

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Special Meeting

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

February 17, 2021

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Horn called the Special Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 4:00 p.m. on February 17, 2021, via teleconference (ZOOM).

The Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Trustee Alex

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

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Chairman Horn made a motion to suspend approval of prior meeting minutes. Trustee Fleshman seconded the motion. With no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows. Motion passed.

Alex: YES/ NO Fleshman: YES/ NO Horn: YES/ NO

Old Business:

No old business to discuss.

New Business:

Road Department Report:

Jim Stevens stated that in the last month or so, the possibility was brought up of heating the pole barn in order to house equipment that needed to be inside. He stated that currently they are keeping equipment in the pole barn at the firehouse and would like to move it to the Road Department building. He is asking permission to begin getting quotes.

Stevens stated he has reached out to five different people and that two construction companies have shown interest and given quotes. He stated that he has two quotes to propose to the board during this meeting.

Stevens stated there is 2,400 square feet of metal needed for the project with barriers to be interlocked between the metal and also insulation. He stated he went back to the construction companies and had them redo their bids. He stated there is a substantial difference between the two bids. He quoted a bid from Burns Construction of \$24,305 and a bid from Trio Construction of \$14,280.50. He stated this does not include the actual heating unit which his department will take care of.

Stevens mentioned a couple of options that included reaching out to Columbia Gas and asking for a quote to trench from one of the buildings to our building for natural gas. He stated that a question arose regarding the need to cross two high-pressure natural gas lines already in the ground. He stated he has not received word back from them. He stated another option would be to use propane and place a propane tank behind the pole barn.

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Stevens stated he spoke with Fiscal Officer Mary Rhinehart about using Road District funds for the project. It was agreed that the Road District funds are new and are slowly building and when enough funds are available, it may be possible to utilize them to accommodate one of the bids.

Fleshman asked Jim Stevens, if the issue passed, how soon would the project begin. Both gentlemen agreed that Rhinehart may have an answer regarding the financial aspect of the project.

Alex asked Stevens if this project is something that could be delayed for a period of time until the Board is sure funds are available. Stevens stated that he feels it is crucial for the building to be heated and that he would like approval. He stated that he initially thought it could be delayed until spring and that he may need to delay it. He stated that he thought it best to at least bring it to the attention of the Board.

Alex stated he felt the best decision would be to delay the project until spring as it may just continue to get warmer. Stevens mentioned his concern that construction material pricing may rise if they wait until spring.

Rhinehart stated that the Road District funds have been built. She stated she needs to see how the funds are appropriated but feels that there is enough for the Road Department project.

Fleshman asked Stevens whether construction companies may be able to perform a project at a lower bid in order to keep their employees working.

Stevens replied that he has asked the companies about their schedules and they had a lot of jobs to do.

Rhinehart mentioned that she did bring up information and that we do have the funds.

Fleshman asked Stevens if it would benefit the Road Department to begin the project now with the current material pricing or could it be delayed.

Stevens stated that it would benefit his department a great deal to have a larger, heated building to put equipment in. He stated that his department is getting by with the smaller building but it is difficult arranging the equipment in order to close the doors of the building.

Fleshman asked Stevens how they maneuver in the building to get to the equipment. Stevens replied that they do a lot of physical climbing over the equipment.

Fleshman proposed that when the Board comes to a vote, they would consider the lower bid of Trio Construction.

Alex raised concern about Trio Construction in regard to going over budget in the past with that company.

Fleshman commented that in the past we used Trio Construction to fix problems caused by another company, that we did not anticipate the cost at that time.

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Alex stated that he would like to go with another more professional company due to issues in the past with Trio.

Horn raised concern about moving too quickly and that in three or four months the Board would be in a better position to decide regarding the project.

Alex asked Rhinehart to confirm there is money available for the project. Rhinehart answered the amount available being \$75,000.

Alex commented that he feels we are not building an entire structure and that it may be wise to begin the project while pricing for the materials is reasonable.

Fleshman agreed with Alex and was in favor of moving forward.

Stevens commented that the bids are not for a simple project using metal, that the materials needed include vapor barriers along with the metal and insulation, that there would be a lot more involved.

Horn was concerned about how much the Board would up spending.

Stevens explained that the bids received do include all materials and labor.

Rhinehart inquired about the cost of the heating unit.

Stevens stated that the heating unit is not included in the bids and estimated cost for the heating unit which would use either propane or natural gas to be \$3,000.

Mark Potts commented that the Road District funds was initially set up for the purpose of improving Township roads such as resurfacing projects.

Stevens stated that he gave to the County a list of Township Roads in need of repair and that the Road Department does have funds set aside for this. He stated that different funds are set aside for the building project.

Horn expressed concern that the Board may run short of funds if going through with the project. He stated he felt the Board should have further discussion in order to avoid possible financial problems. He stated that at this time repairs could possibly be made to existing problems with the building. He also commented that the Road Department has a heavy workload and that Township road repairs should be a priority.

Rhinehart asked for a motion to table discussion of the building project.

Horn made a motion to table discussion for thirty days. Alex seconded. With no further discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows. Motion passed.

Alex: YES/ NO Fleshman: YES/ NO Horn: YES/ NO

Stevens commented that he will agree to what the Board decides, that he will need to reach out to the construction companies to obtain updated bids.

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Fiscal Officer Mary Rhinehart recommended the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-050

**A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
#3 FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND
ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021**

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of Franklin Township, Franklin County during the year ending December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Appropriations Resolution 2020-238 for the period from January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021 needs amended; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure was unknown and therefore unaccounted for in the various departments/funds affected in the 2021 budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY:

SECTION 1, the fiscal officer is hereby authorized to increase appropriations as presented in Exhibit 1 Appropriations #3 hereto attached to meet the additional expenditure of about \$31,697.

Horn made a motion for the above resolution. Trustee Fleshman seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was follows:

Alex: YES/ NO Fleshman: YES/ NO Horn: YES/ NO

Resolution Passed.

Chairman Horn asked Mark Potts if there were any questions from the public.

Potts replied there were not any.

Adjournment:

With no further discussion, Chairman Horn adjourned the meeting at 4:38 p.m.

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Signature on file with original

Aryeh Alex, Trustee

Signature on file with original

John Fleshman, Vice-Chairman/Trustee

Signature on file with original

Ralph Horn, Chairman/Trustee

Signature on file with original

Assistant Fiscal Officer/Fiscal Officer

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