

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

**Regular Meeting**

**Held at 2193 Frank Road**

**February 6, 2020**

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## **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 February 6, 2020, at 2193 Frank Road.

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

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

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

## **Prior Meeting Minutes:**

*Alex motioned to table the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2020 and the Special Meeting Minutes of January 29, 2020 until the next meeting. Fleshman seconded the motion. A vote was taken as follows: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Motion passed.*

*The Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins explained the delay in the meeting minutes is due to limited time upon her return from vacation as announced at the January 23, 2020, meeting.*

## **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: Horn, yes; Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes. Resolution passed.*

#### **Resolution 20-026**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves payroll ending on February 21, 2020 in the amount of \$157,113.02 and bills in the amount of \$105,519.12 for a total of \$262,632.14 from check number 62163 to check# 62302. Electronic checks 20-01 through 20-032.**

Fleshman asked the fiscal officer why there were two checks submitted by her office to be signed by the board which indicated late fees. One for Ohio Police & Fire for \$1,000.00 and Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) for \$2,552.00, Fleshman asked. The fiscal officer explained that both of these invoices were paid online on a Saturday (before the due date) but was penalized due to the electronic processing occurred after the due date on the receiving end. The fiscal officer said she will contact both entities to see if see can ask for forgiveness since the actual transaction did occur before the due date.

The fiscal officer explained that the additional resolutions to be read are asking the board to approve paying back funds from specific advancements and

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transfers which are owed by the police and fire departments back to the general fund. Horn expressed his concerns about how the existing department heads were not in their existing positions when these advancements took place. Morris, explained that it does not matter who was in charge of each department the advancement needs to be paid back to the general fund.

Horn said he is willing to discuss this further but only with guidance from the Auditor of State's (AOS) Office. Horn asked Administrator Potts to reach out to the AOS Office for guidance and next steps.

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

## **Resolution 20-037**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board after being notified by the Fiscal Officer will advise with the Auditor of State's Office before paying back any historical advancements which are due to the general fund from the police and/or fire departments.**

### **Guest Speaker:**

*Laura Esterline, Broker, RE/MAX Keep It 100, thanked Administrator Potts and Trustee Horn for attending the closing of 1884 Little Avenue in late January. This property brought in \$8,530.00. I had (2) two properties on hold waiting on the funds to clear the bank (Lindbergh \$4,300.00 and an all-time high sale of 3506 Brookside Blvd of \$25,920.00) for a total of \$38,750.00 for the month January 2020, Esterline shared.*

Esterline said there has been a slight delay in selling 3303 Brookside due to a lien which had to be released by the Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation (COCIC) at no cost to the township. This property is being sold for \$10,000.00 which will be closing on very soon, said Esterline.

Esterline brought (3) contracts to the board, beginning with 1091 Searles Avenue with an offer of \$5,500.00

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

## **Resolution 20-027**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board accepts the offer for \$5,500.00 for the property located at 1091 Searles Avenue, Parcel #140-003002-00.**

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Esterline continued with the second contract for 1249 Richter Road with two offers. Offer #1 of \$11,500.00 (including escalation clause) and offer #2 of \$10,500.00.

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

**Resolution 20-028**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board accepts the offer of \$11,500.00 for the property located at 1249 Richter Road, Parcel number 140-000123-00.**

Esterline presented the third contract for 1523 Little Avenue with an offer of \$11,000.00. The purchaser's intent is to build a new home, Esterline shared.

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

**Resolution 20-029**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board accepts the offer of \$11,000.00 for the property located at 1523 Little Avenue, Parcel number 140-004247-00.**

Horn asked Esterline if she had been able to connect with a potential auctioneer to auction off the various items left at 1963 Harrisburg Pike. I am waiting on photos and descriptions of the items to be auctioned from Administrator Potts, said Esterline.

Fleshman said it would be nice to connect Esterline with the little home's initiative being hosted by Jordan's Crossing. The township could play an intricate role in connecting eligible families to this project, said Fleshman.

Esterline shared that she is looking forward to the continued efforts to keep the properties moving and bring in the revenue needed for the township to meet their goals.

Esterline explained that she has an investor that is very interested in the redevelopment of homes/property in the Mon-E-Bak area. This could be a big boom for this area of the township, Esterline stated.

**Police Department Report:**

Lt. Ratliff provided the stats for 2019 as follows:

- 294 accident reports
- 1197 citations written/issued
- 378 warnings issued for traffic offenses

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- 830 offense/crime reports
- 7,194 dispatched runs (calls through dispatching)
- 1,740 pickup runs (officer initiated)
- 62,766 miles driven on patrol
- 8,378 camera citations for speed
- 612 court cases (with only 8 officers call to appear)
- 551 vehicles impounded

Fleshman asked were any of the cars from the Auto Boutique included in the impounds? Yes, one vehicle was impounded, said Ratliff.

Horn asked how the enforcement of the semi-truck parking is going in the Havenwood Townhomes area. Ratliff shared that he spoke with Officer Frances today and it was reported that there were no semi-trucks illegally parked in the area.

Ratliff shared the *stats from January 2020*:

- 34 accident reports
- 87 citations written/issued
- 56 warnings issued for traffic offenses
- 117 offense/crime reports
- 912 dispatched runs (calls through dispatching)
- 199 pickup runs (officer initiated)
- 10323 miles driven on patrol
- 54 court cases (no officers required to appear)
- 38 impounds

Ratliff shared that there has been a spike in our officer's administering narcans in the township this week.

### **Franklin County Sheriff's Office Report:**

Deputy Carter shared the following stats beginning on 01/23/2020 and ending on 02/06/2020 for services rendered through the sheriff's office.

- 450 calls of service
- 65 accident reports
- 10 drug related offenses (includes 6 overdoses)
- 6 burglaries
- 6 stolen vehicles
- 2 stolen vehicles recovered
- 11 weapons related
- 1 robbery
- 21 thefts

Fleshman asked if these stats are the norm as it relates to auto thefts. Carter shared that there has been a spike especially at the Brown Road Speedway.

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**Fire Department Report:**

*Chief Welch* informed the board of the need for (2) two new tires for the 2000 Pierce Engine 193.

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

**Resolution 20-030**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Fire Chief to purchase (2) two new tires for the 2000 Pierce Engine 193, from State Tire at a purchase price not to exceed \$1,210.00.**

Horn asked Welch if there is a recap charge when we surrender our tires. Welch said he is not sure of such a charge.

Welch shared with the board the age of an existing desktop computer within the fire department which is unable to accept Windows 10, but one computer is over 10 years old. Welch distributed a quote of \$750.52 for a new desktop computer from our current IT company. Fleshman asked what the specs were on the purposed desktop unit. Welch shared that our IT company recommended the OptiPlex 3070, FBTX with an intel core processor I5, 9500, 6 cores, with 9 megahertz.

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

**Resolution 20-031**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Fire Chief to purchase (1) desktop computer from Revolution Group not to exceed \$1,000.00.**

Welch shared that the fire department is working with the Central Ohio Red Cross to host a blood drive. One part of the criteria is that the township must have (30) thirty volunteers willing to donate blood. Be prepared in the next few weeks as I may be asking for volunteers, said Welch.

Welch continued sharing another project he is working on in collaborating with other fire departments and their experience working with Change Healthcare for our EMS billing with a charge of 6%. I have been able to work with Change Healthcare and they are willing to reduce their billing fees down to 5%.

Welch presented the board a proposal from EVS Communications to transition our phone system to a more efficient and cost savings operation. Me, Administrator Potts, and Robyn Watkins met with a representative from EVS and we all feel this transition will only be in the best interest of the township and will better serve the residents and community who call in to the township.

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

## **Resolution 20-032**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Fire Chief and the Township Administrator to work together to establish a new phone system including canceling the old system, not to exceed the implementation fee/charges of \$3,400.00.**

Welch asked the Assistant Fiscal Officer if she can call MegaPath/Fusion (our current telephone vendor) to notify them of our township's intent to cancel their agreement.

Fleshman thanked Welch for checking on any possible fire safety issues at the Auto Boutique located at 901 N. Wilson Road. I have reported this business to the City of Columbus but when the operations of the business impact the safety of Franklin Township we have to step in said Fleshman.

### **Road Department Report:**

*Jim Stevens, Road Superintendent* updated the board on the annual MS4 Report for the Ohio EPA Soil & Water is complete and makes the township compliant for 2020.

Stevens shared that the water jet (pump) went out the other day which means there was no pressure to push the water through the line. I researched a located a company in Cincinnati, Ohio who can rebuild the pump. I am just waiting on a quote, said Stevens.

I have also explored new models of this pump which have much more functionality than our current unit. There are many times when we have to place projects on hold due to utility companies prohibiting excavating. I would like to continue searching for companies who can rebuild and/or purchase a new unit at some point, said Stevens.

Stevens asked if he could take one person with him to attend the Midwest Trade Show in Indianapolis, IN where these types of machines/units are on display by various companies. This would give us an opportunity to speak to representatives in person about what they could offer Franklin Township.

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

**Resolution 20-032**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Road Superintendent and one other staff member to attend the Midwest Trade Show in Indianapolis, IN at a cost not to exceed \$150.00 from the general fund.**

**Fiscal Department Report:**

*Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer reported that the board typically approves to provide the fire chief and the assistant fire with a stipend of \$720.00 annual for the use of their personal cell phones for Township purposes.*

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

**Resolution 20-033**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Fiscal Officer to prepare a check for each Fire Chief Welch and Assistant Fire Chief Adams totaling \$720.00 from the telephone line item under fire department as their annual stipend for the use of their personal cell phones for Township purposes.**

*The Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins shared that upon listening to the audio of the last meeting the board passed a resolution 20-021 to pay Ricart Ford \$15,420.00 for the repair of the dump truck. The board discussed that the funds for this repair would come out of the general fund, but when the resolution was read the funding source was not mentioned. I recommend we amend resolution 20-021 to specify the funding source of this repair, said Watkins.*

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

**Amend Resolution 20-021**

**Resolution 20-034**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to pay Ricart Ford for repairs on the 2008 F-550 dump truck, not to exceed \$15,472.50 from the general fund.**

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## **Administrator Report:**

*Mark Potts, Administrator* reported on a \$500 OTARMA grant received to purchase safety cones.

Potts also reminded everyone of the open house on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall hosted by the Franklin County Sanitary Engineer's Office. This open house will have a representative from the Franklin County Sanitary Engineer's Office available to answer questions related to the financial assistance available to eligible homeowners impacted by the Mon-E-Bak and Brown Road East sanitary sewer projects.

## **Trustee Reports:**

*Trustee Alex:* nothing to report

*Trustee Fleshman:* nothing to report

*Trustee Horn:* nothing to report

## **Speaker Cards:**

Mike Blevins, audience member thanked Chief Welch for his comment in a previous meeting stating that he did not believe that Blevins was a fire fighter hater. Blevins shared that during his campaign for Trustee, he was approached by many people asking him why he was a firefighter hater. This information is the farthest from the truth, said Blevins.

## **Questions from the Audience:**

*Mike Blevins, audience member* asked the board why in a previous meeting was there was a mention of a compensation package being offered to a former employee who recently was separated from the township. Is this something new the board is doing asked Blevins. Alex said the board is not at liberty to discuss this matter there are still on-going negotiations taking place.

Blevins asked the fire chief for an update on if the Village of Valleyview has paid their obligation to the township for fire service provided in 2019? Fleshman said in speaking with the Village Council they said they paid the City of Columbus and thought the City of Columbus would pay the difference which is due to the township. Administrator Potts said he would follow up with the appropriate people related to this matter to ensure this gets paid.

Blevins asked the board when he would receive his public records request about the total inclusive cost on the installation and renovation of the police modular. Fleshman said he thought that this had been previously addressed. The Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins stated that she was waiting on confirmation on the completion of the recent work on the modular floor. The vendor was paid in advance but I never received confirmation that the work was actually done and the floor repair was complete, said Watkins.



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Chief Smith confirmed the work on the floor was complete and that it was paid out of the police fund not the general fund because people were making comments about how much money had already been spent on the modular. The request was for an all-inclusive amount and I was unable to fill this request until I received confirmation on the floor, the request can be fulfilled now, Watkins explained.

With no further questions or discussion, Alex adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Signature on file with original  
Aryeh Alex, Chairman

Signature on file with original  
John Fleshman, Vice-Chairman

Signature on file with original  
Ralph Horn, Trustee

Signature on file with original  
Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer  
Robyn Watkins, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Minutes were taken & typed by: R. Watkins  
Minutes approved by Board of Trustees on 02/20/2020