

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio

Regular Meeting

Held at 2193 Frank Road

June 15, 2023

Chairman Fleshman called the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at approximately 12:00 P.M.

Vice-Chairman Leezer led the opening prayer.

Resident Jann Legge of Brownleaf Road led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Old Business:

Meeting minutes to be approved: 4/20/23 Special Meeting, 5/23/23 Special Meeting, 05/23/23 Regular Meeting, and 06/01/23 Regular Meeting.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion to accept the 04/20/23 Special Meeting minutes and the 06/01/23 Regular Meeting minutes, as written.

Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion to accept the 05/23/23 Special Meeting minutes and the 05/23/23 Regular Meeting minutes, as written.

Trustee Horn seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Guest Speaker:

Patty Spencer, Southwest Area Commission (SWAC), Zoning Chair

Ms. Spencer shared that the SWAC had met with the owners of 771 Harrisburg Pike. She explained that the SWAC fully supports its future redevelopment plans on this site. Ms. Spencer also requested that she be made aware of the date the Township will meet with the property owners so she can attend to show her support.

Ms. Spencer gave the Township Chief of Police information on a planned health fair in the area. She hopes the Chief can assist her and the commission in finding a location for the fair such as the school in the Central Point Shopping Center.

Ms. Spencer provided information about free leisure cards distributed by the Columbus Public Libraries, suitable for various summer activities through September 4, 2023. She provided an informational hand-out created by the City of Columbus explaining the various area commissions

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

and their purpose. In closing, she gave the Township Board of Trustees a copy of the annual report from Maryellen O’Shaughnessy’s office.

Chairman Fleshman asked the audience members if they had questions for Ms. Spencer.

Mike Blevins of Ransburg Avenue asked Ms. Spencer if the information she is distributing today is the same provided if someone attended a SWAC meeting. Ms. Spencer replied that this is the same information related to the Township but that much more information is provided during a SWAC meeting.

Chairman Fleshman said that when he attended a SWAC meeting, more information was provided, and the information she provided today only scratches the surface.

Trustee Horn explained that he served as a member of the SWAC for twelve (12) years and shared that much good comes out of their work in future area planning.

With no further questions or comments, Chairman Fleshman thanked Ms. Spencer.

New Business: Police Department

Police Chief Byron Smith

Chief Smith reported the following stats from May 2023, totaling 1005 runs dispatched:

Number of Calls	Event	Number of Calls	Event
20	Assist to Others	27	Injury Accidents
4	Burglary	11	Gun Run
10	Burglary in Progress	1	Knife Run
1	Forgery	24	Unknown Complaints
1	Dog Bite	2	Sex Offense
3	Animal Complaints	2	Robbery
26	Misc. Contacts	5	Shooting
42	Non-Injury Crash	16	Shots Fired
47	Domestics	19	Stolen Vehicles
2	Neighbor Complaints	3	Recovered Vehicles
5	Drunk	8	Suicide Attempts
9	DUI	172	Suspicious Persons
7	Fights	15	Suspicious Vehicles
3	Fires	5	Vandalism
61	Back-up to Medic	2	Drug Complaints
11	Hit Skips	14	Threats
21	Juvenile Complaint	10	Mental Health
28	Theft	94	Alarm Drops
7	Theft in Progress	8	Assaults
4	Missing Person	19	Disable Vehicles
124	Traffic Offenses		
97	Misc. Complaints		

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Chairman Fleshman asked Chief Smith to explain what alarm drops and burglary in progress meant. Chief Smith explained that alarm drops combine residential homes and businesses within the Township. When a burglary in progress is called into dispatch, it typically occurs by the time the officer arrives; it all depends on how the information is communicated during the call, explained Chief Smith.

Vice-Chairman Leezer encouraged everyone to look at their bi-annual Franklin Township newsletter, which provides information to the police department's website and social media page.

Trustee Horn asked Chief Smith about the meat and other items needed for National Night Out. Chief Smith said he anticipates that Pastor Womack of Central Baptist Church will schedule another meeting to discuss the needs of National Night Out.

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Deputy Hamilton was not present to provide a report.

New Business: Fire Department

Fire Chief Robert (Bob) Arnold had nothing to report.

New Business: Road Department

Road Superintendent, Jim Stevens, was excused from the meeting and left nothing to report.

New Business: Fiscal Department

Assistant Fiscal Officer Robyn Watkins read a request for a Motion for bills and payroll covering 06/02/23 – 06/15/23, totaling \$418,592.60.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Chairman Fleshman asked the Assistant Fiscal Officer about a line item in the most recent financials emailed to the trustees from Jeff Wilcheck. The Assistant Fiscal Officer said she did not receive the same email the trustees did and was not sure which report Chairman Fleshman was referring to. Vice-Chairman Leezer confirmed that he received no financial reports from Jeff Wilcheck recently.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion requiring all emails of financial documents/budgets or any correspondence from Jeff Wilcheck that are communicated to the Board of Trustees to include Administrator Mazer and all Fiscal Department staff.

Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

New Business: Administrator

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-091** regarding the obligations approved by the Township Administrator.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-092** regarding the Administrator’s determination of Departmental Operations as outlined in the Township’s Policy and Procedural Handbook.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-093** regarding the approval of 80 hours of injury leave for Tim Myers for 06/07/23-06/20/23, per contract.

Chairman Fleshman asked Administrator Mazer if all necessary documentation was on file for this work-related injury. Administrator Mazer confirmed.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-094** regarding the approval of 136 hours of injury leave for David Ratliff from 05/15/23-06/06/23, per MOU.

Chairman Fleshman asked Administrator Mazer if all necessary documentation was on file for this work-related injury. Administrator Mazer confirmed that all required information was received today.

Chairman Leezer asked Chief Smith if he had submitted the previously requested body camera footage to the Board of Trustees. Chief Smith said he submitted the footage to Administrator Mazer.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-095** regarding the approval of 80 hours of injury leave for David Ratliff from 06/07/23-06/20/23, per MOU.

Chairman Fleshman asked Administrator Mazer if all necessary documentation was on file for this work-related injury. Administrator Mazer said he finally received the necessary information for this case today.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-096** declaring motor vehicle(s) located at 1850 Jackson Road, Parcel# 140-000362-000, a junk vehicle and providing for its removal pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 505.871.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-097** declaring motor vehicle(s) located at 759 Brown Road, Parcel# 140-0002913-000, a junk vehicle and providing for its removal pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 505.871.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-098** declaring motor vehicle(s) located at 1768 Ransburg Avenue, Parcel# 140-0005109-00, a junk vehicle providing for its removal pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 505.871.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-099** declaring motor vehicle(s) located at 917 Brown Road, Parcel# 140-0000607-00, a junk vehicle providing for its removal pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 505.871.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-100** declaring motor vehicle(s) located at 1797 Jackson Road, Parcel# 140-0000437-00, a junk vehicle providing for its removal pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 505.871.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Administrator Mazer presented **Resolution 2023-101** declaring motor vehicle(s) located at 1863 Jackson Road, Parcel# 140-000115-00, a junk vehicle providing for its removal pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 505.871.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion for approval. Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Chairman Fleshman asked Administrator Mazer what happens next after the property owner is given notification from the Township. If the Township must remove the vehicle, the cost will be added as a tax duplicate to the property, Administrator Mazer replied. Chairman Fleshman expressed his delight in this process, saying, “It’s been OK for too long. We don’t have to look at these vehicles anymore.”

Administrator Mazer explained that each property owner will receive a certified letter to the address, and a notice will be placed on the vehicle. The owner will have fourteen (14) days to

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

remove or place the vehicle in a covered structure. Administrator Mazer asked Administrative Assistant Nicole Randazzio to explain how to report a blighted home or abandoned or disabled inoperable vehicle. Ms. Randazzio explained that the Township has a *Request to Address* online form on their website and encouraged everyone to use it when reporting as this system is how the issues are tracked.

Vice-Chairman Leezer asked Ms. Randazzio to include this information on Facebook and in the next edition of the Township newsletter.

Chairman Fleshman said the Board had accomplished so much in this meeting.

Chairman Fleshman asked the audience if they had any questions about these resolutions.

Patty Spencer of the SWAC asked Administrator Mazer, unrelated to the resolutions if he would be willing to meet with the owners of 771 Harrisburg Pike and their attorney. Administrator Mazer said the owners would have to meet with the Board and that he had previously met with these individuals.

Chairman Fleshman made a motion to cancel the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees scheduled for June 29, 2023, at noon.

Vice-Chairman Leezer seconded the motion.

Roll Call: John (Chairman Fleshman)- yes, Jim (Vice-Chairman Leezer)- yes, Ralph (Trustee Horn) – yes.

Trustee Comments/Notes:

Chairman Fleshman had no comment.

Vice-Chairman Leezer had no comment.

Trustee Horn welcomed long-time resident Mary Neymeyer of Brown Road back to the meetings. Trustee Horn explained that Ms. Nemeyer has been dealing with squatters in a vacant house near her home for several years. Trustee Horn asked Ms. Neymeyer if she knew the address of the property. Ms. Neymeyer said she believed the address to be 1239 Brown Road and that the police were aware of the issues that have stemmed from this property.

Trustee Horn discussed another vacant property located near Belmead Avenue and Brown Road. In closing, Trustee Horn expressed his concern that the property at 1053 Brown Road has not been thoroughly cleaned up.

Questions from the Audience:

Jann Legge of Brownleaf Avenue asked the Board what they do if something comes up from now and the July 13th meeting since the June 29th meeting was canceled. Chairman Fleshman said the Board still conducts business as usual and will stop into the office to sign documents, etc.

Ms. Legge reminded the Board of her recently discussed concerns. Chairman Fleshman advised Ms. Legge to complete a *Request to Address* form and submit it to Ms. Randazzio to process. Chief Smith commented that Franklin County Zoning is looking into this property.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mike Blevins of Ransburg Avenue thanked the Township staff for putting the meeting agenda back on Facebook. Mr. Blevins asked if all shifts within the police department were covered due to the number of staff members on injury leave. Mr. Blevins' final request was for an update on the appointment status of a new Fiscal Officer and if the Township has incurred any late fees or penalties due to intermittent vacancy within the Fiscal Officer position.

Chairman Fleshman deferred Mr. Blevin's question related to the police department to the police chief. Chief Smith replied, ensuring all shifts were currently covered. Administrator Mazer explained the status of the Fiscal Officer position. The Assistant Fiscal Officer shared that the Township has faced penalties and late fees due to lacking a dedicated Fiscal Officer. I am the only person who can process day-to-day operations such as bills and payroll. When I take a vacation or have an unexpectant absence such as COVID, obligations are not getting paid.

With no further questions or comments, Chairman Fleshman adjourned the meeting at 1:27 P.M.

Chairman John Fleshman

Vice Chairman James Leezer

Trustee Ralph Horn

Fiscal Department

Audio of meeting available by public records request

Full resolutions available by record request