

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

**Regular Meeting**

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

**June 25, 2020  
*AMENDED***

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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 June 25, 2020, via teleconference.

**Opening Prayer:** Led by Trustee Fleshman

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

**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 11, 2020, and the Special Meeting held on June 18, 2020.*

Fleshman said he wanted to make sure the public understood the comment he made during the June 18, 2020, fire levy meeting as it related to an option #4, referring to a Township-wide levy. The role of the trustees is to put the options out there and let the people decide what they want and what they want to pay. I was not trying to say that we needed an option 4, I just wanted to show the public what it would have cost if a township-wide levy would have passed versus where we are now and the options that we have to work with, explained Fleshman.

*Fleshman seconded the motion. 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 20-119**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves:

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of Franklin Township, Franklin County during the year ending December 31, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, these are supplemental appropriations to adjust the annual appropriations that are effective from January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2020,

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

SECTION 1, the sums presented in Exhibit A, hereto attached, be and the same are hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made for and during the year ending December 31, 2020.

*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.*

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

## **Resolution 20-120**

*BE IT RESOLVED* by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves bills in the amount of \$117,143.09 and payroll ending on 06/23/2020 in the amount of \$192,300.11 for a total of \$309,443.30. From check number 63505 to 63610 (no electronic payments).

*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 Laura Esterline, Heart of It All Realty (formerly worked for REMAX, *Keep it 100*) to provide an update.

Esterline asked the Board for resolutions to move the following properties listings from REMAX to Heart of it All Realty: 777 Brown Road, 1207 Hart Road, 1295 Marsdale, and 1765 Marsdale.

Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

## **Resolution 20-123**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees approved Laura Esterline, Realtor/Broker to move the property listing located at 777 Brown Road to *Heart of it All Realty* effective immediately.

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

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Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-124**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees approved Laura Esterline, Realtor/Broker to move the property listing located at 1207 Hart Road to *Heart of it All Realty* effective immediately.

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

Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-125**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees approved Laura Esterline, Realtor/Broker to move the property listing located at 1295 Marsdale to *Heart of it All Realty* effective immediately.

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

Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-126**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees approved Laura Esterline, Realtor/Broker to move the property listing located at 1765 Marsdale to *Heart of it All Realty* effective immediately.

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

Esterline stated that the church located at 1665 Harrisburg Pike has placed a \$6,000.00 offer on the adjacent parcel located at 1661 Harrisburg Pike. Esterline asked if the Board was interested in entertaining this offer. Fleshman said he supports this offer as the Township has owned this land for quite some time after accepting it from the Franklin County Land Bank a few years ago.

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Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-127**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees approved to accept an offer of \$6,000.00 for parcel 140-000609-00, located at 1661 Harrisburg Pike, from the church located at the adjacent property at 1665 Harrisburg Pike.

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

Esterline asked the Board if she could list 714 N. Hague Avenue.

Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-128**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees approved Laura Esterline, Realtor/Broker to list 714 N. Hague Avenue (parcel #140-004152-00) for \$25,000.00.

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

Esterline made a recommendation to the Board to reduce the listing price for 1765 Marsdale and 777 Brown Road since they have been on the market for some time.

Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-129**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees approved Laura Esterline, Realtor/Broker to reduce the listing price on 1765 Marsdale (parcel # 140-005822-00) from \$9,000.00 to \$7,500.00.

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

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Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-130**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees approved Laura Esterline, Realtor/Broker to reduce the listing price of 777 Brown Road (parcel # 140-002912-00) from \$17,500.00 to \$15,000.00.

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

Esterline said that Mr. Durant who is the adjoining property owner to 1207 Hart Road is interested in the property and has made a verbal offer of \$2,500.00 for the property, the property is currently listed at \$6,500.00. Esterline asked the Board if they were interested in entertaining Mr. Durant's offer.

Fleshman asked Esterline to provide the size of the property. Esterline replied that the property size is 70' x 90'. Fleshman said that this is a good size piece of property and has a higher value then what Durant is offering.

Horn said that this property does have drainage issues and currently Mr. Durant is aware of these issues. Currently his grandchildren enjoy playing on the property, Durant's hope is to purchase the land and fence it in for his family to enjoy.

Alex said that the Board would like to wait on accepting Mr. Durant's offer at this time.

Esterline asked the Board if they would like to discuss listing the property located at 1963 Harrisburg Pike.

Fleshman said he would like to wait two weeks to list the property until Chief Smith is available to discuss the potential of partnering with other entities on a tiny house initiative on this property.

Horn said he would need to have more information on the tiny houses before approving such an initiative.

Alex supports establishing a tiny house project in the Township, but recommends looking for other properties with lesser value. The Township can benefit from the revenue in selling 1963 Harrisburg Pike. We should find another property which would be a better fit for tiny homes.

Alex asked Esterline if there would be any issues waiting two weeks. Esterline requested that the Township use this time productively and take the next two-weeks to review the contents of the property and create an inventory list.



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*Fleshman made a motion to hold off on listing the property at 1963 Harrisburg Pike for the next two weeks. 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 moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-131**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees is requiring all items to be removed from 1963 Harrisburg Pike within the next twelve (12) days.

*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.*

Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens asked the Board where they would like the contents, once removed from 1963 Harrisburg Pike, stored. Alex stated that each department will be responsible for storing their own items once removed from the property. Administrator Potts and the department heads will be responsible for ensuring that all items are removed within the next twelve (12) days, said Alex.

Alex said there are many more items on the agenda to discuss and that he is tabling any further discussion related to 1963 Harrisburg Pike. Alex asked Esterline if she had any other items to discuss.

Esterline said she had nothing further but would be sending over paperwork for the Board to sign.

**New Business:**

Police Department: Nothing to report.

Fire Department:

Chief Welch stated that Mario D'Amico submitted his resignation effective July 7, 2020. Welch asked the board for a motion to accept this resignation.

*Alex made a motion to accept the resignation of Mario D'Amico effective July 7, 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 as he has no intentions to rehire. Welch asked Administrator Potts to explain the tax revenue request submitted to the Franklin County Auditor's Office related to the anticipated fire levy.

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Potts recommended the following resolution:

**Resolution 20-132**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees is declaring the necessity for levying a tax exceeding a 10-mill limitation and requesting the County Auditor to provide certain information pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3705.03b.

Certify current tax evaluations for Franklin Township in the unincorporated areas only and the dollar amount of revenue to be generated by each of the following levy options:

Option A: 5.89 mill replacement levy

Option B: 5.89 mill renewal levy with a 1.1-mill increase which constitutes a 6.99-mill levy.

Option C: 5.89 mill renewal levy with a 2.11 mill increase which constitutes an 8-mill levy

Option D: 5.89 mill renewal levy with a 3.96 mill increase which constitutes a 9.85-mill levy

Option E: 5.89 mill renewal levy with a 7.11 mill increase which constitutes a 13-mill levy.

*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.*

Road Department:

Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens stated that the new jetter vac has arrived and the crew is looking forward to getting the new equipment out into the community. Stevens reminded everyone that he is doing the best he can based on his staffing.

Trustee Reports:

Alex said that Franklin Township is eligible to receive funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, 116 Public Law 136 (the CARES Act). The Township can apply for funds based on the criteria outlined in House Bill 481.

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Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-122**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees affirms that all funds received from the Franklin County Coronavirus Relief Distribution Funds pursuant to HB 481 be expended only to cover costs of the Township consistent with the requirements of section 5001 of the CARES act as described in 42 U.S.C. 601(D) and any applicable regulations and guidance only to cover expenses as outlined in the bill.

*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 followed up on explaining next steps related to the recently established road district. Alex said this will help the Road Department gain additional revenue to conduct road work for the community. Many other townships in Ohio utilize the benefits of having a road district and Alex thanked Administrator Potts for working on this.

Alex moved for the following resolution to be read as follows:

**Resolution 20-121**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio Board of Trustees created a road district (resolution 2020-108) comprising all of the unincorporated areas of the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, due to creation of the Road District 2.24 additional inside mills has been available for use by the Road District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is of the opinion that is necessary for the operation of the Road District and in the best interest of the residents to authorize and/or request the levying of 2.34 inside mills available in the District from the Franklin County Budget Commission for the 2021 Franklin Township Tax Budget.

Fleshman said he is worried about the tax which comes with operating a road district. This will cost approximately seventy-five dollars a year, for a home valued at \$100,000.00 and this tax is permanent. Fleshman stated he is worried that taxpayers will not pass the upcoming fire levy if we add this tax.

Horn supports the idea of improving roads which ultimately improves the neighborhoods. This is an investment which we will see for generations to come, said Horn.



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

Fleshman reported that the Mon-E-Bak/Brown Road Sanitary Sewer Project was now in the Mon-E-Bak area and he anticipated the project to be on Lowell Drive in the coming weeks.

Horn had nothing to report.

Fiscal Officer, Mary Rhinehart had nothing to report.

Administrator Potts said that there is a pop-up COVID-19 testing location occurring tomorrow June 26, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ohio Department of Public Safety Office on W. Broad Street. No appointments are necessary.

Alex asked Potts if there were any comments from the public. Potts said there were no comments via teleconferencing, or social media but there was one comment stating that street lights and sidewalks would be welcomed in the Township.

With no further comments or discussion, Alex adjourned the meeting at 7:42 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*  
Mary Rhinehart, Fiscal Officer