

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

**Regular Meeting**

**Held at 2193 Frank Road**

**January 9, 2020**

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**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 January 9, 2020, at 2193 Frank Road.

**Opening Prayer:** Led by Pastor Womack, Police Chaplain.

**The Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Trustee Horn.

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

**Swearing In:**

Trustee Ralph Horn was sworn into office by the Fiscal Officer, Lisa Morris, followed by a prayer led by Pastor Womack. Horn thanked everyone for their support.

**Prior Meeting Minutes:**

*Fleshman motioned to approve the following meeting minutes:*

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • November 25, 2019 – Special  | December 9, 2019 – Special  |
| • December 9, 2019 – Quarterly | December 12, 2019 – Special |
| • December 12, 2019 – Regular  | December 30, 2019 - Special |

*Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. Motion passed.*

Fleshman explained to the audience the steps taken at the beginning of each calendar year in reorganizing the Board. He thanked everyone for his time as the 2019 Chairman of the Board and then handed the meeting over to the Fiscal Officer.

The Fiscal Officer opened the nominations for the 2020 Chairman of the Board. Fleshman nominated Aryeh Alex. The Fiscal Officer asked if there were any other nominations. With no other nominations a vote was taken for Aryeh Alex to be the 2020 Chairman of the Board. Horn, yes; Fleshman, yes; Alex, yes. The Fiscal Officer announced Alex as the 2020 Chairman of the Board.

The Fiscal Officer opened the nominations for the 2020 Vice-Chairman of the Board. Horn nominated John Fleshman. The Fiscal Officer asked if there were any other nominations. With no other nominations a vote was taken for John Fleshman to be the 2020 Vice-Chairman of the Board. Horn, yes; Fleshman, yes; Alex, yes. The Fiscal Officer announced Fleshman as the 2020 Vice-Chairman of the Board.

At this time Alex and Fleshman exchanged seats at the board table and the Fiscal Officer handed the meeting over to Chairman Alex to resume the agenda.

Alex shared a personal testimony on how he looks forward to working with everyone in 2020.

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**Guest Speaker:** Laura Esterline, Broker, REMAX/ Keep it 100

Esterline explained to the Board they had previously approved (Res# 19-272) related to the property located at 1884 Little Avenue to go into contract. The potential buyer is asking for an extension until January 31, 2020.

*Alex entertained a motion to extend the contract period for the property located at 1884 Little Avenue until January 31, 2020. Fleshman seconded the motion. With no questions or comments Alex closed the motion and asked for a roll call. Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Motion passed.*

Esterline shared that the property located at 125 Florence Avenue was approved to be placed on the market but after further research it was determined this property is currently being utilized as a Township community garden. Esterline asked the Board to approve removing 125 Florence Avenue from the market listing.

Fleshman said that he believes it was an oversight by the Board and he recommends removing the Florence property from the market.

*Fleshman entertained a motion to amend Res#19-273 which is allowing Esterline to remove 125 Florence Avenue from the initial real estate market listing. Horn seconded the motion. With no questions or comments Alex closed the motion and asked for a roll call. Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Motion passed.*

Esterline continued by sharing that there had been a timed offer (24 hours) made on the property at 1091 Searles Avenue of \$3,000.00 but the offer timed out. Esterline reached out to the individual who placed the timed offer and asked them to place another offer with a more reasonable timeline of acceptance. No response from this individual at this time, said Esterline. The property is currently listed at \$7,500.00, I am hoping to get an offer closer to the listed price, Esterline shared.

We have received a \$10,000.00 cash offer on 3303 Brookside Boulevard which is currently listed at \$11,500.00 with a \$1,000.00 deposit. Funds have been verified and the buyer's intent is to build a house, Esterline explained. The buyer is willing to close by January 31 2020, said Esterline. Horn said he is pleased that the buyer intends to build a home since this area is zoned residential.

*Alex asked the other members of the Board if they would like to entertain a resolution to accept the offer of \$10,000.00 for the property located at 3303 Brookside Boulevard. Horn made the resolution. Fleshman seconded. With no questions or comments Alex closed the resolution and asked for a roll call. Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.*

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### **Resolution 2020-011**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to accept the offer of \$10,000.00 for the property located at 3303 Brookside Boulevard – parcel number 140-001885-00.**

We have received two offers on 3506 Brookside Boulevard which is listed at \$28,000.00. Offer number one was a verbal offer of \$15,000.00 but upon speaking with the potential buyer I was able to get them up to \$25,000.00 with no deposit, said Esterline. Funds have been verified and the buyer's intent is to build a home, Esterline explained.

Offer number two is for \$28,000.00 with a \$1,000.00 deposit and the intent to build a house on the property as well. The buyer has plans made to build a few houses in the Mon-E-Bak Farms area, said Esterline. As new homes are built the property value in the area will increase, Esterline explained.

Alex asked the other members of the Board if they would like to entertain a resolution to accept offer number two at \$28,000.00 for the property located at 3506 Brookside Boulevard. Fleshman made the following resolution. Horn seconded. With no questions or comments Alex closed the resolution and asked for a roll call. Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.

### **Resolution 2020-012**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to accept offer number two at \$28,000.00 for the property located at 3506 Brookside Boulevard – parcel number 140-001868-00.**

We have received a \$5,000.00 offer for the lot on Lindberg Drive (no address) which is currently listed at \$5,000.00, said Esterline. Funds have been verified, as well as a \$1,000.00 deposit and the potential buyer intends to build a house and promises to close by January 31, 2020, Esterline explained.

*Alex asked the other members of the Board if they would like to entertain a resolution to accept an offer for \$5,000.00 for the property located at 0 Lindberg Drive. Fleshman made the following resolution. Horn seconded. With no questions or comments Alex closed the resolution and asked for a roll call. Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.*

### **Resolution 2020-013**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to accept the offer of \$5,000.00 for the property located at 0 Lindberg Drive – parcel number 140-003455-00.**

We have a \$6,000.00 cash offer on 1249 Richter Road which is currently on the market for \$9,000.00. Funds have been verified. The potential buyer intends to eventually build. Fleshman expressed his concern of the buyer just sitting on the property versus building immediately. With the buyer saying

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eventually build then there is no timeline, the parcel could remain vacate for years, said Fleshman. I support keeping the property with a family who currently resides in the Township even if building is not in the immediate future, Horn shared. Fleshman said we can go back to this buyer if the property does not sell as intended. Esterline recommended that the Board decline the offer and go back to this buyer if there is no movement within 30 days.

*Fleshman entertained a motion to decline accepting the \$6,000.00 offer for 1249 Richter Road at this time. Horn seconded the motion. With no questions or comments Alex closed the motion and asked for a roll call. Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Motion passed.*

Esterline explained that she has several other parties interested in other parcels which the Township has on the market but she is working with Franklin County Zoning on logistics. The 2019 property tax bills the Township received for parcels which they own will be re-evaluated by the Franklin County Auditor's Office to reflect no structures on specific parcels.

Alex asked that if there were objections he would like to move an item up on the agenda. With no objections Alex opened the floor up to the Fiscal Officer and Lieutenant Ratliff of the Police Department.

This Fiscal Officer read the following resolution:

**Resolution 2020-010**  
**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the Police Chief to present Franklin Heights High School graduate Marena Mang with a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 to go towards their college education at The Ohio State University.**

*Alex asked the other members of the Board if they would like to entertain a resolution. Fleshman moved. Horn seconded. With no questions or comments Alex closed the resolution and asked for a roll call. Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.*

Ratliff explained to the audience that scholarships such as this are possible due to the revenue generated from the speed camera program.

## **Old Business**

### **Resolutions:**

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

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### **Resolution 2020-001**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Road Superintendent to erect No Semi-Truck Entry/Parking signs on Westport Road, Lincoln Park Court and Nationwide Blvd. in the Havenwood Townhome Community. Enforcement will begin on March 1, 2020.

*The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution. Alex moved, Fleshman 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 2020-002**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to retain the Regular bi-weekly meeting of the Board of Trustees to be conducted on every other Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

*The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution. Alex moved, Fleshman 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 2020-003**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Fiscal Officer to be paid on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.

*The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution. Alex moved, Fleshman 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 2020-004**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Trustees to be paid on the last pay period of each month.

*The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution. Alex moved, 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 2020-005**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to authorize the Fiscal Officer to move funds within each Department as deemed appropriate to pay bills and/or payroll.

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*The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution. Alex moved, 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 2020-006**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to authorize the Fiscal Officer to pay all recurring invoices without resolutions.**

*The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution. Alex moved, Fleshman 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 2020-007**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves payroll ending on December 27, 2019 in the amount of \$428,784.71 and bills in the amount of \$193,551.08 for a total of \$ 622,335.79 from check number 61237 to check number 61883. Electronic checks 352-370.**

*The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution. Alex moved, 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 2020-008**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves payroll ending on January 10, 2020 in the amount of \$303,986.48 and bills in the amount of \$22,675.58 for a total of \$303,986.48 from check number 61869 to check number 61990.**

*The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution. Alex moved, Fleshman 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 2020-014**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to renew the contract with Broshius, Johnson and Griggs law firm for the year 2020.**

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**Police Department Report:**

*Lieutenant Ratliff* had nothing to report.

Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Ronk explained that he has been assigned to other Townships and will no longer be the liaison for Franklin Township. Ronk introduced Deputy Carter as the new liaison for the Township.

Carter provided stats from 12/26/19 01/09/2020:

- 6 drug related calls
- 6 Burglaries and breaking and entering calls
- 8 stolen vehicles
- 3 stolen vehicles recovered
- 10 weapon related runs
- 22 thefts

Fleshman asked Carter if there is anything that can be done about the panhandlers standing in the islands in the middle of the road at W. Broad and Phillippi as well as W. Broad and Wilson Road. The City of Columbus has stated that they will not prosecute panhandlers, said Carter. Fleshman asked if it is a different offense if they are panhandling in the median. Carter said it is a crime if an individual is panhandling in the median and takes money from someone. Fleshman asked what can be done as this is what is happening. Ronk stated the Township would need to get rid of the homeless camps in those areas to reduce or eliminate the panhandling.

*Linda Mercer, member of the audience* asked Carter what the specific addresses were to the previous stats presented as she coordinates a block watch in her area. Carter said they do not disclose specific addresses due to possible investigations or other related police matters.

Alex welcomed Deputy Cater to Franklin Township and wished Deputy Ronk well and hopes he visits Franklin Township in the future. Horn asked Carter if he has spoken to Sargent Pollock of Franklin Township and his involvement in the local block watches. Carter said he has not spoken with Pollock but it is on his radar to attend the block watches with Pollock as he is able.

**Fire Department Report:**

*James Welch, Fire Chief* said he had nothing to report.

Horn asked Welch if he would explain the fire levy renewal. We are currently working on a strategy to educate the public the fire levy which will be on the ballot in the March 2020 Primary. We are pulling back our old levies in hopes the taxpayers will support a Township-wide levy. A Township-wide levy would allow the Township to include any properties who have previously annexed into the City of Columbus since 2003, Welch shared.

*Assistant Chief Adams* reminded everyone of the next community narcan training being held on January 22, 2020 at Station 192 at 4100 Sullivant Avenue. The public is welcome and encouraged to come, said Adams.

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### **Road Department Report:**

*Jim Stevens, Road Superintendent*, updated the Board as it relates to Resolution 2020-001 and the ongoing issue with semi-truck parking in the Havenwood Townhome Community. Stevens distributed photos which exhibits the parking issue. With the upcoming paving project scheduled for Havenwood the semi-trucks parking will be enforced, said Stevens. The paving project is on hold until school's out for the year due to the quantity of school buses which need access daily to the road which will be impacted by the paving project, Stevens explained.

With the new paving it is not a good idea to continue to allow the semi-trucks to enter or park in this area to preserve the road, said Stevens. A vast majority of the semi-parking is in Prairie Township but I have reached out to Prairie Township and they are willing to assist with this issue as well, Stevens shared.

Fleshman asked if the owner of the property had been notified. Stevens said that he and Administrator Potts are working to contact the owner.

### **Fiscal Department Report:**

*Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer* had nothing to report.

*Robyn Watkins, Assistant Fiscal Officer* explained that a member of the Board seems to have an issue as to where she parks her personal vehicle in the Township parking lot. Watkins explained that she has complied with the new parking location but there are times when it is difficult for her to get into her assigned spot due to the size of her vehicle. In those times when parking is tight Watkins continues and that there is a possibility a vehicle could get bumped, she parks her vehicle on the west side of the island to ease the congestion on the east side of the island for her co-workers. I was told that I am only parking on the east side of the island to thumb my nose at the Board and that is not the case, said Watkins. The second reason is a private issue but I feel I have no choice since a certain Trustee keeps harassing me about my parking location. I have been diagnosed with a chronic disease which is debilitating and, on some days, I have difficulty walking, Watkins shared.

I asked Administrator Potts if there was a problem with me parking on the west side of the island and he said no. I did ask Potts if anything came of it to please let me know, which he did. I did not thumb my nose at the Board, as the Board said that staff could not park on the east side of the building, which I complied with, said Watkins.

It appears as though someone on this Board does not trust me, and assumes the negative about me, and it is very frustrating. I feel like I have helped Lisa in the Fiscal Office tremendously by getting our bills and minutes out and processed timely, said Watkins. It's sad that there is a lack of trust in me when I am here every day, I am on time, I stay over as needed, I come in early as needed, I don't always take lunch, I don't take breaks and I do what I am asked to do. I feel like someone on this Board is watching and waiting for me to break the rules, Watkins explained. I am presenting this to the Board because I do not think this type of treatment is necessary by this Board member as I am



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an adult and if you have any issues with my work performance please take this up with the Administrator and my supervisor, Watkins closed by thanking the Board for listening.

Fleshman asked the Board if it is acceptable to move the Assistant Fiscal Officer's parking sign to the west side of the island. Alex apologized to Watkins that her diagnoses had to be disclosed to the Board in a public meeting. Horn said it is very hurtful to hear of the diagnosis. Alex shared that Administrator Potts will be handling Watkins parking to ensure ADA compliance.

**Trustee Report:**

*John Fleshman* had nothing to report.

*Aryeh Alex* reminded everyone of the narcan training on 1/22/2020 at Station 192.

*Ralph Horn* shared that he's looking forward to seeing everyone in the neighborhoods as well as he will be attending the various block watches throughout the Township.

**Administrator Report:**

*Mark Potts, Administrator* shared that the Ohio Township Association's (OTA) annual Winter Conference is scheduled for February 5 – 8, 2020. Potts explained that the new incoming Fiscal Officer is eligible to attend this conference as it's defined as a proper public purpose funded by the Township.

*Alex moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Fleshman 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 2020-015**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to Administrator Potts to register staff/elected official members to attend the 2020 OTA Winter Conference (February 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>), not to exceed \$500.00.**

Potts also shared that the Franklin Township Association is hosting their annual winter meeting/dinner at Hollywood Casino on January 16, 2020. This event is free to elected officials and \$35 for non-elected officials.

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

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## **Resolution 2020-016**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to Administrator Potts to register staff/elected officials to attend the 2020 Franklin County Township Association Winter Meeting/Dinner at the Hollywood Casino on January 16, 2020, not to exceed \$200.00.

### **Speaker Cards:**

No members of the audience signed up to speak/comment on a specific topic.

### **Questions from the Audience:**

*No questions from the audience.*

At 7:50 p.m., Alex motioned for adjournment, Fleshman seconded the motion.

*Signature on file* \_\_\_\_\_

Aryeh Alex, Chairman

*Signature on file* \_\_\_\_\_

John Fleshman, Vice-Chairman

*Signature on file* \_\_\_\_\_

Ralph Horn, Trustee

*Signature on file* \_\_\_\_\_

Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer

Robyn Watkins, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Minutes were taken & typed by: R. Watkins  
Minutes approved by Board of Trustees on 01/23/2020