Group	2023-01-01	Total
600 - Series	62	<b>62</b>
300 - EMS	323	<b>323</b>
700 - False Alarm	19	<b>19</b>
500 - Service Call	11	<b>11</b>
400 - HAZMAT	9	<b>9</b>
100 - Fire	5	<b>5</b>
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>429</b>
<b>Fire</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>EMS</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>323</b>

### Incident Count by Station

Station	2023-01-01	Total
Prairie Township Fire Station 241	364	<b>364</b>
Prairie Township Fire Station 243	65	<b>65</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>429</b>

Aided Agency Name	Details
Columbus	116

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Franklin Township	10
Jefferson Township	12
Norwich Township	5
Pleasant Township	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>

PTFD Crews attended the Shoe giveaway at Stiles Elementary School on MLK Day  
F.M. Powers and Chief Scott participated in a tabletop evacuation and relocation exercise at Norton Middle School

There was a structure fire on Garden Heights and a double fatal accident on Murnan Rd. in January  
The F.M. conducted 48 inspections

Mr. Pritchard asked Chief Scott to provide an update on the recent fire on North Murray Hill. Chief Scott reported there was a fire at 133 N Murray Hill around 9:50pm, noted heavy fire in rear of building on lower level and smoke throughout. A second alarm was requested immediately and several area fire stations responded. There were multiple engines, ladders and rescues on site; four occupants were rescued using ground ladders and the rest self-evacuated, some with the help of firefighters guiding residents through smoky passageways. Chief Scott said things went incredibly well and there were no injuries.

Mr. Pritchard recalled that the Fire Marshall recently completed a fire safety inspection there and violations were noted for the complex. He asked if the violations were specifically for the address of the fire. Chief Scott said he didn't know if the violations were tied to the building where the fire occurred but said that the fire doors were working properly and smoke detectors were going off. He also noted that management was quick to show up on the scene.

### **Community Center**

**Cellular Dialer Phone Lines** : Mr. Pollack asked the Board to approve a proposal from AT&T for cellular dialer for fire and elevator phone lines at the Community Center. Our current AT&T bill had been \$289 and increased to \$559 a month in January for land line technology. The cellular dialer option is proposed at \$143.98 a month a savings of \$415 a month. Michael met with them in December and researched other monitoring companies in the area. AT&T had the best price along with being able to monitor all three lines as opposed to just fire. Michael met with them again on Thursday, February 2 and they will send an agreement to sign along with an updated proposal date, but all the rates will remain the same as the December proposal.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve cellular dialer service with AT&T and authorize the Recreation Director to sign the agreement. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as**

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follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.

**Polling Location** : Mr. Pollack asked the Board to approve the Community Center as a polling location for the May 2, 2023 and November 7, 2023 elections, and authorize the Recreation Director to sign the agreement with the Franklin County Board of Elections for use of the space.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board allow polling space for the Franklin County Board of Elections on May 2, 2023 and November 7, 2023 at the Community Center and authorize the Recreation Director to sign the agreement. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**Easter Egg Hunt Event Request** : Mr. Pollack asked the Board to approve holding an Easter Egg Hunt event at the Galloway Sports Complex on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 1:00p.m. This event is organized by Robin Thompson.

Comments/Issues: Mr. Pritchard asked if Ms. Thompson organized last year's event and Mr. Pollack confirmed she had. Mr. Pritchard asked if the Township would have its own event and Mr. Pollack said the Township would not organize a second event if the Board approved tonight's request.

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve an Easter Egg Hunt event organized by Robin Thompson at the Galloway Sports Complex on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 1:00p.m. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**OneField Ribbon Cutting** : Mr. Pollack asked the Board to approve a ribbon cutting event for the new OneField on April 8 from 9-11a.m. at the Galloway Sports Complex.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve a ribbon cutting event for the OneField on Saturday, April 8, 2023 from 9-11a.m. at the Galloway Sports Complex. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

Mr. Pollack gave the Community Center's Monthly Report:

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### Community Center Monthly Report

Numbers as of **31-Jan-23**

		percentage
<b>Total Current Community Center Members</b>	6,904	
<b>Total Members that are Prairie Township Residents</b>	2,135	30.92%
<b>Total Members that are Non-Residents</b>	4,769	69.08%
<b>Total Members that are JEDZ</b>	163	2.36%
<b>Total Members that are Senior Citizens</b>	4,707	68.18%
<b>Total Unique Senior Citizen Visits</b>	7,639	
 <b>Number of new members/renewals since last report</b>	 296	
 <b>How many memberships that expired that were not renewed</b>	 51	
<b>Retention rate percentage</b>		96
 <b>Events or significant programs</b>		
<b>Group Fitness Classes</b>	1214	
<b>Basketball</b>	885	
<b>Pickleball</b>	250	
<b>Swim Lessons</b>	227	
<b>Karate</b>	19	
<b>Homeschool Gym</b>	37	
<b>Jr. Cavs Youth Basketball League</b>	77	
<b>Senior Social Programs (Lunch &amp; Learns, Bingo, Euchre, Wii Bowling, Pot Lucks, Etc.)</b>	240	
<b>Parents Night Out</b>	20	

Pritchard - How are signups going for soccer? About 65 right now, started a couple years ago, pretty well; about 100 last year so looking like we will surpass that...signups run through the end of Feb

### Roads, Cemeteries, and Parks Department

**2023 Finish Mowers** : Mr. McAninch recommended the Board approve the purchase of two 2023 Ferris 61” finish mowers at a cost of \$35,698.00 from Hilliard Lawn and Garden, and authorize the Road Superintendent to sign all documents needed for this purchase. The two 2022 Ferris 61” finish mowers we will trade in for \$24,600.00. The difference for both mowers after the trade is \$11,098.00. We have participated in this program for approximately 19 years. Mr. McAninch believes strongly in this program as he feels it reduces down time and maintenance as well as allowing us to operate the whole year under a warranty.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the purchase of two finish mowers from Hilliard Lawn and Garden at a cost of \$11,098.00 with trade in of two 2022 finish mowers and authorize the Road Superintendent to execute the necessary paperwork. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

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**2023 Sidewalk Program Contractor** : Mr. McAninch recommended the Board approve Berkshire Boys Inc. as the 2023 Sidewalk Program contractor. The cost for 4" sidewalk removed and replaced is \$40.00 (last year's cost was \$37.00) per linear foot. The cost for 6" sidewalk removed and replaced is \$45.00 (last year's cost was \$39.00) per linear foot. The cost for curb and gutter removed and replaced is \$58.00 (last year's cost was \$48.00) per linear foot. The cost of concrete drive approach removed and replaced is \$75.00 (last year's cost was \$70.00) a square yard. This year the minimum cost per address outside the target area is \$1,600.00. The minimum cost per address in the target area is \$550.00. Mr. McAninch noted the target area this year is the north side of Beacon Hill, from Buena Vista to Old Village.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve contracting with Berkshire Boys, Inc. for the 2023 sidewalk program at the rates presented and authorize the Road Superintendent to execute the necessary paperwork. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**Crack Seal Material** : Mr. McAninch recommended the Board authorize the Road Superintendent to sign an agreement with DJL Material for crack seal material for a cost of \$0.92 per pound. This is the same price as last year. This agreement includes the use of the crack seal machine from DJL at no cost, as long as the Township buys and uses their material. Mr. McAninch would like the Board to authorize spending up to \$25,000.00 for this program in 2023.

Comments/Issues: Mr. Pritchard asked if Mr. McAninch had identified any specific areas to seal in 2023. Mr. McAninch said he noted some locations but didn't have his notes with him tonight.

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board authorize the Service Director to sign an agreement with DJL Material for crack seal material at a cost of \$0.92 per pound and authorize spending up to \$25,000.00 for this program in 2023. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

Mr. McAninch gave the Roads, Cemeteries and Parks Department's Monthly Report:



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### January 2023 Report

- 5 Graves sold
- 6 funerals
- Chipped tree limbs at 7 address's
- Christmas Tree Recycle Program 23 trees
- Trash, weeds W Broad Street
- Remove Holiday Wreaths and banners replace with regular banners W Broad
- Groom OneField once
- Potholes with Hot Mix 3 days
- Finish install snow fence Kuhlwein Road
- Pick up 11 bags of leaves
- Nuisance abatements at 3 properties plus Galloway Village
- Replace 1 broken concrete lid 8712 Edgewater
- Install 3 military marker
- Truck Maintenance
- 6 snow and ice events
- Took delivery of 8 loads of salt from ODOT Contract
- Helped with removal of 3 Elm Trees on Beacon Hill traffic control and chipping
- Station 243 put in pad for dumpster and driveway to cell tower
- Install riser 430 Lennox Ave for storm sewer catch basin
- Replaced 16 signs throughout the township
- Removed 8 tree stumps along W Broad from vehicles hitting them
- Start 2023 sign list

### **Commercial Building and Zoning Department**

Ms. Scott gave the Commercial Building and Zoning Department's Monthly Report

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### Zoning Monthly Report - January 2023

Development/Informational Meetings	233
Nuisance Inspections	84
Declared Nuisances	22
Junk Motor Vehicle Inspections	2
Trash Resolution Inspections	52
Zoning Inspections	109
Zoning Violations	69
Do Not Knock Registries	1
Contractor Registrations	13
Zoning Permits	14
MS4 Land Disturbance Permits	3
Open Space Permits (Hunting)	4
Commercial Permits	4
Transient Vendor Permits	1
Variance Applications	1
Zoning Revenue	\$2,728.60
Commercial Building Revenue	\$2,787.62
Contractor Registration	\$1,600.00

#### **Administration**

**Nuisance Resolutions** : Mr. Jewell presented the nuisances to be declared tonight.

**Galloway Village Nuisance Resolutions** :

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
X	4927-4949 Eastham Way	240-004823
	<del>4951-4973 Eastham Way</del>	<del>240-004822</del>
	<del>4820 Medfield Way</del>	<del>240-004847</del>
X	4960-4982 Medfield Way	240-004837
	<del>44 Sturbridge Road</del>	<del>240-004839</del>

\*Strike-through addresses not declared

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-05-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with refuse and debris. " Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.

**Other Nuisance Resolutions:**

Declared	Address	Parcel Number
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X	23 Pasadena Avenue	240-000568
X	465 Amity Road	240-004310
X	8841 Crestwater Drive	241-000364
X	454 Hiler Road	240-004533
X	4637 Hilton Avenue	240-004324
X	4710 Hilton Avenue	240-004274
X	4739 Hilton Avenue	240-004313
X	4678-4688 Hilton Avenue	240-004278
X	4694-4702 Hilton Avenue	240-004276
X	6469-6479 West Broad Street	240-003057
X	6447 Hunter Street	240-001731
X	6539 Birch Park Way	240-005594

\*Strike-through addresses not declared

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU-06-23, "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at properties with refuse and debris." Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Pritchard asked if 465 Amity is an address we'd been working with prior and Ms. Scott said yes, cleanup started and has since stopped. Deputy Haren said that the Sheriff's Department was dispatched to the address earlier in the day, but no one entered the residence. He said he's been working with the apartment complex and is aware of the nuisance situation and will ensure the Detective investigating is also aware. Mr. Pritchard asked Ms. Scott to follow up on this address again.

Mr. Pritchard asked if Hilton Avenue had been cited yet. Ms. Scott said Hilton Avenue has not been cited yet as all of her efforts have been focused on addressing the Galloway Village situation. Mr. Pritchard suggested she consider how to address both at the same time.

Ms. Kate Martinez of 445 Emmet recalled the rebranding initiative discussed at the last meeting and said that trash is a leading reason why we have the image we do. She said she has done some work in other areas of Columbus, specifically mentioning Morse Road and Hilliard, and said she doesn't see a trash problem there. She said that we'll never change our image if we can't address the trash problem.

Ms. Schmelzer said those areas have property maintenance codes and our Township doesn't. Mr. Pritchard clarified that we don't have a residential property maintenance code, but we do have a commercial and multi-family residential property maintenance code. He also said the focus has been on cleaning up the highly visible Broad Street and then extending attention out beyond the main corridor.

**Junk Motor Vehicle (Res. 05-23)** : Mr. Jewell asked the Board to approve Resolution 05-23. This resolution authorizes the Board to determine that a motor vehicle, which may be generally described as a red Ford Ecoline van, no radiator, no steering column, extensively damaged, fire damage, shattered winders, front end missing and doors ripped apart ("Junk Motor Vehicle"), is three model years or older, apparently inoperable and located at 122 Norton Road, Parcel # 240-003088, as a junk motor vehicle and order the property owner to remove such junk motor vehicle from the property within 14 days of written notice. If the property owner fails to remove or to cause the removal of the junk motor vehicle from the property within said 14 days, the Board may proceed to remove, or cause the removal of, the junk motor vehicle from the property and, if necessary, enter the cost upon the tax duplicate for the

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property.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve Resolution 05-23, "A Resolution declaring a certain motor vehicle located at 122 Norton Road, Parcel #240-003088, Prairie Township, Franklin County, Ohio, to constitute junk motor vehicle and providing for its removal pursuant to O.R.C. 505.871. " Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

Mr. Pritchard commented that we've done this a couple of times and asked if we have actually removed any junk vehicles. Ms. Scott said yes, this is probably our fourth or fifth, and it is our second at this location.

**Nuisance Assessments** : Mr. Jewell asked the Board to execute a "Return and Statement to County Commissioners" requesting assessments totaling \$36,555.28, for removal of trash and debris at (13) properties from December 2022 through February 2023. \$28,350.13 of this total is for the Galloway Village Apartments.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board execute a "Return and Statement to County Commissioners " requesting assessments totaling \$36,555.28 for removal of trash and debris at (13) properties in December 2022 - February 2023. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**Engineer Consulting Firm** : Mr. Jewell asked the Board to approve hiring a new engineering consulting firm, DLZ, and authorize the Township Administrator to sign the Master Agreement. This agreement has an initial term of 1 year from the effective date and shall automatically renew in one-year increments. Either party can terminate this agreement with a proper 30-day notice.

Comments/Issues: None

**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board authorize the Township Administrator to execute the Master Agreement with DLZ. Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

**NCA Intergovernmental Agreement (Res. 06-23)** : Mr. Jewell asked the Board to approve Resolution 06-23, approving an intergovernmental agreement with the Villages at Galloway New Community Authority. The Resolution authorizes the Township Administrator to execute the agreement. The Intergovernmental Agreement outlines the charge revenue and payment processes between parties for the Villages at Galloway and use of such charge payments. The Township will reimburse the developer for costs associated with essential early investments and then payments shall be used towards Township community investments.

Comments/Issues: None

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**Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution 06-23, "A resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Villages at Galloway New Community Authority". Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Pritchard Aye; Ms. Schmelzer Aye; Mr. Stormont Aye. Motion passed.**

Comments/Issues: None

Ms. Martinez asked how much the clearing cost [for the Clarke property], and what the plans are for the property now. Mr. Jewell said it cost the Township \$28,000 to clear the property. Mr. Pritchard said there are no plans, and referred previous Board meetings where the Board addressed the same question by saying the Board's main goal is to clean it up, then they'll decide what to do with it. Now that the clearing took place, the next step is to clean up the trash. Ms. Martinez asked when the trash will be cleaned up and Mr. McAninch said he'll get in there as soon as he can, especially since the trash is blocking a drainage ditch. Ms. Martinez, expressed concerns about the jagged tree shards injuring the kids who play there, and Mr. McAninch said that No Trespassing signs were posted to keep people away from the site. Mr. Pritchard said that it's going to take some time to clean up the property because it's not a nice flat, clean field.

Ms. Martinez asked if the Board considered a sound barrier now that the trees are gone, noting the sound has increased. Mr. McAninch said the property where a sound barrier would be installed is in the ODOT right of way. Mr. Jewell offered that he was told by ODOT they would install a sound barrier along 270, South of Broad Street, similar to what is installed North of Broad Street, when they next make repairs to 270.

A resident of 531 Emmit who recently moved into the area, said he'd like to make sure the future plans/use of the Clarke property will be for a good purpose and not something like Section 8 housing. Mr. Jewell said no roads extend back to it, and Mr. Stormont added that sewer and water don't extend there either. Mr. Pritchard said the Board has always envisioned it as a park.

There was some discussion about the way the Clarke property was cleared, and Ms. Martinez, who joined Mr. Jewell in the property walk with the representatives from Soil & Water as well as a certified arborist, said she recalls the best practices discussed then was to refrain from using heavy machinery to perform the clearing within six feet of the dripline of the trees to be saved, and doing the clearing while the trees were in full bloom to prevent regrowth if the property isn't maintained. She said she felt like the Township disregarded those best practice recommendations. Debra Kurtz of 217 Evergreen said that she was under the impression more trees would be saved. Mr. Jewell commented that Ms. Martinez's involvement was crucial to the Township's decision to save the trees they did.

Marie Gooslin of 330 Mix Ave asked what the plan for the Mix/Stiles property is, and whether or not she had until next meeting to present their Community Gardens proposal. Ms. Martinez said she and Ms. Gooslin visited Franklinton Park, and learned they grow vegetables organically and distribute to the neighbors at a reduced rate. Ms. Martinez said that it's quite overwhelming to even know where to start to get to something beautiful like what Grandview has, but she feels like a Community Garden is a really good way to get at the root of the rebranding. The Board repeated their advice for Ms. Martinez to bring forward a proposal for her Community Gardens idea.

### Old Business

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



## PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FEBRUARY 8, 2023 - REGULAR MEETING 7 :00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

Mr. Stormont asked for information about the rebranding initiative since he wasn't at the last meeting. Mr. Jewell recapped the presentation from last meeting and said that he would share a copy of the presentation with Mr. Stormont.

### **New Business**

Bob Voss of 249 Emmitt, commented that Jacob's Lane is all overgrown and asked who owns the property. Mr. Jewell said it is not dedicated right of way and isn't owned by the Township.

### **Public Comment**

Tony Self of 372 Fernhill offered appreciation for the work done at 400 Fernhill and said 460 Fernhill is starting to look pretty bad. Mr. Pritchard asked Ms. Scott to look into the situation at that address.

### **Announcements**

None

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

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Chairman Doug Stormont

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Fiscal Officer Natalie McKay