

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Regular Meeting

Held at 2193 Frank Road

August 23, 2018

Chairman Horn called the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on August 23, 2018, at 2193 Frank Road.

Chairman Horn gave the welcome.

Opening Prayer:

Pastor Snodgrass, Fire Department Chaplain, led the opening prayer.

Chairman Horn led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Alex made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 9, 2018, a Special Meeting on August 9, 2018, and a Special Meeting on August 15, 2018. Fleshman seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Horn introduced Larry Lehring from Plaza Properties as a guest speaker. Mr. Lehring was excited to announce the opening of West Market Place Dining and Carry Out, a new business moving into the Township. Mr. Lehring is requesting Board approval to transfer a D1, D2, and D3 (or D5) liquor license from the City of Columbus to Franklin Township to allow for beer and wine carry out and on premise of the new venue.

Fleshman made a motion to approve the support the transfer of a D1, D2, and D3 (or D5) liquor license from the City of Columbus. The license will be operated under the name of West Market Place Dining and Carry Out located at 4099 W. Broad Street in the Hollywood Plaza. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Resolution 18-133

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves payroll dated August 23, 2018 in the amount of \$146,715.34 and bills dated August 23, 2018 in the amount of \$118,102.04, for a total of \$264,817.38. From check number 47648 to check number 47774.

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Resolution 18-132

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the Fiscal Officer to move \$20,000.00 from the general fund to the Permissible Vehicle Tax line item for bills and payroll.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Alex seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, no; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Resolution 18-131

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to increase the rate of Robyn Watkins pay by \$2.00 an hour. The new rate of pay was effective on August 22, 2018, the first day of the next pay period.

Fleshman moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Horn seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Resolution 18-134

(Replaces Res# 17-358)

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves to pay for overtime/special duty of police officers from the general fund. Not to exceed (24) twenty-four hours in one week (7 days). Chief will provide updates to the Board to evaluate the needs of special duty hours as needed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Chief Byron Smith began by sharing with the Board his recommendation for how the revenue for the traffic cameras should be distributed. He recommends 60% go to the police department, 10% go to the Road Department, 28% go to the general fund and 2% go to a newly established community scholarship fund.

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Resolution 18-135

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the following distribution of traffic camera revenue:

**60% Police Department
28% General Fund**

**10% Road Department
2% Community Scholarship Fund**

Fleshman made a motion to allow the Police Chief to reach out to the Township attorney as our third-party moderator for potential traffic hearings from traffic camera violation appeals. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Horn asked if there were any questions from the audience for the Police Chief.

Audience member Tim Chaney asked how fast in speed must a motorist be traveling before a citation is warranted. Chief Smith said a motorist must be traveling 10 miles per hour over the posted speed limit with no other violations for a citation to be generated.

Mr. Chaney asked the police chief the status on the No through Truck signs to be erected in the Broadlawn neighborhood. The Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens replied by stating that he will be asking the Board of Trustees tonight for a resolution to erect the signs. Once a resolution is approved then the public notification postings must be posted for (30) thirty days before signs can be permanently installed.

Audience member Tom Lowe asked if the minimum 10 miles per hour over the speed limit could be lowered especially with school buses. Chief Smith stated that each officer has the right to use their judgement and discretion at any time no matter the speed traveled.

Mr. Lowe continued by asking the Board if there was anything they could do to have the traffic light returned back to N. Hague Avenue and El Paso Drive. Alex asked Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens to pursue the appeal petition to the Franklin County Engineer's Office to return traffic light back to N. Hague and El Paso Drive.

The Board ensured the audience those motorists who abuse school zone/bus laws will be handled expeditiously outside of the speed violation.

With no further questions from the audience Horn proceeded to the Fire Department.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Chief Jim Welch asked the Board for approval to purchase (3) three laptop computers for EMS.

Alex moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Horn seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Resolution 18-136

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the fire chief to purchase (3) three laptop computers not to exceed \$4,500.00.

Assistant Fire Chief, Charles Adams shared with the Board that fire department's "Crib Program" is in full operation. The program is designed that when/if a fire fighters discovers a home with a child (ren) where a crib is needed; the fire department will provide a crib at no cost to the family. They are accepting donations of new cribs only to eliminate any liability on the Township.

Chief Adams continued by saying that the Township has received another generous donation of (60) sixty doses of narcan from Franklin County Public Health.

Alex asked the fire and police chief if any of their bulletproof vests or other safety equipment has expired or is soon to expire. Chief Smith indicated that a grant was submitted and approved for the last (5) five hires within the police department so their equipment is in good shape. Chief Adams said that funding is secured in the fire department to purchase vests and he is working with the City of Columbus to obtain standard specs for purchase vests.

Alex encouraged each department head to provide the Board with an update on the status of their safety equipment and what items are in need of repair or replacement. Alex shared that he wants to ensure that none of our safety equipment places any Township employee at risks.

With no questions from the audience Horn proceeded to the Road Department.

ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens shared with the Board the *Public Involvement Meeting* scheduled for Wednesday, August 29, 2018 related to the proposed rebuilding and improvements on the roads within Havenwood Apartments. Stevens shared that there will be a grant opportunity with this project and he would like to ask the Board if he can move forward with the grant application and submission.

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Alex moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Fleshman seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Resolution 18-136

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the road superintendent to complete and submit the grant application related to the Havenwood Apartment paving project.

Stevens announced that effective September 18, 2018, Harold Aldrich will complete his final day of employment with the Township as he is retiring after 38 years of service with the Road Department.

Horn made a motion to accept the written resignation from Harold Aldrich effective at the end of his work day on September 18, 2018. Fleshman seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Stevens asked the Board for a series of resolutions to erect No through Truck signs in the Broadlawn neighborhood.

Alex moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Fleshman seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Resolution 18-138

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the road superintendent to erect a No through Truck sign at the corner of W. Broad Street and Volney Avenue following a 30 day public notification.

Alex moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Fleshman seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Resolution 18-139

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the road superintendent to erect a No through Truck sign at the corner of W. Broad Street and Florence Avenue following a 30 day public notification.

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Alex moved for the adoption of the following resolution. Fleshman seconded the motion, the roll was called for its adoption and the vote was as follows: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Resolution 18-140

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio that the Board approves the road superintendent to erect a No through Truck sign at the corner of W. Broad Street and Coolidge Avenue following a 30 day public notification.

Horn asked if there were any questions from the audience for the Road Department.

Mike Blevins from the audience thanked Jim Stevens for his efforts to resolve the issue of the metal plate at the corner of Harrisburg Pike and Ransburg Avenue. Blevins also inquired about the summer youth employment program that Stevens implemented in 2018 with the Road Department and if this program would continue in 2019. Stevens shared that he would be assessing the summer youth employment program to determine if it is worth proceeding forward with in 2019.

Mary Niemeyer of the audience reported that illegal dumping is occurring in the alley behind her home. Alex suggested that Ms. Niemeyer report illegal dumping to the Franklin County Environmental Tasks Force.

Robbyne Chaney asked if the Township would be able to erect signs with flashing lights to assist motorists similar to existing signs in the area. Horn indicated those are not Township signs that the County erected the signs with lighting. Ms. Chaney also asked as to why Havenwood Apartments are getting sidewalks when other neighborhoods in the Township do not have sidewalks. Stevens shared that the sidewalks for Havenwood Apartments are outlined in the grant proposal and that currently they do have paved pathways for pedestrian traffic and the sidewalks would be an upgrade from the existing pathways and would increase pedestrian safety.

With no further questions from the audience Horn proceeded to the Fiscal Department.

FISCAL DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins distributed copies of the current Township public records policy as well as a template policy provided by the Attorney General's Office.

Alex recommended the Township adopt the Attorney General's Office once the Township updates their record retention policy to be included in the public records policy. Ms. Watkins agreed to work with the chairman on the record retention policy.

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Ms. Watkins asked the Board how to proceed with the check for Rodgers Technologies which she was asked to hold at the last Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on August 9, 2018. Ms. Watkins shared with the Board that Mr. Rodgers was unable to provide a work order for the initial installation of the camera in the upstairs of 1963 Harrisburg Pike. The Township did pay Mr. Rodgers even though a work order was not provided. The check which is being held is for the same camera which was installed upstairs then was moved to the front porch. The Township is paying twice for the same equipment when it was initially installed upstairs with no work order. Horn instructed Ms. Watkins to hold the check until he is able to speak to Mr. Rodgers and gain clarity.

Fleshman made the following motion allowing the Fiscal Department to hold the existing check for Rodgers Technologies (warrant #47620) until further notice from the Board of Trustees. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Ms. Watkins discussed with the Board recent purchases which have been made where the Township incurred sales tax. Ms. Watkins reminded the Board that the Township is exempt from paying sales tax.

Alex made the following motion that no Township employee shall make purchases which incur sales tax. Fleshman seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Alex made the following motion that any Township employee who makes a purchase which incurs sales tax must attempt to reimburse the Township for the sale tax charges. Fleshman seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Alex made the following motion that the Township does not support future purchases at Walmart pending legal objection from legal counsel. Fleshman seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

The Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens shared how the Road Department utilizes Walmart to purchase tee-shirts and work related clothing items due to the best price in the industry. The Board agreed that they would refer to legal counsel for their guidance. Robbyne Chaney, of the audience recommended the Township research retail outlets who price-match.

Ms. Watkins distributed written language on a new bill being represented at the State House related to local government credit card policies. Ms. Watkins reminded the Board that the Township will need to establish a credit card policy by November 2, 2018. At that time, the Township can work with PNC Bank to transfer from debit cards to credit cards for more efficient purchasing practices.

With no questions from the audience Horn proceeded to the Building Department.

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BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Administrative Coordinator, Jessica Rice distributed an information and pricing sheet for a new telephone headset for the Township secretary. Ms. Rice asked the Board for a resolution to purchase the headset.

The Board asked Ms. Rice what was wrong with the existing headset which was just recently purchased. Ms. Rice explained that the existing headset does not work on the new phones.

Fleshman made the following motion to table the approval of purchasing a new headset for the Township secretary until next meeting. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Ms. Rice distributed an extensive list of properties from the Central Ohio Community Improvement Council (COCIC) which are available for the Township to pursue based on tax liens on the properties.

Fleshman made the following motion extend advance purchase with COCIC to move forward with properties with tax liens. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes.

Ms. Rice distributed photos of a property located at 3411 Clime Road. Ms. Rice indicated that the Township is unable to utilize House Bill 50 to mow the grass due to secured fencing in the backyard. The Board agreed that the Franklin County Public Health will be notified as well as other appropriate County agencies.

With no questions from the audience Horn proceeded to Trustee Reports.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Chairman, Ralph Horn wanted to remind everyone of the ground breaking ceremony scheduled for September 5, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. for the new Franklin County Morgue and Forensic Science Center.

Janet Ward from the audience asked why this new center was annexed into the City of Columbus. The Board shared that unfortunately a member of the prior Board of Trustees attended the preliminary meetings related to the Center but never shared those interactions with other members of the Board. The current Board's involvement came in a little late in the planning process so relationships are being built now between the Township and County leader involved in the new Center. The Board expressed their desire to embrace the new Center and the potential for economic development in the Township due to their presence.

Horn continued by presenting to the Board his concerns about the expenses to operate 1963 Harrisburg Pike (white house).

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Horn made the following motion moving the Fiscal Office back to 2193 Frank Road. Fleshman recommended this motion be tabled until further discussion is conducted. Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer asked for specifics related to the expense. The motion was not seconded. A vote was not taken. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Alex made the following motion to table the discussion about moving the Fiscal Office back to 2193 Frank Road until all impacted departments are made aware and further discussion takes place. Fleshman seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, no; Alex, yes.

Vice-Chairman Alex shared that the Township police and fire departments were involved in extensive training by the Franklin County Environmental Crime Task Force. Each department was provided training on what to look for related to environmental crimes and how to reports such crimes.

Alex also reminded the audience that if they witness or discover illegal dumping or an environmental crime to report the incident either by telephone at 614-871-5322 or online at www.itsacrime.org.

Horn asked Alex if he had an update from the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) related to a future Township trash consortium. Alex indicated this information was under review with the Attorney General's Office.

Trustee Fleshman provided an update on the Township logo project. Fleshman said he has reached out to Franklin Heights High School and is waiting for a call back from the principal. The goal is for the Township to partner with Franklin Heights High School to create a new Township logo. Once contact is made between the Township and the school more specifics on the project will be established.

Horn asked if there were any questions from the audience.

Audience member Mike Blevins informed the Board that when he called the main line (614-279-9411) and no one answers the automated systems instructs the caller to push various numbers to reach specific departments and/or individual Township staff. Mr. Blevins wanted the Board to know that "Option 6 – Board of Trustees" does not work. Fleshman asked Ms. Rice to ensure that this greeting is removed from the phone system.

Audience member Tim Chaney welcomed the members of the Mon-E-Bak/El Paso Drive Block Watch to the Broadlawn Block Watch. Mr. Chaney also shared that the Broadlawn Block Watch is moving their September meeting to September 26th. The move is due a series of special guests who will be attending the meeting such as the Township, City of Columbus and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Community Liaisons, State Representative Adam Miller and the Sheriff Baldwin.

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Horn made a motion with no further questions from the audience and no other business to discuss to adjourn the meeting. Alex seconded the motion. A vote was taken: Fleshman, yes; Horn, yes; Alex, yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Signature on file with original

Ralph Horn, Chairman

Signature on file with original

Aryeh Alex, Vice-Chairman

Abstained from voting and signing minutes

John Fleshman, Trustee

Signature on file with original

Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer or
Robyn Watkins, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Minutes were taken and typed by: Robyn Watkins
Minutes approved by Board of Trustees on 9/20/18