

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 3, 2023 - SPECIAL MEETING 6:30 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

Trustee Doug Stormont called the special meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees to order on May 3, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Hall with Trustee Cathy Schmelzer, Trustee Rod Pritchard, Fiscal Officer Natalie McKay, Township Administrator James Jewell, Recreation Director Michael Pollack, and Zoning Director Dana Scott present.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Removal of Zoning Commission Board Member Julia Donnan with Brosius, Johnson and Griggs and Prairie Township Law Director, explained that tonight's special meeting served as a Public Hearing to provide Mr. Finn an opportunity to speak and be heard and answer the charges against Prairie Township Zoning Commission member Christopher Finn.

Ms. Donnan explained the charges as follows:

In accordance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code ("R.C.") 519.04:

1. Mr. Finn has served as a member of the Prairie Township Zoning Commission since November 8, 2006.
2. His current term began January 1, 2020.
3. Mr. Finn did not attend the following Commission meetings: July 27, 2022, September 27, 2022; January 24, 2023; March 14, 2023; and March 28, 2023. These constitute all of the meetings that were held during this time period.
4. From August 1, 2022 to March 30, 2023, Dana Scott, the Prairie Township Commercial Building and Zoning Director, as well as other staff members of the Prairie Township Commercial Building and Zoning Department, have attempted to contact Mr. Finn via phone, email, and stopping by Mr. Finn's home.
5. On or about March 7, 2023, Ms. Huber sent a letter via regular mail and email to Mr. Finn, noting his consistent absence and asked him to contact Ms. Scott or her.
6. To date, Mr. Finn has not responded in any way to the Township's many attempts to communicate with him, nor attended Commission meetings.

Ms. Donnan said that based on the above charges, there is reason to believe that Mr. Finn's action and/or inaction constitutes "nonperformance of duty" under the provisions of R.C 519.04, warranting his removal from the Commission.

Mr. Stormont moved to remove Christopher Finn as a member of the Prairie Township Zoning Commission, upon a finding of his nonperformance of duty, specifically, that he has not attended any Zoning Commission meetings starting with the meeting held July 27, 2022, or responded to any communications from Township staff during that time . Ms. Schmelzer seconded the motion. Roll Call Votes: Mr. Pritchard, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye; Mr. Stormont, Aye. Motion passed.

Adjournment

Mr. Stormont declared the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Chairman Doug Stormont

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