

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 29, 2020 - REGULAR MEETING 7 :00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

Due to the current COVID-19 Health Emergency, this meeting was closed to the public and livestreamed via Facebook.

Ms. Schmelzer opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairwoman Cathy Schmelzer, Vice Chair Steve Kennedy, Trustee Doug Stormont, Fiscal Officer Sherry Henning, and Township Administrator Rob Peters were all in attendance at the township hall. All other department heads and Deputy Ronk were all excused in advance from the meeting.

Approval of Minutes - July 15, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Comments/Issues: None

Ms. Schmelzer : So Moved". Mr. Stormont seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont , Aye: Mr. Kennedy , Aye; Ms. Schmelzer , Aye. The meeting minutes for the July 15, 2020 Regular Meeting were approved.

Franklin County Sheriff 's Office

Mr. Peters shared the report received from Deputy Ronk. There were 592 calls for service and 59 total reports taken:

- 6 drug related offenses
- 3 breaking & entering
- 1 aggravated robbery
- 3 theft of a motor vehicle
- 12 thefts

Over recent weeks there has been a spike in theft from both retail stores and homes. All residents are encouraged to make sure that their vehicles are secure, park in well-lit areas if possible and not to leave valuables in their vehicles.

Fiscal Officer 's Report

Approval of Warrant s and Payroll

This week's warrants list detailed payments to 66 vendors totaling \$158,422.01.

Sherry will request the Board's approval to pay all items on this week's warrant list totaling \$158,422.01 along with the July 24, 2020 payroll of \$233,913.06 for a total cash disbursement of \$392,335.07.

Comments/Issues: None

Ms. Schmelzer motioned "so moved". Mr. Stormont seconded. The Votes were as follows: Mr . Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer , Aye. Motion passed.

Standing Business:

Fire Department

No items.

Community Center

Petty Cash Request

Mr. Peters asked the Board to authorize issuing \$5,000.00 in petty cash to the Community Center for use at the Farmer Market. This is a normal operation procedure, however, this year, we are requesting a larger amount due to the addition of having the WIC program on site. The petty cash requested at the July 15th meeting was depleted in 2 weeks. WIC reimbursements will take a few weeks to come in, however, we are submitting for reimbursement each week.

Comments/Issues: None

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Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board approve issuing \$5,000.00 petty cash to the Community Center for the Farmer Market and authorize the Fiscal Office to prepare a warrant on 7/ 30/20. Mr. Stormont seconded. The Votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Roads, Cemeteries, and Parks Department

Snow/Ice Contract with City of Columbus

Mr. Peters asked the Board approve a snow and ice removal contract with the City of Columbus for the 2020/2021 winter season. In exchange for the township maintaining, during snow and ice events, 11.58 lane miles of roads, the City of Columbus will compensate the township \$953.00 per lane mile for a total of \$11,035.74. The township maintained these exact same roads last year. As in the past, township roads will take priority over these roads.

Comments/Issues: None

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board approve the 2020-2021 Snow and Ice Agreement with the City of Columbus and authorize the Township Administrator to execute the agreement. Mr. Stormont seconded. The Votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

COVID Related Building Upgrades

Mr. Peters recommended that the Board approve work at 23 Maple, 25 Maple and 6725 Alkire Road. This work is COVID-19 related work to make plumbing and electrical items in all buildings hands free. It also includes COVID-19 guards at 25 Maple Drive for protection of workers and residents while interacting with the staff at 25 Maple Drive. The work would also involve extending glass opening for resident service at entryway at 23 Maple Drive. The total cost for this work is \$47,472.95 and the vendor would be Hager Construction, LLC. This work will be paid for from the CARES Funds that we have received for COVID-19 related expenses.

Comments/Issues: None

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board approve building upgrades at the 23 and 25 Maple Drive and 6725 Alkire Road at a cost of \$47,472.95 and authorize the Service Director to execute the agreement. Mr. Stormont seconded. The Votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Cemetery Request

Mr. Peters asked the Board to consider allowing Milton A. Klise to be buried in Section 5 Lot 58 Grave 3 in the Alton Cemetery. Milton's infant son is buried at the foot of this grave. This burial took place in 1981 and according to him; the township said he could be buried on the same grave. Mr. McAninch does not have a problem with this but our current rules do not allow this to happen.

Comments/Issues: None

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board approve allowing Milton A. Klise to be buried in Section 5, lot 58, Grave #3 at Alton Cemetery. Mr. Stormont seconded. The Votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Commercial Building and Zoning

No items.

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Administration

Nuisance Cases

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 158-20 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 399 Garden Heights Avenue ". Mr. Stormont seconded. Roll Call Vote s were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 159-20 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 80-160 Old Village Road". Mr. Stormont seconded. Roll Call Vote s were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 160-20 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 240-002799 - Postle Boulevard". Mr. Stormont seconded. Roll Call Vote s were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 161-20 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 240-002800 - Postle Boulevard". Mr. Stormont seconded. Roll Call Vote s were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 162-20 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 240-002801 - Postle Boulevard". Mr. Stormont seconded. Roll Call Vote s were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 163-20 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 320 S. Grener Avenue". Mr. Stormont seconded. Roll Call Vote s were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board adopt Resolution NU- 164-20 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 263 Woodlawn Avenue ". Mr. Stormont seconded. Roll Call Vote s were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Liability Insurance Renewal

Mr. Peters presented a proposal from OTARMA for property and liability insurance coverage for an annual cost of \$62,903.00. This cost represents a slight increase compared to last year's costs of \$62,122.000. This increase is less than 1% higher than last year.

Comments/Issues: None

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board enter into an agreement with OTARMA for property and liability insurance for August 7, 2020 through August 7, 2021 at a total premium of \$62,903.00, authorize the Township Administrator to execute all necessary documents and authorize the Fiscal Office to issue a warrant on Thursday, July 30, 2020 for the premium. Mr. Stormont seconded. Roll Call Vote s were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Mix & Stiles - Letter to Homes on the Hill

Mr. Peters was contacted by Steve Torsell of Homes on the Hill, who expressed interest in doing a project on property owned by the Township at Mix and Stiles (299-305 Mix Avenue). Mr. Torsell has requested that we not market the property while he and his team complete their due diligence to see if they will be able to develop it. I have spoken with our attorney, Pete Griggs, and with the Board's approval, we can offer a letter to HOTH indicating that we will not market or sell the parcel for 12 months while they complete their due diligence.

Comments/Issues: Mr. Kennedy requested a stipulation for the use of the property to generate taxable revenue.

Ms. Schmelzer moved that the Board authorize the Township Administrator to send a letter to Homes on the Hill indicating that the Township will not market or sell parcel number 240-001317 for 12 months. Mr. Stormont seconded. The Votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

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Announcements:

Mr. Peters announced that the SBA is offering homeowners disaster assistance, and he provided an updated on the FEMA Mitigation grant; 3 properties have closed, 1 is closing tomorrow, 7/30/20 and 1 has accepted the offer with no closing date yet.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm

Chairwoman Cathy Schmelzer

Fiscal Officer Sherry Henning