

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Regular Meeting

Held at 2193 Frank Road

August 22, 2019

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Fleshman called the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on August 22, 2019, at 2193 Frank Road.

Opening Prayer: Led by Pastor Snodgrass, Fire Chaplain

The Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Trustee Horn

Roll Call: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes

Police Officer Awards:

Police Chief, Byron Smith presented the following law enforcement officers with an award of honor for their efforts to save the life of a motorcyclist who was fatally injured in an accident. The motorcyclist's family was in the audience in memory of their son and thanked those officers/deputies who worked very hard in their numerous attempts to administer CPR in efforts of resuscitating their son.

- Franklin Township Officer Frances
- Franklin Township Officer Baldwin
- Franklin County Sheriff Deputy Carter
- Franklin County Sheriff Deputy McKee

Prior Meeting Minutes:

Fleshman motioned to approve the following meeting minutes. Alex seconded the motion. The votes were as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Motion passed.

- *Regular Meeting on May 16, 2019*
- *Regular Meeting on August 8, 2019*
- *Special Meeting on August 15, 2019*

The Assistant Fiscal Officer provided an explanation to the Board and to the audience for the delay in transcribing the May 16, 2019 regular meeting minutes.

With no Board discussion Fleshman moved to old business.

Old Business

National Night Out 2019 Update:

Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins provided an overview of the events which occurred at National Night Out including the heavy thunderstorm that came through during the evening. Watkins thanked all those involved and provided a budgetary update as outlined below.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Franklin Township
Franklin County, Ohio

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2019 National Night Out Revenue vs. Expenditure Report

2019 National Night Out Budget	\$1270.00
2019 National Night Out Expenditures	\$ 733.00
2019 Remaining Balance	\$ 537.00
2019 National Night Out Revenue	\$ 1059.00
2020 National Night Out Budget	\$ 1596.00

Fleshman thanked Watkins for her efforts in coordinating the event. Watkins explained the work that was involved in orchestrating all of the moving parts to the event even with the weather. I am happy to report that even with the rain we had 401 individuals come through the registration table, said Watkins.

With no further discussion Fleshman returned back to the agenda.

Thank You to Franklin Heights High School:

Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins explained that upon review of the August 8th meeting audio there was a request for an update on the thank you letter and gift card for the 2018-2019 Franklin Heights Digital Imaging Class for their participation in the Township logo program.

Watkins shared that a thank you letter had been composed and signed by the Board and a \$50 Visa gift card was purchased. The letter will be mailed to the attention of the teacher of the 2019-2020 digital imaging class on Friday, August 23, 2019, said Watkins.

With no further discussion Fleshman returned back to the agenda.

Resolutions:

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Resolution passed.

Resolution 19-157

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the fire chief to hire Carvel Mullins IV as a Firefighter I at \$16.11 per hour as outline in the Local 1441 collective bargain agreement.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Resolution passed.

Resolution 19-156

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the fire chief to purchase a 2007 Chevrolet Suburban VIN# 3GNGK26K37G280698 at a purchase price of \$6,000.00 to replace the current fire prevention vehicle. The funds will be taken from the building department per prior resolution 18-208

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Regular Meeting

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Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Resolution passed.

Resolution 19-158

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves bills at \$158,937.82 and payroll at \$216,001.14 for a total of \$374,938.96 from check number 51244 to 60646 and electronic checks 19-233 through 19-247.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Resolution passed.

Resolution 19-159

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the police chief to purchase twelve (12) new tires from Goodyear in Hilliard to store at Capital Towing for future use and installation. Purchase not to exceed \$1,632.00.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Resolution passed.

Resolution 19-160

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to accept the resignation of fire fighter Nicholas Holderbaum effective August 22, 2019.

With no further discussion Fleshman returned back to the agenda.

New Business:

Police Department Report:

Police Chief, Byron Smith thanked the Board of Trustees for permitting time at the beginning of the meeting to honor the police/deputies with their award.

Smith shared that a newly designed neighborhood watch sign is being erected throughout the Township. We are replacing all of the existing block watch signs with the new signage as well as identifying new locations as new block watches are established within the Township Smith explained.

The Board all agreed that the new signs are visually appealing and they represent the Township well.

Smith also disbursed to the audience and Board the new Township business window decal. All Township businesses will display this decal in their front window/door, Smith shared. See example below.

WARNING
FREE ride in
a POLICE CAR
if you shoplift!



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Horn thanked Smith for working so diligently on the alleged drug house on Jackson Road.

Police Lieutenant, David Ratliff provided an update on the modular renovations. It has been discovered during the most recent rainfall that the modular has a leak in the roof, reported Ratliff. The original electrical outlets in the modular are set back in the wall too far and need to be reconstructed so the faceplates can be properly installed, Ratliff explained.

A quote was received for the electrical work only at a cost of over \$9,000.00 but Trio Construction is willing to perform both the electrical and roofing work for \$9,580.00, said Ratliff.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Resolution passed.

Resolution 19-161

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves Trio Construction to perform roof repair and reconstruction of specified electrical outlets in the modular at a price not to exceed \$9,600.00.

Franklin County Sheriff's Office: Deputy Ronk was on vacation. No report given.

With no further discussion, Fleshman moved to the report from the fire department.

Fire Department Report:

Assistant Fire Chief, Charles Adams updated the Board on the resignation of fire fighter Nicholas Holderbaum per Resolution 19-160.

Adams also shared that the fire department recently hired Carvel Mullins IV as a full time fire fighter per Resolution 19-157. He is a fourth generation fire fighter to work for Franklin Township, explained Adams.

Alex made the following motion to allow the Assistant Fire Chief to place the Township's old foam truck for sale on www.gov.deals. Fleshman seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Fleshman, yes; Alex, yes. Motion passed.

Linda Gersper, head of PTA at East Franklin ES is doing great work. The fire department is honored to work with Ms. Gersper on a mentoring program. The program will allow the township fire fighters to mentor students. I would like to invite Ms. Gersper to the next township meeting if the Board would agree, said Adams.

The Board welcomed the idea to meet Ms. Gersper.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Regular Meeting

Held at 2193 Frank Road

August 22, 2019

With no further discussion, Fleshman moved to the report from the road department.

Road Department Report:

Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens announced that road crew member Thomas (Tommy) Chesshir will retire effective August 29, 2019, after seventeen (17) years of service to the Township. The road crew would like to take Tommy to lunch to celebrate his retirement. Tommy is requesting that only members of the road department attend the luncheon if approved. Tommy wishes to keep the luncheon private, said Stevens.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Resolution passed.

Resolution 19-162

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the Road Superintendent to spend up to \$200.00 for Thomas Chesshir's retirement luncheon and retirement gift.

Stevens explained he is working to obtain additional quotes on the construction of a new salt barn.

Fleshman asked Stevens if he is able to work with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) on the price of salt needed for the 2019-2020 winter since the Township will have a large area for storage. Stevens said the new salt barn will not impact the price the township will pay for salt.

Alex stated that the Superintendent is permitted to move forward on this project since an expenditure of \$80,000.00 has already been approved and allocated in the 2019 budget.

Horn reminded Stevens that the foundation of the salt barn needs to be capable of handling the weight of the salt and the trucks.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Horn seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Resolution passed.

Resolution 19-163

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the Road Superintendent to obtains quotes for a 35' x 50' salt barn not to exceed \$80,000.00.

With no further discussion, Fleshman moved to the report from the fiscal department.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Regular Meeting

Held at 2193 Frank Road

August 22, 2019

Fiscal Department Report:

Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins reminded the Board that the Auditor of the State's Office will be conducting a management review of the township finances in the coming weeks. The Township is in need of training on proper purchasing practices, said Watkins. It never fails that when I am doing the right thing for the Township I end up being perceived by my peers as the bad guy. I have a job to do and I take it seriously, said Watkins. I will continue to do the right thing and it's unfortunate if my peers don't understand. I will hold firm that checks will not be cut by me without prior approval, said Watkins. I sign my name on the bottom of each purchase order and check and I am bonded at \$250,000.00 for a reason as I am held liable for my actions, explained Watkins.

The board thanked the Watkins and the Fiscal Officer for their commitment to overseeing the finances. It is important that the board is made of aware of these types of concerns, said Fleshman.

With no further discussion, Fleshman moved to reports from the trustees and the administrator.

Trustee Report:

Trustee John Fleshman: Nothing to report.

Trustee Ralph Horn:

Horn reminded everyone of Juanita Kaufman's memorial scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 24th at St. John's Lutheran Church in Grove City.

Fleshman made the following motion for the township to donate \$100.00 to St. John's Lutheran Church in memory of Juanita Kaufman. Horn seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Horn, yes; Fleshman, yes; Alex, yes. Motion passed.

Horn also shared his frustration on how he was treated at the Southwest Area Commission (SWAC) the night before. I feel my integrity and the integrity of the residents were insulted by the chairperson of the SWAC, said Horn. I spent fourteen (14) years on the board of the SWAC and was highly disappointed in how the audience was treated.

The SWAC held a meeting on August 21, 2019 discussing the possible redevelopment of the former Cooper Stadium site.

Trustee Aryeh Alex: Nothing to report.

Administrator Mark Potts:

On August 22, 2019 the Township had their first experience working with the Franklin County Environmental Court's free pilot program. Three (3) individuals from the court system were assigned (with a supervisor) to pick up trash on Little Avenue. Every Thursday the township will have individuals

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**Minutes of Franklin Township
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Regular Meeting

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August 22, 2019

from the court system assign (with a supervisor) to clean up various alleys and right-of-ways on township roads at no cost, Potts explained.

Potts also shared that clean-up efforts occurred on August 21, 2019 in the Broadlawn area as the Township partnered with Jordan's Crossing. The township will pay for this initiative in their efforts to support the work of Jordan's Crossing (a non-profit organization).

With no further discussion Fleshman, moved to speaker cards.

Speaker Cards:

Mike Blevins of Ransburg Avenue said he respects each member of the Board and then read the Oath of Office for Board of Trustees to remind the board of their responsibilities. Blevins shared his comments on how he feels the board did not follow their own rules as it relates to the nomination form for the annual Juanita Kaufman Award. This has nothing to do with who won the award, the person the board selected was the right person for the award, said Blevins. The Board established a nomination form to ensure every nominee met the same questions requirements outlined on the form. The nomination for the person who was selected by the Board for the 2019 Juanita Kaufman Award was not submitted on the township nomination form, it was on a piece of notebook paper. This is just another example of how the Board makes up their own rules as they go, continued Blevins.

Blevins wrapped up by sharing his personal opinion of each trustee. Mr. Horn you have said that Ms. Kaufman was like a mother to you. If I had something named after my mother I would ensure it was conducted in the correct manner. Aryeh, my expectations of you are so low that nothing you could do would disappointment me. We all know you are here only for political gain and I am the only person who will stand here and say this to you. John you never cease to amaze me. As chairman I would think you would want to follow the rules set forth and do things correctly. Your goal is to employ or hire as many of your friends as possible to benefit from the township. In closing I asked all of you why you did not follow the rules set forth by a previous board as it relates to the Juanita Kaufman Award?

Fleshman went first and stated he had no comment. Horn said Ms. Kaufman was like a mother to me and a mentor. Alex thanked Blevins for his comments. Blevins thanked the Board for allowing him to speak and returned to his seat.

With no further comments, Fleshman moved to the next speaker card.

Wayne Dennis of Big Run Road East explained that he is disappointed in the police department because there is nothing being done about the speeders on Big Run Road East.

Dennis explained that he is concerned about the safety of the road department as they work on Big Run Road East due to the speeders. The taxpaying citizens who live on this road are in danger of being injured because the road is narrow

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Regular Meeting

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and curvy. Horn said Dennis is to contact the City of Columbus. Dennis said he is talking about entire road not just the section in Columbus. Horn said your neighbors are not happy with you right now and we've listen to you for a very long time. Dennis agreed that he has been coming in front of this board for over two (2) years and nothing is being done to lessen the speeding and the trash being dumped on Big Run Road East. The high volume of cars speeding on this road it is just a time bomb waiting to explode, and since nothing is being done I plan to move my concern to higher places. I hope you do, said Horn.

The Road Superintendent said he will continue his efforts with signage and communication with the City of Columbus related to Big Run Road East. Fleshman thanked Dennis for his comments.

With no further discussion, Fleshman took questions from the audience.

Mike Blevins asked the police chief if the block watch sign located at the dead end of Geneva Avenue (north of Ransburg) could be moved to a more visual location such as the turn-a-round. Chief Smith agreed the sign would be moved.

Blevins asked the police lieutenant if the new roof for the modular comes with a warranty. Fleshman said yes. The Lieutenant said he did not know but would check into it.

Blevins asked the assistant fire chief what the status was on the food bank being established in the Township. Adams stated that the Township is waiting on approval from the Mid-Ohio Food Bank as well as scheduling training for all staff involved.

At 8:18 p.m. with no further discussion from the board or comments/questions from the audience Fleshman motioned to adjourn. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Motion passed.

Signature on file with original
John Fleshman, Chairman

Signature on file with original
Ralph Horn, Vice-Chairman

Signature on file with original
Aryeh Alex, Trustee

Signature on file with original
Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer
Robyn Watkins, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Minutes were taken & typed by: Robyn Watkins
Minutes approved by Board of Trustees on 09/05/2019