

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**Minutes of Franklin Township**

**Regular Meeting**

**Held at 2193 Frank Road**

**May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

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Chairman Horn called the regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 P.M. May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 2193 Frank Road.

Chairman Cook gave the welcome.

Pastor Womack led the township meeting in prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

ROLL CALL: John, yes, Don, yes, Ralph, yes.

No minutes to table or accept.

**Police Department:** Chief Smith: Welcomed three new officers from part time to full time status; Eric Ratliff, D. Polluck, and David Woodie. Also, Sergeant Todd Moore was welcomed.

**Special Speaker:** Franklin County Commissioner, Kevin Boyce: spoke on which departments and ways he has served Columbus Ohio over the past 16 years. Conversations were had between Fleshman and Boyce about the 18 records requests put in for the Sanitary Sewer projects in the past 2 years with no response, and Boyce committed to having a meeting to discuss this further. He also committed to having a meeting about the Economic Development of the JED.

Mr. Horn mentioned that he had known Mr. Boyce since he was a young man, and how he's always ready to work with him on whatever needed.

**Resident:** Robyn Watkins: Thanked Boyce for coming, stating that in all the time she's lived in the Township, which is her whole life, she has not known of a commissioner coming to the Township meeting.

Before reading the bills and payroll resolution, Fleshman mentioned issues with the Brosius bill: Mr. Cook had made multiple calls to Brosius about the JED, when Mr. Horn is the appointed contact. Mr. Fleshman doesn't believe the taxpayers should have to pay that portion of the bill. Month of April: 30 mins on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 20 mins on the 17<sup>th</sup>, 20 mins on the 24<sup>th</sup>, reviewing and advising on the JED.

Cook told Fleshman, if he disputed the bill to call Brosius to discuss it. Cook said he was not going to discuss or argue about this. Cook requested a copy of the last 2 years of bills from Brosius from Lisa Morris.

**Fleshman:** made a motion to pass Resolution 17-134, with the stipulation that we would continue to look into who's responsible for the calls from Cook to Brosius about the JED.

Seconded by Cook. Vote was taken: Cook yes, Fleshman yes, Horn yes.

## **RESOLUTION 17-134**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves bills in the amount of \$22,532.72 and payroll in the amount of \$144,792.85, from checks 42917 to 43015.

Cook motioned to pass the following resolutions:

## **RESOLUTION 17-135**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to hire Ryan Phillipi for season work within the road department.

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## RESOLUTION 17-136

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves intermittent FMLA leave for Melissa Schopp.

**Horn:** stated there would be a meeting tomorrow about this, and they would discuss it then.

**Cook:** stated there would be no meeting tomorrow because there is no sign posted.

**Fleshman:** asked Chief Smith to pull the tape, as he saw the sign when he arrived just before the meeting, and wanted to see who pulled it down off of the window.

**Horn:** motioned to table resolution 17-136 until after the meeting tomorrow.

Fleshman seconded. Vote was taken: John yes, Don no, Ralph yes.

## RESOLUTION 17-137

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to offer full time secretary position to Erin Crome effective May 25, 2017 contingent on a passing drug test result.

## RESOLUTION 17-138

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves FMLA leave for Firefighter Benjamin.

## RESOLUTION 17-139

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to put Dodge Durango on govdeals starting bid 100.00.

Seconded by Fleshman. Vote was taken: Fleshman yes, Cook yes, Horn yes.

**Road Department:** Jim Stevens: stated that we have a contract with ODOT to take delivery of 90% of our Contracted salt. We could only take delivery of 124 tons of what is on our contract. We have 78.3 tons of salt that we still need to take delivery of. We are discussing storing it with Cargill, but it will be \$12.00 per ton, bringing the cost to \$940.56. We have until the end of the month to make a decision.

Stevens also mentioned the hiring of seasonal help, and hoping to hire the help full time later on. He stated the budget looks great as of now.

**Horn:** stated an email was sent out a few weeks ago requesting a pay increase for Mr. Stevens. He's requesting an increase of \$3,000.00 annually. Made a resolution to pass 17-140 for the increase of Steven's pay.

## RESOLUTION 17-140

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to increase Jim Steven's pay \$3,000.00 annually.

**Trustee Fleshman seconded the Resolution, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Cook ( Y ), Fleshman ( Y ), Horn ( Y )**

Stevens discussed the big yellow trailer, and how he had posted it twice to sell on govdeals.com. He requested to be able to sell it to the closest bidder to \$3,000.00. He also requested to be able to sell the smaller trailer for a few hundred dollars outright.

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Don made a motion to allow the selling of both trailers.

## **RESOLUTION 17-141**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves to allow Jim Stevens to sell the Boaz trailer on govdeals.com to the closest bidder to \$3,000.00, and to sell the smaller trailer outright.

**Trustee Fleshman seconded the Resolution, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Cook ( Y ), Fleshman ( Y ), Horn ( Y )**

Don: mentioned a \$4,600.00 bill for the sewer on Harrisburg Pike, are we to pay that?

Stevens: stated a grant was applied for and granted for a little over \$900,000.00 to help with the cost of Storm Water improvements to widen Harrisburg Pike. The last Harrisburg Pike widening project ODOT put storm tiles that were too large into our 10 inch lines, causing flooding to some of the residents. They then fixed the problem by putting (3) 48 inch retention pipes underground. Mr. Cook and Mr. Stevens spoke with Ted Biedler with the Franklin County Engineers Office about the grant Invoice, in agreement that the Townships tax dollars should not have to cover any amount of this cost. The County has stepped in to cover our expenses. MORPSE sent the bill for \$4,600.00 for Administrative costs.

Don is to speak with the County, letting them know that we had the understanding that we were not to pay for any of this with taxpayers money.

Stevens: requested that the road crew be allowed to start their 4/10's beginning on Monday.

Don made a motion to allow the Road Department to begin their 4/10 hour shifts beginning on Monday.

John seconded. Vote taken, Cook yes, Fleshman yes, Horn yes.

**Building Department:** Chief Smith read in place of Melissa: Appraisals will be done on 3 houses within the next 14 days. 1248 Tedco, 1439 Little, and 1520 Eastfield Dr. The next step would be for the board to set the final asking price, and an auction date will be set. It will be posted on the website, in the local paper, and in our lobby.

Stevens: mentioned how Melissa had done an extremely great job with this project!

**Police Department:** Chief Smith: would like to start the 3 new hires at B-step. They are already trained, they possess a lot of their own equipment. It will be about \$1.00 more on the hour.

Cook: mentioned the levy, stating the officers were to start at a lower rate and get raises after 6 months.

Chief Smith: explained that they are still on the lower rate, and taking pay cuts to come work for the Township.

Fleshman: full time would be about \$19.00 an hour, and he stated that he was fine with that.

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Cook: does not agree with it.

Don made a motion to allow the 3 new hire officers to go to level B pay.

Fleshman seconded. Vote was taken, Cook yes, Fleshman yes, Horn yes.

## **RESOLUTION 17-142**

**BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves Officers Eric Ratliff, David Polluck, and David Woodie to be paid at the level B pay-scale.**

**Fire Department:** Chief James Welch: they are running into a lot of repairs with all of their vehicles. The roads are tearing up the vehicles. There's an acid, brine, that won't wash off.

Stevens: beet juice doesn't have the erosive component, but is \$2.00 per gallon verses the 12 cents per gallon of the brine. So, there isn't much that can be done.

Stevens: Jim and Welch are going to get prices to pave the small area in front of the pole barn, with the Boards approval.

Lisa: Awnings have been followed up on.

Chief Smith: by next pay period, we'll be pushing in 3<sup>rd</sup> shift. Fridays and Saturdays, we'll end at 11:00pm.

Resident: criminals will know that we don't have a 3<sup>rd</sup> shift on the weekend. Could we pay overtime for those two nights a week?

Smith: the weekends are usually very slow, with very little to no criminal activity. But, as we hire in new officers, those time slots will be filled as well.

Horn: stated that Chief Smith has done an outstanding job with not a lot of money. He's even switched his personal schedule around to work weekends, and most Chief's wouldn't do that.

Fleshman: stated that there was a sign on the front window. It shows on tape that Trustee Don Cook took the sign down just before the meeting. Fleshman asked Mr. Cook to step down from Chairman.

Cook: refused. He mentioned Horn sent an email went out last week stating he'd been talking to the attorney about the secretary, about her being on drugs, and asking what's going on with her and the Chief of Police. Horn then requested a meeting in that email, but it didn't get seconded. So no meeting was posted. After 7pm, Melissa received responses stating to post the sign. Fleshman requested for the meeting to be Friday at 1:00pm. Cook said he wouldn't be available for that time. Fleshman stated the meeting would happen at 1:00pm on Friday.

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Horn: stated when Cook sent the email, he sent it to his old email address, which he stated he felt was deceptive. Also, he stated that this information being spoken of right now shouldn't be said during this public meeting. It's about our employee. If he were the lady Cook was trying to defend, he'd be offended that Cook brought this up in a public meeting.

Conversation was had between the three trustees about Don telling Melissa not to put the sign up. She had informed him that she already had 2 trustees tell her to post the sign. Fleshman stated once Cook took the sign down, he was in violation of the "ethics" principal. Horn asked Cook if he was going to "step down" from Chairman. Cook said no. Fleshman asked Chief Smith to collect the sign from Cook to be reposted. Cook mentioned that the Township has never had meetings where all three trustees were not present, unless one was on vacation, and that trustee still knew the meeting was going on.

Cook: moving on. He stated he had come in the other day and noticed an employee had borrowed a trailer. The person said they had 2 trustees who gave their "o.k." In the ORC, Township employees or Officials may not borrow any Township's tools or equipment of any kind. Horn questioned what that had to do with this meeting.

Cook to Lisa: he stated she needed to pay the \$38.00 to get the lien removed off of the property at 2193 Frank Rd. Lisa responded that she would get the check and deliver it to them.

Horn: JED update: not much of an update, he stated. We are "chasing" the City Council. He stated the conversation with Kevin Boyce and the City Council will help in the matter.

Chief Welch: he stated that we had submitted a contract to the city about 3 months ago. The ball is in their court. This is on a time limit, and the time is coming close. If we can come up with a deal with the Casino, and the City of Columbus will along with it, and we get enough people signing onto the JED, we will be guaranteed annexation for 50 years. If this doesn't go through, there are other options. Businesses will be double taxed.

Trash contract: working on for 3 months. Spoke with 3 other companies other than local waste. No one really wants to touch it. SWACO has Jackson, Urban Crest, and Grove City. There is a process. We have to get their authorization to "opt in". In this process, we will have a deduction in the trash bill. We will save about \$4 a month. Seniors will also receive 10% per month. They will offer a red recycling bin for no cost. Local will stay as it is until January 1<sup>st</sup>. Non payers: we would pay it, and bill it to their taxes. Fleshman mentioned that we would also be adding a fee to their taxes, along with the cost for their trash removal. He also stated the bill would be going to the homeowners, not the renters.

Cook brought up the topic of Fleshman hiring an attorney to fight having to pay Local Waste. Fleshman agreed he did get an attorney. He didn't think it was right that he, as a resident, couldn't choose his own trash provider. Cook stated he had asked everyone to send him their issues with

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Local Waste, and he would have the attorney rewrite the contract and put it out for renegotiation. Fleshman stated we should look at other Townships, and compare “apples to apples”.

Al Borderline: spoke on how he typed up documents to make the water issue a “State issue”. Mentioning that the City is renegeing on a contract and it’s hurt all of the Townships financially and economically. That makes it a “State” issue. The first contract started in 1953, ended in 1993. Thereafter, it goes every 3 years, and takes 3 years notice to end completely.

Fleshman stated that the Casino should never have been annexed into the City, and that the property the old Harmon Elementary school sat on, had been annexed as well.

Chairman Cook made a motion with no further business to discuss to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Fleshman seconded the motion. Vote taken: Fleshman, yes, Horn, yes, Cook, yes. The meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm

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Don Cook, Chairman

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John Fleshman, Vice-Chairman

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Ralph Horn, Trustee

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Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer