

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Regular Meeting

**Held via Teleconference
COVID-19 Emergency Declaration
Ohio's Open Meeting Act**

May 14, 2020

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Alex called the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on May 14, 2020, via teleconference.

Opening Prayer: Led by Trustee Fleshman

The Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Trustee Horn

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

Prior Meeting Minutes:

Alex made a motion to approve the following minutes from the Special Meeting held on April 24, 2020, and the Regular Meeting held on April 30th, 2020. Fleshman seconded the motion. With no discussion a vote was taken as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. The motion was passed.

Old Business

Resolutions:

Fiscal Officer, Mary Rhinehart recommended the amendment of Resolution 20-087 to read as follows:

Resolution 20-095

(Amending 20-087)

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to amend Resolution 20-087 for bills in the amount of \$7,918.22 and payroll ending on 04/28/2020 in the amount of \$176,646.97 for a total of \$184,565.19

Alex moved, Fleshman seconded the motion, with no discussion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.

Rhinehart recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution 20-096

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves bills in the amount of \$78,724.96 and payroll ending on May 12, 2020 in the amount of \$132,272.48 for a total of \$210,997.44. From check number 63108 to check number 63250. Electronic check number 112-2020 to 121-2020.

Alex moved, Fleshman seconded the motion, with no discussion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.

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New Business:

Trustee Alex:

Alex shared his advocacy work at the local, state and federal level related to local government funding.

Trustee Fleshman:

Fleshman thanked Alex for his advocacy work as he has listened to many teleconferences speaking on the possible reduction of local government funding.

Fleshman asked Potts if he could speak on the Temporary Emergency COVID-19 Leave Policy as listed later on the agenda. Fleshman said upon speaking with the township's legal counsel, he believes it is in the best interest of the township for the board to table this policy until further legal guidance is provided.

Fleshman made a motion for the board to table the discussion on the Temporary Emergency COVID-19 Leave Policy until legal guidance is concluded. Alex seconded the motion. With no discussion a vote was taken as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. The motion was passed.

Fleshman asked Alex when did he anticipate returning back to in-person meetings. Alex said he will work with Potts to evaluate space to ensure proper social distancing can happen before in-person public meetings resume. Horn agreed that he does not want to put the public at risk.

Trustee Horn:

Horn asked Chief Welch his opinion on utilizing the disinfectant mist that the fire department uses in the other departments and offices as a preventative measure against COVID-19. Welch said the fire department does not have a policy in place to utilize the disinfectant outside of the fire department as it is designed for specific surfaces. Welch said he is willing to share the disinfectant misting equipment but each department would be responsible for administering the disinfectant. Horn said he believes it would be an added protection to the other departments.

Horn recommended cancelling the township's annual 2020 National Night Out event due to the pandemic. Fleshman asked if Horn would like to postpone the event to later in the year versus cancelling the event altogether. Horn explained that cancelling was the best option for the township at this time not only due to the pandemic, but also due to funding and staffing issues.

Horn made the following motion to cancel the township's annual 2020 National Night Out event and to resume in 2021. Alex seconded the motion. With no further discussion a vote was taken as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. The motion was passed.

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Horn also recommended that since the 2020 Red, White, and Boom has been cancelled in the City of Columbus, it would be nice to see our police and fire departments drive throughout the township on the 4th of July. Even though we cannot all come together to celebrate our independence, the township can show support to our residents in another way, such as a drive-through parade, which can be discussed at a later date.

Fiscal Officer Rhinehart:

Rhinehart updated the board on the progress the consultant is making on the 2021 budget which is due on July 15, 2020. There will be a public notice in the Columbus Dispatch on or around June 15, 2020.

Rhinehart shared that the certified 2020 budget is still pending in conjunction with the Local Government Services reconciliation of the 2019 financial statements. Based on the recommendations from the audit, an extension may be needed if the consultant's work requires more than eighty (80) hours.

Administrator Potts:

Potts asked Chief Welch to explain to the board the need for a new EMS reporting computer. Welch explained the need is due to the age of the existing computer and the lack of software upgrade capabilities.

Administrator Potts recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution 20-098

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves Chief Welch to purchase a refurbished Toughbook EMS reporting computer at a cost not to exceed \$1600.00.

Alex moved, Fleshman seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.

Potts deferred to Chief Welch to announce the resignation of a fire fighter. Welch shared that effective May 25, 2020, fire fighter Joseph Mattia will resign from Franklin Township.

Alex made a motion to accept the resignation of Joseph Mattia, effective May 25, 2020. Fleshman seconded the motion. With no discussion a vote was taken as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. The motion was passed.

Potts then shared that Welch has a potential new hire to announce to the board. Welch asked if he could hire Parker Ketler, effective May 28, 2020 at a Fire Fighter I Level, pending acceptance and pension physical.

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Administrator Potts recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution 20-099

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves Chief Welch to hire Parker Ketler at a Fire Fighter I Level, pending acceptance and pension physical.

Alex moved, Fleshman seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.

Potts asked Chief Smith to explain to the board his need for a new desktop computer for the officers' use. Smith explained the current desktop computer no longer accepts software updates and is not compatible with other entities' shared software. Fleshman asked Welch about his cost for his recent desktop computer. Welch said he went to Micro Center and purchased a refurbished unit versus utilizing our current IT provider.

Fleshman made a motion to allow the police chief to purchase a desktop computer from MicroCenter at a cost not to exceed \$500.00. Alex seconded the motion. With no discussion a vote was taken as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. The motion was passed.

Potts updated the board regarding the status of the township gaining possession of five (5) parcels of land from the Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation (COCIC). The deeds to these parcels will be transferred to the township soon.

Potts shared that COCIC is ready to transfer a deed to the township for a parcel located at 714 N. Hague Avenue.

Administrator Potts recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution 20-100

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves Administrator Potts to compose an acceptance letter to the Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation for Parcel# 140-004152-00 located at 714 N. Hague Avenue.

Alex moved, and Fleshman seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.

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Potts explained that there were no online or teleconference comments from the public.

With no further discussion, Alex adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Signature on file with original
Aryeh Alex, Chairman

Signature on file with original
John Fleshman, Vice-Chairman

Signature on file with original
Ralph Horn, Trustee

Signature on file with original
Mary Rhinehart, Fiscal Officer