

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**Minutes of Franklin Township  
Franklin County, Ohio**

**Regular Meeting**

**Held at 2193 Frank Road**

**April 19, 2018**

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Chairman Horn called the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on April 19, 2018, at 2193 Frank Road.

Chairman Horn gave the welcome.

**Opening Prayer:**

Pastor Snodgrass, Fire Department Chaplain, led the opening prayer.

Chairman Horn led in The Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

*Chairman Horn made a motion to approve the following meeting minutes for the Special Meeting on April 5, 2018, and the Regular Meeting on April 5, 2018. Trustee Fleshman seconded. A vote was taken Horn, Yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.*

Palmer Insurance was to send a representative to speak at this meeting. Since the representative was not present, Trustee Fleshman explained that Palmer Insurance called him to remind him of the OTARMA insurance policy which is due for renewal on May 2, 2018. The fiscal officer, Lisa Morris explained that she would reach out to each department to validate any changes in the policy. She continued in saying that typically in years past someone from Palmer Insurance comes to the Township to review the policy and the annual renewal process. The fiscal officer will review and will submit the renewal by the May 2, 2018.

The following resolution was motioned by Trustee Fleshman.

Chairman Horn seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.

**RESOLUTION 18-059**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the fiscal office to complete the annual OTARMA/Palmer Insurance renewal, sign and submit the policy by May 2, 2018.**

The following resolution was motioned by Trustee Fleshman. Vice-Chairman Alex seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.

**RESOLUTION 18-058**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves payroll in the amount of \$141,176.58 and bills in the amount of \$123,738.96 for a total of \$264,915.53 from check number 46378 to 46504.**

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## **Police Department Report:**

Chief Smith began by distributing a written quote to the Board from Vance's Law Enforcement. The quote outlines the purchase price of new duty weapons including the trade-in of the old weapons. The Chief indicated the cost of the new weapons will be taken from the police fund under the line item appropriated for impound fee collected.

The following resolution was motioned by Trustee Fleshman. Vice-Chairman Alex seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.

### **RESOLUTION 18-060**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board agrees to allow Police Chief Smith to purchase (12) twelve duty weapons from Vance's Law Enforcement, not to exceed \$5,000.00 which will include the trade-in old duty weapons.**

As the Chief continued, he indicated that there have been reports of commercial trucks travelling through the Broadlawn neighborhood. The residents of the Broadlawn block watch expressed their concerns about the trucks and how additional signage might discourage such action. The Chief said, he will speak with the Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens on what is needed to erect additional No Through Truck Signs including the review of old resolutions to see what is on record related to signage in the Broadlawn area.

The Chief also shared that he will be getting with Vice-Chairman Alex on next steps to providing Township block watch trainings for all block watch coordinators/captains.

The following resolution was motioned by Trustee Fleshman. Vice-Chairman Alex seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.

### **RESOLUTION 18-061**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board agrees to allow Police Chief Smith to shut down Florence Avenue between Harding and Arnett on May 19, 2018 from approximately 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for a community event.**

The Chief continued to share that the community event in the Broadlawn neighborhood is in need of food for the event and asked if the Board would be interested in providing a donation for food for the event. Assistant Fire Chief Adams spoke up and said that he would get with the fire union and see if the union would donate food. The Board supported the idea of the fire union engaging in such an event.

Chief Smith also indicated that Pastor Womack of Central Baptist Church, which is located on Frank Road has extended an open invitation to the Board

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of Trustees to consider moving the Regular Meetings of the Board of Trustees to the community hall adjacent to Central Baptist Church.

The Board agreed that the Police Chief would contact the county prosecutor's office to ensure the Township can hold their regular meetings at a place of worship without violating any laws. Once the prosecutor's office provides guidance and if the answer is yes then a public meeting would then be held to gather the community's input on moving the meetings to Central Baptist Church permanently. A written agreement would need to be put into place between the Township and Central Baptist in case a new pastor would take over the church in the future.

The Police Chief proceeded to ask the Board if he could send one of his officers to the State of Ohio Ammunition Instructor Training. The Chief shared that once the officer is trained as a certified ammunition trainer they can then begin training our Township officers without paying for an outside instructor. The investment is a benefit to the Township by having this knowledgeable trainer in-house to ensure all of the police officers are instructed the same and protocols are consistent.

The following resolution was motioned by Vice-Chairman Alex. Trustee Fleshman seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.

## **RESOLUTION 18-063**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board agrees to allow the Police Chief to assign one police officer to attend the State of Ohio Ammunition Instructor Training, not to exceed \$2,500.00.**

The Chief provided an update on the status of the (2) two police cruisers that were in accidents. The cruisers are currently at 3C Body Shop. There is conflict between the body shop and the Township insurance by \$6,000.00. The insurance company says the Township needs to take the cruisers to another body shop for a cheaper quote. The chief indicated the body shop is doing the right thing by holding the insurance company accountable to use the correct parts versus after-market parts and that he has no plans to change body shops.

In closing the Police Chief asked the Board to clarify how overtime is to be handled for non-bargaining employees. It was agreed this discussion will occur at the next quarterly meeting.

The following motion was presented by Vice-Chairman Alex that conversation would continue about overtime for non-bargaining employees at the next quarterly meeting. Fleshman seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.

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Tim Chaney from the audience, asked the Chief who would be conducting the training for the Ammunition Instructor Training. The chief replied that the training will be conducted by the State of Ohio.

Janet Ward from the audience asked the Chief if an agreement would be made with the officer selected to attend the Ammunition Instructor Training and the Township's expectation for them to remain employed with the Township for a specific timeframe after the training is obtained. The Chief explained that he will contact the union for specifics on how an agreement could be handled, if permitted.

Tim Chaney from the audience asked if the ammunition instructor training was included in the officer's existing salary. The Chief confirmed that the training is included in the existing salary.

## **Fire Department Report:**

Assistant Chief Adams asked for a motion from the Board to allow firefighters to donate time that they have on their books to a fellow fire fighter who is out on medical leave.

*A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Alex to allow the fire fighters to donate their sick time to fire fighter Girardi as needed while he is out of medical leave. Trustee Fleshman seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.*

The audience had no questions for the fire department.

## **Road Department Report:**

The Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens was not present for the meeting and had informed the Board that he had nothing to report.

The audience had no questions for the Road Department

## **Fiscal Office Report**

The Fiscal Officer, Lisa Morris distributed the 2018 Budget Permanent Appropriations for the Board to review. The board may contact the Fiscal Officer with any questions they have by the next Regular Meeting.

The audience had no questions for the Fiscal Office.

## **Building Department Report**

The Administrative Coordinator, Jessica Rice reminded the Board and audience of the Township Clean-up Day on Saturday, April 28, 2018. This day also includes drug take-back. Residents may bring household trash, tires (limit of 4), and medications (prescription and over-the-counter) to 2193 Frank Road on April 28, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with no questions asked.

Jessica Rice shared with the Board that a dumpster will need to be rented for the clean-up event.

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The following resolution was motioned by Vice-Chairman Alex. Trustee Fleshman seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes.

## **RESOLUTION 18-062**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the expenditure of \$295.00 to Boren Brothers for a dumpster rental on Saturday, April 28, 2018 for the Township clean-up event. This includes delivery and pick up of the dumpster.**

The Administrative Coordinator provided an update on the Township newsletter indicating that the newsletter will be mailed out to residents any day. After researching the active mailing addresses within the Township it has been determined that there are 2,880 active homes in the Township eligible to receive mail. This number is down about 1,000 from the previous data collection several years ago.

Janet Wade from the audience asked how the Township is ensuring that all residents in the Township will receive a copy of the newsletter. The Administrative Coordinator explained that she worked closely with the County Auditor's Office verifying valid mailing addresses. Janet also asked how the Township communicated to the residents about the Township clean-up day. Vice-Chairman Alex shared that SWACO has does their due diligence to communicate and advertise the Township clean-up event.

A member of the audience asked if they chose as an individual to pick up trash along the road way can they bring this trash to the Township on April 28<sup>th</sup> during the clean-up. The Board agreed that roadside trash/waste can be brought to the event for disposal.

There were no further questions from the audience for the Building Department.

### **Chairman, Ralph Horn**

The chairman expressed his concern about the increase in legal fees accumulated from the February 2018 to the March 2018 invoice. The March invoice increased by \$3,000.00 and the chairman felt this increase is unreasonable. He then reminded the Board of Resolution 14-003 which provides specifics on who should be contacting the Township attorney.

Vice-Chairman Alex announced that he has never contacted the Township attorney since he was sworn into office.

### **Vice-Chairman, Aryeh Alex**

A discussion draft of the Township Administrator job description was distributed to the Board. Vice-Chairman Alex indicated he will be requesting a future meeting with the Board to continue the discussion of a Township Administrator.

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Vice-Chairman Alex proceeded to share that the Franklin County Public Health has a program called CHAT and that Franklin Township is one the Townships in the county which does not participate in the CHAT program. Assistant Fire Chief has been selected as the representative for Franklin Township and will begin attending CHAT program meetings.

SWACO has provided information to the Vice-Chairman on two available trash collection consortiums in 2019 which Franklin Township could participate. Vice-Chairman Alex informed the Board that he will continue to have conversations with SWACO related to a consortium. SWACO will be providing a presentation at a future regular board meeting. The FCSO has an environmental task force and is focusing on an initiative in Franklin Township. This initiative will aide in the enforcement of illegal trash dumping including education, community forum, and make Franklin Township a focal point of an environmental cleanup.

A member of the audience expressed their concern how much trash is visible and agrees something needs done.

### **Trustee, John Fleshman**

Discuss the parking expense incurred while attending meetings downtown or where there is a charge for parking. The Vice-Chairman shared his personal view that he will continue to use his stipend which is receives as a trustee to pay for his parking and that he would not be charging parking back to the Township for reimbursement. Chairman Horn shared that he has never turned in his parking fees to the Township for reimbursement and does not plan to. The Fiscal Officer shared how parking fees have been handled in the past that former trustees never submitted parking fees to be reimbursed by the Township. Trustee Fleshman provided an example of how his lunch was reimbursed by the Township in the past while attending a Township conference. Vice-Chairman Alex then explained that the Board had previously passed a resolution for the trustees to attend the Township conference so the lunch expense would have been included in the resolution which justified the reimbursement.

### **Audience Speaker Cards:**

Janet Ward asked what the specifics would be for the trash consortium. The Vice-Chairman indicated that the conversations with SWACO are still in their early stages and more information will be provided as obtained.

Janet Ward also wanted to know how much the Township Administrator would be paid. The Vice-Chairman shared that this would be an entry level position and it would pay an approximate of \$40,000.00 to \$50,000.00 annually. Vice Chairman Alex continued to say that there will be an initial expense to hire a Township Administrator but he feels confident that the position will pay for itself within a few years.

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Dan of Friends of the Hilltop distributed a liability waiver form which pertained to community gardens. The sample liability form is specifically written for community gardens and provides specifications to protect both the Township and those participating in the use of the community garden space. Dan encouraged the Board to read over this document and to create something similar for Franklin Township so the work at the Broadlawn community garden can proceed.

Tim Chaney, Broadlawn Community Garden expressed his frustration as to why the Township is taking so long to move forward on a liability form so the community garden can move forward.

A motion was made by Trustee Fleshman indicating that the community garden liability waiver form will be submitted to the County Prosecutor's office, upon review and the Board will continue the discussion at their quarterly meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Vice-Chairman Alex seconded. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; and Fleshman, yes.

Tim Chaney shared that at the Broadlawn block watch group was very upset with the "trash for cash" initiative which was broadcasted on the news. Chaney felt the news mislead the community and the initiative was a waste of time and township funds. Chaney provided the Board with another option for clean-up in the Township and that is to contact Franklin County Judge Hawkins has a program where people who have committed crimes are required to clean up trash as part of their rehabilitation back into society. Chaney continued that Township funds were used to pick up trash in the City of Columbus versus supporting Franklin Township and focusing the cleaning up in Broadlawn located in Franklin Township. Franklin Township used tax payer dollars to support an initiative focused on Columbus.

Vice-Chairman Alex made a motion with no further business to discuss, to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Fleshman seconded. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, absent. The meeting adjourned at 8:26p.m.

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Ralph Horn, Chairman

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Aryeh Alex, Vice-Chairman

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John Fleshman, Trustee

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Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer  
Robyn Watkins, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Minutes were Taken & Typed By: Robyn Watkins