

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

**Special Meeting**

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

**December 21, 2020**

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**Call Meeting to Order:**

Chairman Alex called the Special Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2020, via teleconference (ZOOM).

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

**Pledge of Allegiance:** led by Horn

*Alex made a motion to suspend the approval of any past meeting minutes. Fleshman seconded the motion. With no discussion a vote was taken as follows: Alex, yes; Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes. The motion was passed.*

**Purpose of the Meeting:** To consider the 2021 budget.

*Alex recommended the following resolution as written:*

**Resolution 2020-238**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the resolution to provide appropriations for the period commencing January 1, 2021, ending December 31, 2021.

Fleshman asked if there were any questions from the department heads related to the 2021 budget before it was put to a vote.

Horn commented that he has not had sufficient time himself to review and study the changes within the 2021 budget, such as line items, and appropriations. Horn says he could not explain to anyone what the changes are if he was asked and explained that he is not sure if he can make an accurate vote based on his understanding. Horn said he will have to put his trust in the fiscal officer when it comes to submitting the budget to the County Auditors. Horn said he can vote but it will be based on the facts previously explained by the fiscal officer.

Fleshman said he is very pleased with the 2021 budget after speaking with the fiscal officer.

Horn said he is not sure how to read the budget and needs to learn.

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

**Alex:**  YES/ NO

**Fleshman:**  YES/ NO

**Horn:**  YES/ NO

*Resolution passed.*

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Alex explained that the fiscal department had sent over a notice about an hour before this meeting saying that they needed some appropriations. Alex stated that this request is not germane to this meeting posting or agenda. Alex said that the fiscal officer informed him that if the board does not approve this they will be unable to process payroll. Alex said he would like to let the fiscal officer know that the board needs a twenty-four (24) hour notice. Requesting emergency meetings and last-minute changes are really hard to act on. The board is asking the fiscal officer to provide more time so the board can make confident decisions, and that the public can see that these items are being added to the agenda and the meeting notice. Continuing to be in violation of the Ohio Sunshine Law is something I am not comfortable doing, said Alex.

Alex asked the other board members if they would like to take up a motion today to do so, a vote is needed to amend the agenda and to allow this discussion to take place on the updated appropriation status.

Fleshman said the Board has been warned before about not having a twenty-four (24) hours' notice before acting. What would this look like if we scheduled a meeting for this topic tomorrow? Alex said that Administrator Potts was informed by the fiscal department that a twenty-four (24) hour notice is not good enough, that the action of the board is needed today even though the board only received a one (1) hour notice.

Fleshman said he would make the motion due to this being an emergency.

*Fleshman made a motion to amend the current agenda due to an emergency appropriation status approval needed to process payroll. Horn seconded the motion; with no further discussion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows:*

**Alex:**  YES/ NO

**Fleshman:**  YES/ NO

**Horn:**  YES/ NO

*Motion passed.*

Alex said that with the motion passed to amend the agenda, he would open the floor up to the fiscal officer.

Rhinehart said, the fiscal department is moving funds from other funds/debts services to the correct funds to process payroll. The fiscal officer apologized for the late notice but it was discovered this morning and was a surprise to the fiscal department as well, said Rhinehart.

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The Fiscal Officer recommended the following resolution:

## 2020-240

**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**, the Annual Appropriations Resolutions 2020-103 for the period from January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2020 needs amended.

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

**SECTION 1**, the amounts presented below are hereby appropriated.

<u>Fund/Program/Department</u>	<u>Current Appropriations</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Revised Appropriations</u>
<b>Emergency Medical Services</b>			
<b>Public Safety</b>			
Salaries	630,000	36,000	666,000
Other	618,700	9,000	627,700
Debt Service	78,700	(18,000)	60,700
Other Financing Uses	600	0	600
Total	<u>1,328,000</u>	<u>27,000</u>	<u>1,355,000</u>

*Alex accepted the motion, Fleshman seconded the Resolution, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows:*

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

*Resolution passed.*

### **Questions/Comments:**

Administrator Potts checked the chat room, email, social media and opened up the phone line and there were no comments from the audience.

Fleshman asked the fiscal officer what the exact overall revenue budget for 2021 is going to be as he was told the Township would be under \$10 million in 2021. Rhinehart said the Township does not have any grants secured at this time but there are funds expected from OBWC and possible additional CARES Act funding. It depends on when those funds arrive if the Township will reach or exceed the \$10 million mark, said Rhinehart. Fleshman said that as long as he has been a trustee the Township has been over \$10 million and was curious if the Township was going to meet that mark or not.

Rhinehart said she is doubtful that the funding will come in 2021, so we have to be planful to be below the \$10 million mark. Fleshman asked how close the Township is to meeting or exceeding this mark? Rhinehart said the current certificate of revenue for 2021 is at \$9.2 million. Rhinehart said that Wilcheck

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will be making final adjustments on the 2021 budget and to not plan for the budget to exceed \$10 million at this time. If additional revenue comes in during 2021, the budget will be amended but at this time we do not anticipate meeting or exceeding \$10 million, said Rhinehart.

**Adjournment:**

With no further comments/discussion Alex adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Signature on file with original  
Aryeh Alex, Chairman/Trustee

Signature on file with original  
John Fleshman, Vice-Chairman/Trustee

Signature on file with original  
Ralph Horn, Trustee

Signature on file with original  
Mary Rhinehart, Fiscal Officer

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Minutes were taken & typed by: R. Watkins  
Minutes approved by Board of Trustees on 01/14/2021