

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Regular Meeting

Held at 2193 Frank Road

September 19, 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 September 19, 2019, 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

Prior Meeting Minutes:

Approval of prior minutes tabled until next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on Thursday, October 3, 2019.

With no Board discussion Fleshman moved to old business.

Old Business

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 19-181

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves bills at \$151,265.58 and payroll in the amount of \$186,107.39 for a total of \$339,766.64 from check number 60765 to 60932.

With no further discussion Fleshman moved to new business.

New Business:

Police Department Report:

Police Chief, Byron Smith presented merit awards to the following officers:

- Joseph Sheridan
- David Woodie
- Wendell Jackson

This award was due to a letter received from Sergeant Lung related to our officers prompt assistance with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office in apprehending a suspect who fled the scene on September 9, 2019.

Smith distributed to the Board a copy of Lt. David Ratliff's retirement letter.

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.

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Resolution 19-182

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to accept a letter of retirement from David Ratliff effective Monday, September 30, 2019.



Smith also shared with the Board a new street sign bringing awareness to speeding in our Township. The new sign will work in conjunction with and be posted alongside the new neighborhood watch signs throughout the Township, said Smith.

The revenue from the speed cameras will fund the purchase and posting of the signs, Smith explained.

With the police officers now utilizing the modular (which is not open to the public) it was necessary to place signage on the entrance to the modular directing the public to the administrative building.

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 19-183

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the Police Chief to post public directional signs on the entrance to the modular directing the public to the administrative building.

Smith updated the Board that he received information from the insurance company that the cruiser which was involved in the accident on September 9, 2019, has an estimate of repair at over \$12,000.00. Once fixed the cruiser would have a salvage title, said Smith. I am waiting on all of the specifics from the body shop to determine what the best option is for the Township from a cost perspective, Smith shared. The Township may not want to keep the car if it has a salvage title, commented Fleshman.

Lieutenant, David Ratliff provided an update on the new modular. The exterior landscaping will cost \$5000.00, which includes the agricultural landscaping as well as sidewalks and concrete work.

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 19-184

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves Trio Construction to perform the landscaping and concrete work at the modular, not to exceed \$5,000.00.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Deputy Ronk of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office reported that people are stepping up to protect their neighborhoods as stats are down from previous reports.

Horn said he feels the extra attention the Township is giving to the area block watches has definitely been a deterrent to criminals. Fleshman shared that someone tried to break into one of his personal vehicles while parked at his home. We all need to be on alert, said Fleshman.

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 staffing. All staff members are back to work but several are still on light duty, Adams stated.

Adams also shared that the fire department was awarded and the Board accepted the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) totaling \$181,246.00 for specified safety equipment.

The foam truck which was placed on GovDeals sold for \$7,000.00. This is a great return on investment, said Adams.

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

Road Department Report:

Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens reported that phase one of the new salt barn is complete. The second phase which is the installation of the canopy for the salt barn is scheduled within the next three weeks, said Stevens.

Fleshman asked Stevens if the eastside of the salt barn would eventually be a parking area. Stevens concurred.

Stevens updated the Board on the status of the water/sewer connection for the modular. Chuck Septic's will provide a quote for the installation of the water/sewer lines utilizing the existing trenches, said Stevens.

Also, the Township was notified of a large tree which has fallen in an alley off of Little Avenue. The tree is the responsibility of the Township due to the location, said Stevens. A quote was distributed to the Board for the cost to cut down and remove the fallen tree by Stevens.

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Resolution 19-185

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves Peterman Tree Service to cut down and remove a fallen tree in an alley off Little Avenue at a cost not to exceed \$2,477.00.

Steven shared that the participants conducting their community service through the environmental court program filled potholes throughout the Township. This program is a tremendous help, said Stevens.

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

Fiscal Department Report:

Fiscal Officer, Lisa Morris – absent no report provided.

Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins had nothing to report.

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

Trustee Report:

Trustee John Fleshman:

Fleshman provided an update on the Mon-E-Bak/Brown Road sanitary sewer project. Those households who qualified for the financial assistance program for this project are exempt from the December 20, 2019 deadline. These qualified household will follow the guidance of Franklin County.

Trustee Ralph Horn:

Horn stated he is pleased with the progress that the block watches are making.

I am glad that the nuisance home on Eastfield Drive has been reported to the appropriate authorities at Franklin County, said Horn. Assistant Fire Chief Adams stated that this Eastfield address has been reported to the Franklin County Board of Health as well.

Trustee Aryeh Alex:

Alex stated that the Township has been made aware of a group home which is operating at 4156 Ongaro Drive and there are concerns from the community on compliance issues. Administrator Potts read his correspondence from Franklin County which stated local jurisdictions have limited say in group homes operated by the State of Ohio.

The Ohio Revised Code prevents Townships from having the ability to prevent group housing. Adams stated that the Certificate of Occupancy needs to be changed due to safety issues in operating a group home.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**Minutes of Franklin Township
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Alex suggested that the Board send a letter to the Ohio Department of Mental Health outlining the Township's concerns in the operation of this group home. Since this is home is operated by the State of Ohio the township can request updates on all inspections to ensure compliance is met, said Alex.

Benjamin Halton of Ongaro Drive shared that he had reviewed the State of Ohio application for zoning. Administrator Potts encouraged Halton to reach out to his State Representative with his concerns.

Alex reminded everyone that Franklin County Auditor, Michael Stinziano will be available to receive public comment on September 26, 2019 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Township Hall located at 2193 Frank Road.

Alex reminded the Board that the annual meeting with the Franklin County Engineer's Office is scheduled for November 21, 2019.

Administrator Mark Potts:

He shared that he has been attending many meetings with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Potts also shared that September is Safe Driving Awareness Month. This is great timing for the new speed awareness signs which were introduced earlier this evening, said Smith.

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 19-186

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the month of September as Safe Driving Awareness Month in Franklin Township.

Potts also explained that the Township will be hosting the annual MORPC Southwest Regional Meeting on September 24, 2019 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Franklin Township Fire Station 192 located at 4100 Sullivant Avenue.

The Administrator shared that the Franklin County Sheriff's Office will be hosting their annual STAR Program Dinner on October 11, 2019. This program allows location jurisdictions within Franklin County to nominate an exemplary officer to be recognized at the dinner. Smith stated that Franklin Township will be nominating Sargent David Pollock for the STAR award.

Horn agrees that Pollock is very well liked among the residents of the Township.

Potts asked the Board if they would consider the following meeting schedule for the month of October.

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|------------------|--|
| October 3, 2019 | A Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. as normal |
| October 17, 2019 | Cancel |
| October 31, 2019 | move to Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. |

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Fleshman made a motion to adjust the October 2019 regular meetings to the following:

- October 3, 2019 A Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. as normal
- October 17, 2019 Cancel
- October 31, 2019 move to Weds. October 30, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. The motion passed.

The Assistant Fiscal Officer will update the website.

With no further discussion Fleshman, moved to speaker cards.

Speaker Cards:

Carvel Mullins II of Vaughn Street shared that there has been minimal movement on the property owned by Nature Reserves LLC which is located at the former Christian drive-in movie theatre off W. Mound Street. Just last week a stolen car was taken back onto the property and set fire. Several fire departments came to the scene and had difficulty reaching the burning vehicle due to all of the large debris like material throughout the property, said Mullins. The Township should be able to do something about noxious weeds along the berm of the road.

Stevens said the Township was notified by the Franklin County Zoning that the Township was not able to enter the property to clean up due to the owner having an open case in environmental court. Potts said he would call to the court and see if the Township can perform clean up duties under House Bill 50. Potts agreed to follow up with Mullins once he receives confirmation from the court.

Alex stated that he contacted an individual at the Metro Parks system who is willing to work with the owner but the owner is resistant at this time. The Sierra Club and Friends of the Ravines are open to assist the owner as well. If the property was converted over to a Metro Park a ranger would patrol and oversee the property to deter vandals and ultimately become a place the community can enjoy, said Alex.

With no further discussion, Fleshman moved to comments from the audience.

Mike Blevins asked if the residents can obtain an all-inclusive cost for the modular. This includes purchasing the property, preparing the property, internal and external renovations. Fleshman assured Blevins an itemized breakdown of the cost for the modular will be available to the taxpayers upon completion of the landscaping and water/sewer connection.

Nick Dunn stated his concerns about the ongoing safety issues related to the curve on Eastfield Drive. With parking on both sides of the street cars just fly around the curve, this driving behavior puts the neighborhood children at risk. The Township needs to access the situation. A large boxed truck parks on

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the street which narrows the lane for an automobile to safely travel, Dunn said. What is the Township going to do about this situation, asked Dunn.

Stevens said he would speak to the Franklin County Engineers about the curve and the on-street parking. Smith committed to contacting the County about the box truck parking on the street. If it is determined by the County that no parking signs can be posted, a public notification meeting will need to be scheduled, said Smith.

Mary Rhinehart of Clime Road introduced herself as a candidate for Fiscal Officer in the November 5th General Election. She shared her expertise and desire to be elected. She also thanked the Township EMS for their assistance during her recent fall.

At 8:05 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 original
John Fleshman, Chairman

signature on original
Ralph Horn, Vice-Chairman

signature on original
Aryeh Alex, Trustee

signature on original
Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer
Robyn Watkins, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Minutes were taken & typed by: R. Watkins
Minutes approved by Board of Trustees on 10/03/19