

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

**Regular Meeting**

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

**April 8, 2021**

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**Call Meeting to Order:**

Chairman Horn called the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on April 8, 2021, via teleconference (ZOOM).

**Opening Prayer:** Led by Trustee Fleshman

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

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

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:** None

Horn confirmed with the Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins that there were no written meeting minutes to approve. Watkins confirmed.

Horn asked Administrator Potts how the Administrative Assistant is coming with typing of the previous meeting minutes. Potts said that the minutes were currently being typed and will be submitted to the Fiscal Officer for review before submission to the Board of Trustees.

Horn tabled the approval of any past meeting minutes.

With no further discussion Horn moved to Old Business.

**Old Business**

The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution:

**Resolution 2021-057**

**Accounts Payable ending on 04/07/21 & Payroll Paid on 04/02/2021**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves accounts payable through 04/07/2021 in the amount of \$141,442.35, as well as retroactive pay to fire department in the amount of \$2,764.34 and regular payroll paid on 04/02/21 in the amount of \$147,571.00 for a total of \$291,777.69. From check number 66032 to 66174 and electronic vouchers from 203-2021 to 246-2021.

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

**Horn:**  YES/ NO

**Fleshman:**  YES/ NO

**Alex:**  YES/ NO

*Resolution passed.*

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The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution:

## **Resolution 2021-058**

**A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS #4  
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 #4 hereto attached to meet the additional expenditures.

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

**Horn:**  YES/ NO

**Fleshman:**  YES/ NO

**Alex:**  YES/ NO

*Resolution passed.*

Rhinehart explained that the purpose of Resolution 2021-058 was to move fund to make it possible to purchase a new EMS vehicle which will be discussed in a few minutes.

The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution:

## **Resolution 2021-059**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF A  
PAST OBLIGATION EXCEEDING \$3000 (THEN & NOW)**

**WHEREAS**, Section 5705.41(D), Revised Code, requires prior certificate by the Township Fiscal Officer that the amount required to meet an obligation in the current year has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances, and;

**WHEREAS**, if no certificate is furnished as required, the fiscal officer may certify "then" when the obligation was incurred and "now" that sufficient appropriations exist for that purpose, and;

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**WHEREAS**, if the amount exceeds \$3,000, the fiscal officer shall obtain authorization, by resolution, from the governing board, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Township has received three invoices for parts and labor for fire hydrants performed in 2020 from Central Ohio Hydrant Repair Installation in the total amount of \$4,765.78.

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

**SECTION 1**, the Fiscal Officer is authorized, to pay the outstanding obligation for a cumulative amount of \$4765.78 for services provided in 2020.

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

**Horn:**  YES/ NO

**Fleshman:**  YES/ NO

**Alex:**  YES/ NO

*Resolution passed.*

Fleshman checked with Chief Welch to see if the township was still using the same hydrant repair company as in the past. Welch confirmed.

The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution:

## **Resolution 2021-060**

### **A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AN EMS VEHICLE REPLACEMENT FUND AND ESTABLISH THE FUNDING SOURCE**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 5705.13(C), Revised Code, a taxing authority may establish a capital projects fund for the purpose of accumulating resources for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of fixed assets of the subdivision; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Fire Chief as requested that resources from the emergency services billings be set aside annually for the acquisition and replacement of an EMS vehicle approximately every three years.

**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 establish a capital projects fund to be known as the EMS Vehicle Replacement Fund for the purpose of accumulating resources for the acquisition and replacement of EMS vehicles.

**SECTION 2**, Annually, beginning with the budget for 2022, the Township shall include in the budget of the Ambulance and Emergency Medical Fund (2281) one-third the estimated cost (adjusted annually) of a new EMS vehicle to be transfer of the EMS Vehicle Replacement Fund.

**SECTION 3**, It is the intention of the Township that one of the two EMS vehicles be replaced approximately every three years with the funds

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accumulated in the EMS Vehicle Replacement Fund from services charges of the Ambulance and Emergency Medical Fund.

**SECTION 4,** The fiscal officer is hereby authorized to transfer, upon the appropriation of the funds, \$255,000 for the purchase contract to be awarded in 2021 and annually, each year thereafter, one-third of the estimated cost appropriated in the Ambulance and Emergency Medical Fund.

**SECTION 5,** As provided in Section 5705.13(C), Revised Code, the Township Trustees, by resolution, may at any time rescind the EMS Vehicle Replacement Fund and the money accumulated in the fund shall be transferred to the Ambulance and Emergency Medical Fund from which the money originated.

*Horn moved. Alex seconded the Resolution; with no further discussion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows:*

Fleshman said he wanted to establish this account for a long time. This is a plan which will allow the township to put money aside for future purchases of needed equipment. The township will save money from the repairs to go towards new equipment. Horn agreed with Fleshman.

**Horn:**  YES/ NO

**Fleshman:**  YES/ NO

**Alex:**  YES/ NO

*Resolution passed.*

Rhinehart updated the board on the \$25,000.00 advance made from the general fund to the road district fund. The \$25,000.00 has been paid back to the general fund in full. We had to wait for the first half of the property tax revenue to come in to fulfill this obligation, said Rhinehart.

Rhinehart said that the CARES Grant final report was submitted to the Ohio Budget Commission. The township used all of the funds allocated to us. There will be a single audit conducted by the Auditor of the State's Office. The CARES Act Relief Fund Senate Bill 310 distribution reports reads that the township received \$1,249,799.44 as income and we had the same amount in expenditures which equals a zero-ending balance, said Rhinehart.

Rhinehart shared that new CARES Act funds may become available with an unknown amount with new guidelines.

With no further discussion Horn moved to New Business:

## **New Business**

### **Police Department Report**

Horn introduced Deputy Carter from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office to provide a report. Deputy Carter reported the following from March 25, 2021 - April 7, 2021:

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428	Calls for Service	26	Reports written
5	Arrests	3	Drug Over Doses
3	Burglaries	3	Stolen Vehicles
0	Recovered Vehicles	9	Weapon Related Runs
0	Robberies	18	Thefts

Deputy Carter said that since the weather is getting warmer the criminal activity has increased throughout the county.

Franklin Township Police Lieutenant David Ratliff shared that the township online reporting resulted in the following:

12	Theft Reported	1	Operating a Motor Vehicle Report
1	Assault Report	2	Harassment Reports
4	Property Damage Reports		

Horn thanked Deputy Carter and Lieutenant Ratliff then asked Chief Smith if he had anything to report.

*Chief Smith* reported the following stats from 2020:

318	Drug Complaints	820	Property Crimes
12	Deaths	805	Domestic Complaints
512	Violent Crimes	141	Mental Health Runs

Smith said this list is not inclusive but is some of the major events that have happened in the township in 2020. Horn asked if the increase in overdoses was recorded in there stats as well. Smith confirmed the drug reports include overdoses.

The Police Chief recommended the following resolution:

**Resolution 2021-061**

**Hiring of Destlehorst as Full Time Police Officer**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to hire Kevin Destlehorst as a full-time police officer effective upon completion of physical and psychological evaluation.

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

**Horn:**  YES/ NO

**Fleshman:**  YES/ NO

**Alex:**  YES/ NO

*Resolution passed.*



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Fleshman said there are people on the line who have questions about the police levy and asked Smith to be available to take those questions at the end of the meeting. Smith agreed.

Smith explained that there will be police levy community meeting on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Central Baptist Church located at 1955 Frank Road, Columbus, OH 43223. This meeting is designed to welcome citizens to ask specific questions about the levy. There will also be someone at the meeting who can assist citizens with the Franklin County Auditor tax estimator.

Lt. Ratliff said the police department is very busy and that he working to post several police activities on social media which come directly from the officer's body camera. Ratliff asked everyone to keep a look out on Facebook for these additional postings.

With no further discussion, Horn moved to the Fire Department:

**Fire Department Report:**

Chief Welch thanked the fiscal officer and the fiscal consultant for assisting with the establishing the new vehicle replacement fund. It nice to have a plan to future vehicle replacement, said Welch.

*Chief Welch recommended the following Resolution:*

***Resolution 2021-062***

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROVING A PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF A FIRE APPARATUS, SPECIFICALLY, AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT VEHICLE**

**WHEREAS**, the Franklin Township Fire Department is in need of a new fire apparatus, specifically, an emergency medical transport vehicle; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the provisions of Section 505.37 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, (the "Township") may purchase any fire apparatus that seems advisable to the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township is a member of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services Cooperative Purchasing Program ("ODAS"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board desires to accept a sales agreement proposal, dated March 22, 2021, whereby the Township will purchase a Horton Emergency Medical Transport Vehicle from Horton Emergency Vehicles Company, consistent with the provisions of ODAS Ohio State Term Schedule Contract No. 800891, and attached hereto marked as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by this reference (the "Agreement"); and

**WHEREAS**, the purchase of the new fire apparatus, specifically, an emergency medical transport vehicle, is advisable to the Board; and it is in the best interest of the Township and its residents to enter into the Agreement and purchase an emergency medical transport vehicle pursuant to the provisions of the Agreement.

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

**SECTION 1,** That the Board hereby approves and accepts the proposal to purchase a Horton Emergency Medical Vehicle attached hereto marked as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by this reference (the "Agreement").

**SECTION 2,** That the financial obligations of the Township in accepting and executing the Agreement are subject to the provisions of Resolution No. 2021-060 appropriating and hereby authorizing the expenditure of up to \$255,000 as necessary to meet the Township's financial obligations under the Agreement. Those obligations are also subject to the certification of the Township Fiscal Officer under Section 5705.41 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 3,** That the specifications of the emergency medical transport vehicle are subject to review by the Franklin County Prosecutor pursuant to Section 505.37 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 4,** That all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were passed 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, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 5,** That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

*Horn moved. Trustee Alex seconded the Resolution, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows:*

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

*Resolution passed.*

Horn asked Welch to explain the manufacturer's program with the building of the new medic. Horton, the manufacturer of the new medic is reaching a production number on their 200,000 ambulance/medic. We are not sure if we are still in the run to receive the 200,000 ambulance/medic or not but Welch said he will be checking with Horton.

Welch said the fire department will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the month of April. If residents see the fire department in their area flushing hydrants they need to run their water for a few minutes before doing laundry to let any of the debris stirred up from the flushing exit through the lines, Welch explained.

With no further discussion, Horn moved to the Road Department.

## **Road Department Report:**

*Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens* nothing to report.

With no further discussion, Horn moved to the Trustee's Report.

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## **Trustees Report:**

*Trustee Alex* said he had nothing to report.

*Trustee Fleshman* said he has been working with Franklin County to request an additional traffic study at the intersection of Forrest and Hopkins. There have been several accidents which have come very close to residential houses. Fleshman said he is asking Franklin County if they would consider putting in a four-way Stop sign at that intersection. Fleshman asked the Board for their opinion.

Alex said he supports the idea of keeping our residents safe and well as reduce speeding. Fleshman said they County does not consider installing a Stop sign due to speeding only for safety reasons. Fleshman is asking the County to consider conducting another traffic study to evaluate safety issues at that intersection.

*Trustee Horn* said he has nothing to report.

## **Fiscal Department:**

*The fiscal officer presented the following resolution:*

### ***Resolution 2021-063***

#### **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF A PAST OBLIGATION FOR HEALTHCARE REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT (HRA) APPROPRIATION AND FUNDS FOR PAYMENT PHASE 4**

**WHEREAS**, Section 5705.41(D), Revised Code, requires prior certificate by the Township Fiscal Officer that the amount required to meet an obligation in the current year has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances, and;

**WHEREAS**, If no certificate is furnished as required, the fiscal officer may certify "then" when the obligation was incurred and "now" that sufficient appropriations exist for that purpose, and;

**WHEREAS**, If the amount exceeds \$3,000, the fiscal officer shall obtain authorization, by resolution, from the governing board, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Township has received a summary from Medical Mutual for health care reimbursement account benefits to be reimbursed in 2020 that exceed \$3,000.

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

**SECTION 1**, the Fiscal Officer is authorized, to pay the outstanding obligation with designated Employees per the final Phase 4 table dated April 8, 2021, via separate checks for a cumulative amount of **\$3,591.30** for HRA benefits provided in 2020.



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*Horn moved. Alex seconded the resolution, the roll was called for its adoption, and the vote was as follows:*

✓ YES/□ NO: **Horn**      ✓ YES/□ NO: **Fleshman**      ✓ YES/□ NO: **Alex**

*Resolution passed.*

**Questions:**

*Horn asked if anyone on the phone if they had any questions.*

Potts checked social media, email and opened the phone lines and there were no additional comments from the public.

**Adjournment**

With no further discussion, Horn adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

*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