Minutes of Franklin Township Franklin County, Ohio

**Regular Meeting** 

Held via Teleconference COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Ohio's Open Meeting Act July 9, 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 July 9, 2020, via teleconference.

**Opening Prayer:** Led by Trustee Fleshman

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

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

# **Prior Meeting Minutes:**

Alex made a motion to approve the following minutes from the Regular Meeting held on June 25, 2020.

Fleshman asked to amend the meeting minutes to include a comment which he made. Rhinehart asked that Fleshman submit the language he would like added to the June 25, 2020 minutes to her office.

Fleshman made a motion to amend the June 25, 2020 regular meeting minutes to include his comment. Alex seconded the motion. With no further discussion, a vote was taken as follows: Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes. The motion was passed.

Fleshman seconded the motion to accept the June 25, 2020 meeting minutes with corrections/amendments. With no further discussion, a vote was taken as follows: Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes. The motion was passed.

## **Old Business**

### **Resolutions:**

Fiscal Officer, Mary Rhinehart recommended the following resolution to read as follows:

## Resolution 20-134

*BE IT RESOLVED* by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves bills in the amount of \$109,862.11 and payroll ending on 07/07/2020 in the amount of \$195,127.17 for a total of \$304,989.28. From check number 63611 to 63738 and electronic payments 2020-210 through 2020-229.

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

Alex welcomed Trustee Horn to speak:

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Horn recommended that the Board consider listing the property and house located at 1963 Harrisburg Pike for sale. Fleshman supported Horn's recommendation. Alex said the Board would discuss further later in the meeting.

## **New Business:**

## Fire Department:

Chief Welch stated that Thomas Mattia submitted his resignation effective July 21, 2020. Welch asked the board for a motion to accept this resignation.

Alex made a motion to accept the resignation of Thomas Mattia effective July 21, 2020. Fleshman seconded the motion. With no further discussion a vote was taken as follows: Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes. The motion was passed.

Welch said that this resignation will cause manpower issues, such as today, we had to implement the brown out policy which impacted Station 193. This afternoon we did not have the manpower to run both the engine and the medic. The brown out impacted parking Engine 193 and only operating with a medic, Welch explained.

Fleshman asked if the union would consider hiring part-time help during these times. Welch said anything is possible but he feels it is premature at this time. Fleshman he wanted to ask the union to consider this as an option in the future. Welch said that other fire stations throughout the region are having trouble filling part-time positions currently. Welch said he will have a better grasp on things once he receives budget numbers from the Fiscal Officer.

Welch shared the engine and medic runs for June 2020.

Welch shared that American Freight donated six recliners to the fire department and asked the board for a resolution to accept this donation.

Alex made the follow resolution to be read as follows:

## Resolution 20-135

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees accepted the donation of six recliners from American Freight to be utilized within the Fire Department.

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

Horn stated that the Township needs to take the time to properly label and log all of our inventory in the future--especially when we receive donations such as these.

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Welch asked the Board for their decision on which type of fire levy they will be placing on the ballot in November of 2020. Fleshman asked Welch what it would take to keep all operations up and running.

Welch said it would take passing a township-wide levy to maintain all operations.

Alex said he is very disappointed not having the support of the residents in the last election. Alex shared that he realizes the Township has income disparity. He also explained his uncertainty about hiring part-time help as it relates to the collective bargaining unit. He agreed to support the Board and their decision but prefers to select the levy option which provides the lowest impact on the residents of Franklin Township.

Horn does not want to lose our EMS service and supports option #3 which is a replacement levy with the least impact on our residents. Horn further stated a true renewal/replacement levy is what the people are asking for and I will support the people. The area is surrounded by mutual aid such as the City of Columbus fire stations on Greenlawn Avenue and W. Broad Street, said Horn. Columbus has been instrumental in assisting the Township on a daily basis. I am 100% in favor on option #3, said Horn.

Fleshman agreed that option #3 is the best option at this time.

Alex made a motion for the following resolution as read:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2020-136**

# RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF LEVYING A REPLACEMENT OF AN EXISTING TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2020, the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the "Board") passed a resolution declaring the necessity to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation pursuant to R.C. 5705.19(I), for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(I) for Franklin Township; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 7, 2020, the Franklin County Auditor certified to the Board that the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by five and eighty-nine hundredths (5.89) mills replacement levy during the first year of collection is \$972,105.86 based on the current assessed valuation of the Township of \$165,043,440.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Township Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the "Board"), two-thirds of all the members elected hereto concurring, that:

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The Board shall proceed with the submission of the question of a replacement levy of five and eighty-nine hundredths (5.89) mills to the electors of Franklin Township (unincorporated area) for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(I). The replacement levy shall be at a rate not exceeding five and eighty-nine hundredths (5.89) mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to fifty-eight and nine-tenths cents (\$.589) for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation, for a period of five (5) years, which such levy shall be a **replacement levy** that is the same rate and for the same purposes as the existing 5.89 mill levy approved by voters in November of 2016.

**Section 2**. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.03(B)(1):

- a. The purpose of the levy is for providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(I).
- b. The type of levy is a replacement levy.
- c. The sections of the Ohio Revised Code authorizing submission of the question of the levy are Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.03, 5705.19(I), 5705.191 and 5705.25.
- d. The term of the tax is for a period of five (5) years.
- e. The territory where the tax is to be levied is upon the unincorporated territory of Franklin Township.
- f. The date of the election at which the question of the tax shall appear on the ballot is the general election to be held on November 3, 2020 (the "Election").
- g. The territory where the ballot measure is to be submitted is to the electors of the unincorporated territory of Franklin Township.
- h. The replacement levy shall be placed (continued) upon the tax list and duplicate of 2020 for collection in 2021, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof.
- i. Franklin Township only has territory in Franklin County.

**Section 3.** The Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to certify, not less than 90 days prior to the election, to the Franklin County Auditor and to the Board of Elections, Franklin County, Ohio, a copy of the resolution declaring it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation and a copy of this Resolution together with the certification of the Franklin County Auditor; and to notify the Board of Elections to cause notice of election on the question of levying the tax to be given as required by law.

**Section 4.** It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

**Section 5.** This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time provided by law.

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

Fleshman reminded everyone that this is a replacement levy which comes with an increase of approximately \$30.00 annually for the owner of a \$100,000.00 home.

# Road Department:

Road Superintendent Jim Stevens stated that the agreement between the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Franklin Township related to the W. Broad Street corridor has been signed and is currently active. Stevens reminded the Board that the Township is now responsible for grass mowing and snow removal on the rights-of-way and sidewalks along W. Broad Street outlined within the agreement.

## **Police Department Report:**

Police Chief Byron Smith had technical difficulties connecting so Administrator Potts moved forward with new parking ordinances required by the Franklin County Municipal Court.

Alex made a motion for the following resolution as read:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 2020-137

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 16-011 IN ITS ENTIRETY ENACTING REGULATIONS FOR THE PARKING OF UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES IN FIRE LANES AND ON STREETS AND RIGHT-OF-WAYS IN FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the "Township"), has determined the public safety and welfare would be served by the following parking regulations; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Ohio has granted townships the authority to pass resolutions regulating the parking of vehicles on township roads pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (O.R.C.) Section 505.17:

WHEREAS, on or around January 14, 2016, the Board adopted Resolution No. 16-011, adopting and enacting regulations regarding the parking of unauthorized vehicles in fire lanes and streets and right-of-way within the Township

**WHEREAS**, the Board desires to supersede and replace Resolution O. 16-011 in its entirety and.

**WHEREAS**, the regulation does not conflict with the Uniform Traffic Act, and is applicable only to the unincorporated areas of the township;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, that the following Resolution be, and it hereby is adopted, which said Resolution, upon its effective date, shall supersede and replace Resolution 16-011 in its entirety:

<u>Section 1.</u> No person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle in an area designated by traffic control devices, including signage, as a fire lane located on commercial property. Police and fire personnel may park vehicles in such areas in the performance of their official duties.

**Section 2.** No person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle in an area designated by traffic control devices, including signage, as a fire lane located on property other than commercial

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property. Police and fire personnel may park vehicles in such areas in the performance of their official duties.

**Section 3.** No person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle in an area designated by traffic control devices, including signage, as a no parking area other than a fire lane.

**Section 4**. Owners of vehicles parked in violation of parking regulations will be notified by having a parking ticket handed to the vehicle operator by the Franklin Township Police or Franklin County Sheriff's Office in a manner apparent to the operator of the vehicle and/or receipt of a summons from the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk of Court. The ticket to be used pursuant to this Resolution shall be the "Ohio Uniform Traffic Ticket."

**Section 5.** Pursuant to O.R.C. Section 505.17(E), parking infractions shall be considered criminal offenses and a person who commits such a violation shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

**Section 6.** Pursuant to O.R.C. Section 505.17(D), the Board or its designated agent may order into storage any vehicle parked in violation of these regulations. The owner or any lienholder of a vehicle ordered into storage may claim the vehicle upon presentation of proof of ownership, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, and payment of all expenses, charges, and fines incurred as a result of the parking violation and removal and storage of the vehicle.

**Section 7.** For violations of Section 1 of these parking regulations, the fine for a first violation shall be \$45.00; the fine for a second violation shall be \$70.00; and the fine for a third or more violations shall be \$100.00. Fines may be paid in person at the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk of Court during business hours or mailed to 375 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215.

**Section 8.** For violations of Section 2 or Section 3 of these parking regulations, the fine for a first violation shall be \$65.00; the fine for a second violation shall be \$90.00; and the fine for a third or more violations shall be \$100.00. All fines must be answered within ten (10) business days of the offense. Fines may be paid in person at the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk of Court during business hours or mailed to 375 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215.

**Section 9**. These regulations are subject to the limitations, restrictions and exceptions in O.R.C. Chapter 505, Sections 4511.01 through 4511.76, Sections 4513.02 through 4513.37.

<u>Section 10.</u> The parking areas regulated as stated above shall be designated by the installation of traffic control devices conforming to O.R.C. Section 4511.09. Vehicles and owners may be exempt from certain restrictions created by this Resolution on the holidays enumerated in O.R.C. Section 511.10 and further specified in Section 1.14.

**Section 11.** The Township Fiscal Officer is directed to post these regulations in five (5) conspicuous public places in the Township for thirty (30) days and publish the same in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks. **Section 12**. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action took place in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including O.R.C. Section 121.22.

**Section 13**. This resolution shall take effect at the earliest date permitted by law.

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

Alex made a motion for the following resolution as read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-138
RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 16-033 IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ENACTING PERMIT PARKING IN DESIGNATED AREAS OF

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#### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the "Township"), has determined the public safety and welfare would be served by the following permit-only parking restriction; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Ohio has granted townships the authority to pass resolutions on parking of vehicles on township roads pursuant to O.R.C. 505.17;

**WHEREAS**, on or around February 11, 2016, the Board adopted Resolution No. 16-033, adopting and enacting permit parking in designated areas of the Township;

**WHEREAS**, the Board desires to supersede and replace Resolution No. 16-033 in its entirety and,

**WHEREAS**, the regulation does not conflict with the Uniform Traffic Act, and is applicable only to the unincorporated areas of the Township;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, that the following Resolution be, and it hereby is adopted, which said Resolution, upon its effective date, shall supersede and replace Resolution 16-033 in its entirety:

**Section 1.** No person shall park any vehicle upon the following streets or right of ways of the unincorporated area of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, whether attended or unattended, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., inclusive: the south side of Lincoln Park Court between Nationwide Boulevard and Chapel Hill Court, both sides of Nationwide Boulevard between Lincoln Park Court and Dunbrooke Court, the north side of Westport Road between Nationwide Boulevard and King Edward Court West, and both sides of Westport Road between King Edward Court West and Franshire West, without the appropriate resident parking permit ("resident permit") or guest parking permit ("guest permit") issued by the Township.

**Section 2.** Township residents are eligible to apply for a resident parking permit from the Township. Each household may receive a maximum of two (2) resident parking permits per (1) household. household is defined as one single-family dwelling apartment/condominium unit. Applicants may apply for a resident permit or guest permit by completing the appropriate "Resident Parking Permit Application," which is available at the Franklin Township Offices, 2193 Frank Road, Columbus, Ohio, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. If any such resident permit or guest permit is granted, the resident permit or guest permit must be displayed and visible inside the front windshield of the vehicle while the vehicle is parked on the Township street to which the permit applies. Whether to issue a guest permit and how many guests permits to issue are within the sole and absolute discretion of the Township Trustees. If the vehicle has a permit but the permit is not properly displayed, the vehicle will be subject to further action as if it did not have a permit.

<u>Section 3.</u> The grant of a permit represents the permission to park on the street; it does not entitle the recipient to a parking space. If the spaces on the street are full, the granting of the permit creates no recourse to the other residents, their guests, Township officials, or Township employees.

**Section 4**. Owners of vehicles parked in violation of parking regulations enacted by this Resolution will be notified by having a parking ticket handed to the vehicle operator by the Franklin Township Police in a manner apparent to the operator of the vehicle and/or receipt of a summons from the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk of Court. The ticket to be used pursuant to this Resolution shall be the "Ohio Uniform Traffic Ticket."

**Section 5.** Pursuant to O.R.C. Section 505.17(E), parking infractions shall be considered criminal offenses and a person who commits such a violation shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor;

**Section 6.** The fine for a first violation of parking regulations shall be \$45; the fine for a second violation of parking regulations shall be \$70; and the fine for third or more violations shall be \$100. Fines may be paid in person at the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk of Court during business hours or mailed to 375 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215.

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**Section 7**. These regulations are subject to the limitations, restrictions and exceptions in O.R.C. Chapter 505, Sections 4511.01 to 4511.76, and Sections 4513.02 to 4513.37.

<u>Section 8.</u> The regulated parking areas outlined above shall be further designated by the installation of traffic control devices conforming to O.R.C. Section 4511.09. Vehicles and owners are exempt from the restrictions created by this Resolution on the holidays enumerated in O.R.C. Section 511.10 and further specified in O.R.C. Section 1.14.

**Section 9.** The Fiscal Officer is directed to post these regulations in five (5) conspicuous public places in the Township for thirty (30) days and publish the same in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks.

**Section 10**. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action took place in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including O.R.C. Section 121.22.

**Section 11**. This resolution shall take effect at the earliest date permitted by law.

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

Alex said he supports the work of Jordan's Crossing and their partnerships with Mt. Carmel Health and Southeast Mental Health to establish tiny homes in the central Ohio area. He shared that another property other than 1963 Harrisburg Pike would be a better option at this time.

Horn made a motion for the following resolution as read:

## **Resolution 20-139**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees agrees to list the property and house located at 1963 Harrisburg Pike on the market to sell under Heart of It All Realty.

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

## **Trustee Reports:**

*Alex had nothing to report.* 

Police Chief Byron Smith & Lieutenant Ratliff were able to join the meeting. Ratliff provided an update on June stats and explained that the stats may appear low because the officers are only reporting to priority calls during the COVID-19 epidemic. The stats are as follows:

659	Dispatched Runs	67	Records Checked
24	Felony in Progress	5	Overdoses
30	Back-up Runs	65	Officer Taken Reports
145	Pick-up Runs	24	Domestic Violence Runs
17	Domestic Violence Accessed	6	Felony Arrests

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17 6 30 6 77 601	Assist with Felony Arrests Felony Warrants Vehicles Impounded Stolen Cars Recovered Traffic Citations Business/House Checks	5 15 6 20 20	Misdemeanor Warrants Misdemeanor Citations Guns Impounded Traffic Warnings Accident Involved Citations Alarms
929	Gallons of Fuel Used	7068	Miles Driven
1318	Hours on Duty	58	Special Duty Hours
65	Investigative Hours	3.25	Overtime Hours
62	Accrued Time Off		

Ratliff provided stats on the investigator position as follows:

These stats are based primarily on online misdemeanors reports coming through our website. If felony reports are received the investigator will immediately forward those reports directly to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Investigative Unit and will assist as needed with the FCSO.

104 Misdemeanor Crimes 25 Misdemeanor Arrests 27 Prosecutions (assisted)

The investigator has also worked several narcotics complaints with the FCSO. Officer Baldwin has been assisting the investigator in many aspects of the job.

Fleshman said it is apparent that this position was desperately needed and is making a difference.

Fleshman had nothing to report.

Horn had nothing to report.

Administrator Potts shared that the paving project in the Havenwood Townhomes area is almost complete. The no semi-parking signs will be going up soon in the Havenwood area, said Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens.

Alex asked Potts if there were any comments from the public via email or social media. Potts confirmed that there were no public comments or questions. With no further discussion, Alex adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Signature on original
Aryeh Alex, Chairman
<u>Signature on original</u>
John Fleshman, Vice-Chairman
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Signature on original
Ralph Horn, Trustee
Taipii Horii, Haotoe
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<u>Signature on original</u>
Mary Rhinehart, Fiscal Officer