

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Regular Meeting

Held at 2193 Frank Road

March 20, 2019

Chairman Fleshman called the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on March 20, 2019, at 2193 Frank Road.

Call Meeting to Order: Chairman Fleshman opened the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Trustee Horn.

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

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Fleshman made a motion to approve the following minutes. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

- March 7, 2019 Regular Meeting

Old Business:

Traffic Camera Signage Meeting with County

Fleshman shared an update stating that the conversation from the March 11, 2019 meeting the County stated they were unsure of their position on the traffic cameras based on the outlook for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Trustee Alex shared that Sheriff Baldwin supports the speed camera project.

Fleshman said after the March 11, 2019 meeting he was able to talk with the County again and they have agreed to erect traffic camera signs in the County's right-of-way as long as the Township pays for the signs.

Office Cleaning

The Assistant Fiscal Officer let the Board know that (4) four cleaning companies have been notified with only (1) one showing interest. The company will be coming into the office on March 22, 2019 to access the areas which are to be cleaned and to provide a quote. Updates will be provided once the quote is received, said the Assistant Fiscal Officer.

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 19-044

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the promotion of Police Officer David Ratliff to the position of Police Lieutenant effective 03/20/19 at an hourly rate of \$32.71, per the Memo of Understanding (MOU) on file.

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Resolution 19-042

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves payroll in the amount of \$240,842.46 and bills in the amount of \$141,826.75 for March 20, 2019 from check number 49736 to 49922.

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 19-043

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves employee Thomas (Tommy) Chesshir to be placed on FMLA effective March 20, 2019.

New Business

Fire Department Report:

James Welch, Fire Chief reported to the Board that currently he has (4) four members his department out on injury leave. He will be temporarily moving Captain Broecker from his role in fire prevention/building to full-time Captain at Station 193 until the Captain on injury leave is able to return to full duty. Welch said he will be covering the needs of fire prevention/building until further notice.

Welch also asked the Board if they would approve Thomas Mattia another 30 day extension of injury leave ending on April 14, 2019.

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 19-049

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the Fire Chief to extend Thomas Mattia's - 90 day injury leave (effective November 15, 2018) for an additional 30 days, (ending on 4/14/19).

Welch also said that with the number of employees in his department out on injury leave he is in need of additional manpower. Welch is asking the Board if they would approve him to hire a full-time firefighter to fill the void. This position would not be a new position only filling a position of an injured worker. If all of those who are injured return to work then this new hire would be laid off, said Welch.

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Resolution 19-045

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the Fire Chief to Hire Owen Mees as a Firefighter I effective 4/4/19.

Welch provided an update on the new fire engine and that it is scheduled to arrive at the Township in the next few months. He also shared that the company building the engine experienced several tragedies involving the loss of employee's and/or close family members. Welch asked the Board if he could have a catered bereavement lunch sent to All American Fire to express the Township's condolences to their staff/organization.

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

Resolution 19-046

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the Fire Chief to purchase a bereavement lunch for All American Fire not to exceed \$150.00.

With no questions from the audience, Fleshman moved to the Police Department.

Police Department Report:

Chief Byron Smith provided stats for February 2019:

45 accident reports
38 citations
50 warnings
98 offense reports
844 dispatched runs
256 pickup runs
9,128 miles driven
58 court cases / 0 officers called in to court
28 impounds / 21 released / 1 junked

With no questions from the audience, Fleshman moved to the Road Department.

Road Department Report:

Jim Stevens, Road Superintendent not present

Horn reminded everyone that the Road Department is short staffed and they are running behind on picking up residential brush from the right-of-ways.

With no questions from the audience, Fleshman moved to the Trustee Reports.

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TRUSTEE REPORTS:

John Fleshman, Trustee stated that he received a recommendation that the Township may want to consider using the “Briggs House” as representation of the Township logo. Fleshman said, he would contact the Community House Network who provided a presentation on the “Briggs House” to see if this is an option for the Township. He will provide an update at the next meeting.

Ralph Horn, Trustee asked the Board to consider scheduling a date/time for the first quarterly meeting of 2019. Horn also recommended when Fleshman speaks with the Community Housing Network to see if they have a sample of the “Briggs House” the Township could use versus creating a replica.

Horn reminded the Board of the Broadlawn area block watch scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., to celebrate their 2 year anniversary.

Horn said, he told the block watch members he would asked the Board if they would be interested in donating money/food to their event.

Fleshman said, he was not supportive of the Township donating the funds for the event but that he would be happy to donate funds personally. Trustee Alex confirmed he would donate to the event as well.

Horn asked the Assistant Fiscal Officer to contact Minelli's' Pizza to place an order of 5 pizzas that he will pick up by 5:30 p.m. on March 27, 2019.

Horn confirmed that a budget meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 8:00 a.m., Fleshman agreed.

Aryeh Alex, Trustee shared information from the Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) connected to the rat complaints throughout the county. He shared the hotline number the FCPH has established to take reports of rats in the county. The number is 614-525-4762. Sarah Fink, Coordinator of the FCPH is also working on this issue as well.

Alex shared that the closing date to accept applications for the position of Township Administrator ended on March 15, 2019. The interview process should begin the next few weeks, said Alex.

A call was received from a resident who was inquiring on if a community garden could be established in a parcel within the Eastfield area. Alex stated that he recommends the Township creates a memo of understanding between the Township and gardeners to protect both parties.

Alex also shared that he was able to spend time at LifeCare Alliance delivering Meals on Wheels to homebound residents in Franklin County. He strongly recommends others to volunteer a day for a rewarding experience.

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

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Mike Blevins, member of the audience asked the Board if the interview process for the Township Administrator will be open to the public. Alex replied that the interviews will be held in an executive session but it is his hope that at some point there will be an opportunity for the residents to engage in the process.

Blevins also distributed to the Board data identifying the difference in the longevity pay out of the fire department in 2017 and 2018. He asked the Board if they were aware of significant increase from the 2017 longevity under the old contract and the longevity paid out in 2018 under the new contract. Alex confirmed, Fleshman said he was not familiar with all parts of the negotiations and Horn stated he was not aware. Horn also said that he does not recall budget communications with the Fiscal Officer during the 2018 contract negotiations for the Fire Department.

Lisa Morris, the Fiscal Officer agreed with Horn that she was not consulted on the financial impact of the contract before it was negotiated. To date, the communication with the Board has improved but not in 2018, said Morris.

Chief Welch provided an explanation of the longevity and each member of the Board shared their position. Alex also commended the fire department for their work in the community. Fleshman said, he feels the Board has worked very hard to rebuild the Township.

Blevins said, he was not questioning the worthiness of the Fire Department only if the Board was aware of the financial impact the 2018 contract would make on the Township taxpayers.

Steve Morris, a member of the audience asked Fleshman what he meant about not knowing about the negotiations. Fleshman said, the Board nominated Alex to provide information and data to the Board during the negotiation period and the Board approved the contract as written.

Horn said, if he had it to do over again he would have included the Fiscal Department.

Linda Mercer, member of the audience presented a collage of photos from the 2018 National Night Out to be displayed in the Township hall. The Board of Trustees accepted the collage and thanked Mercer for the gift.

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With no further discussion, Fleshman made a motion to adjourn. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

John Fleshman, Chairman

Ralph Horn, Vice-Chairman

Aryeh Alex, Trustee

Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer
Robyn Watkins, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Minutes were typed by: Robyn Watkins
Minutes approved by Board of Trustees on 4/4/19