

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Franklin Township Trustees Special

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held May 27, 2014

The Franklin Township Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 6 p.m. to discuss the recent fire study conducted by University of Dayton Grad Student, Nick Hosford. Trustee Ruppert, Trustee Sample, Trustee Callahan, and Fiscal Officer Fromeyer were all present.

Additionally, Office Manager Traci Stivers, Chief Bishop, Assistant Chief Daly, Firefighter Jennings, Firefighter Perry, Firefighter Turner and Firefighter Hurley were present.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Ruppert explained that the purpose of this meeting was to ask questions regarding the fire study report that Mr. Hosford presented on April 23, 2014.

Mr. Hosford gave a brief overview of his report, for those that had not read the report. He stated that the key concept was to look at how the township is currently providing emergency services and to offer recommendations on what he believes would be beneficial.

Mr. Ruppert interjected that this study did not just happen out of the blue. The subject of emergency services has come up numerous times over the years, but never has it been resolved or fully researched.

Mr. Sample stated that his understanding of Mr. Hosford's report was that JEMS, Franklin Township Fire Department & Carlisle Fire Department are all somewhat limited and that Mr. Hosford's recommendation is that those three agencies partner together to put together a system that will provide a higher level of service to the residents. Mr. Hosford confirmed that Mr. Sample's understanding is correct.

Mr. Hosford said that there are a lot of dedicated individuals that have made the three organizations, Carlisle Fire, Franklin Township Fire and JEMS, what they are. Each organization does have its strengths. However, he believes we can provide a better comprehensive service if we work together.

Mr. Hosford said that many of the deficiencies that were noted for both Carlisle & Franklin Township Fire Departments were slow response times because Franklin Township & Carlisle are all volunteer departments, much of the response time is the time volunteers spend just getting to the fire house.

Mrs. Callahan mentioned that the study didn't specifically talk about the City of Middletown. She stated that a big portion of our township is in Middletown. Her concern is that when Franklin – Trenton Road floods, like it does many times a year, that the residents on the Twin Creek side of the township do not have appropriate emergency services available. The volunteers from Station 20 would respond, but they would be alone. Any other responding agency would have to go through Carlisle or Middletown to get to those residents. Madison Township could be called, but they stay busy with their own calls. Chief Riddiough offered that it has been his experience that it's often quicker to call a staffed department to come from farther away, than it is to call Madison Township. Mr. Hosford stated that he did not include Middletown because the City of Middletown is currently laying off numerous emergency services personnel. Middletown is key to any kind of comprehensive response, such as a structure fire, where many firefighters are needed. Middletown will often be able to get a second engine to the scene of a fire before Franklin Township can get a second engine on scene, because of the distance.

Franklin Township has many other departments that offer assistance, however the problem lies in the fact that they are all volunteer departments and they face the same challenges with response times that Franklin & Carlisle face. Whereas, the staffed stations are immediately on the apparatus and responding to the scene. On average, those staffed agencies will arrive on scene 4 – 5 minutes quicker than a volunteer station.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Franklin Township Trustees Special

Minutes of

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held May 27, 2014

Mr. Ruppert read from the report "The industry standard for effective emergency response for fire and medical emergencies is 5 minutes and 20 seconds following dispatch for suburban communities such as this. The time standard is based on 1 minute 20 seconds for turnout time and 4 minutes travel." Mr. Ruppert asked Mr. Hosford if that was for a combined fire & EMS department or just fire. Mr. Hosford said it was the same regardless. From an EMS standpoint, clinical brain death happens after 4-5 minutes with no oxygen. If we cannot get someone on scene within 4-6 minutes the likelihood of survival is significantly reduced. On the fire side of things, response time is equally important both for property conservation and the survivability if someone is inside the home.

Mr. Ruppert stated that one very difficult decision that the citizens will have to make is as to what level of service they can pay for and want to pay for. Mr. Ruppert said he believes that you cannot put a value on a human life, but isn't sure how we can convince our residents that it's worth paying for when we didn't have a single structure fire in 2013. Mr. Ruppert asked if there was actually data that showed that a quicker response time translated into more saved homes, or more saved lives. Mr. Hosford likened it to homeowners insurance. The majority of people will never use it, but they have it because they do not want to take the risk of what may happen without it. Mr. Hosford said there are so many variables that the data that Mr. Ruppert is asking about would be overwhelming. It would vary on the method of construction, construction materials, weather conditions, the community, the capabilities, the water supply and so much more. Mr. Hosford agreed that the residents will need to be educated on fire services. That many people do not think about the capabilities of their fire department any farther than "If I have a fire, I'll call 911 and the fire department will show up." Citizens do not know about response times, training, etc.

Mrs. Callahan asked when we have a situation like a car in the river or a train de-railment, who goes? Is it the fire department or EMS that gets dispatched? Chief Bishop said that if it's a rescue mission, the fire department goes. Our fire department does a lot more than just put out fires. Mr. Hosford said that the fire department should be dispatched to any emergency that is not criminal in nature.

Mr. Hosford said a big part of our challenges are that when a firefighter arrives on a scene that other than CPR, our firefighter cannot help an injured person, even if he or she has the appropriate training. The same applies in the other direction. If a medic shows up to a structure fire, they cannot help the firefighters even if they have the appropriate training. This is where integrating Fire & EMS would be beneficial. In order for our firefighters to help medically and use the skills that they possess, the township would have to hire a medical director.

Mr. Ruppert said that in order for the township to be effective and move forward, we need the expertise of someone that is familiar with both fire & EMS. That in years past, there have been requests for levies but there has been no strategic planning. Mr. Ruppert stated that none of the trustees are experts on fire, so they need the JEMS organization as well as the fire department to provide them with more information.

Assistant Chief Daly asked if there was any reason why the fire department couldn't have a medical director? Mr. Hosford said no, there is no reason. That the fire department could be providing medical care in a month if a medical director were hired.

There was discussion about the way things used to be in the 70's and 80's. Mr. Daly said that the fire and EMS used to be integrated.

Mrs. Callahan asked if the medical director position was a paid position. Mr. Hosford said that until he began doing this study, he had not known it to be paid. However, JEMS does pay their medical director.

Mr. Ruppert said he didn't think there was any question about the need to update our facilities and equipment. However, if we are talking about consolidation, even if we combined Franklin Township Fire, Carlisle Fire & JEMS budgets, we would still be \$750,000.00 shy of what the City of Franklin's budget is for their fire and EMS service. If we talk about renewing a levy or bringing the collection up, we need to consider that it would be about 33 square miles, in terms of updating or consolidating facilities. The City of Franklin is 9 square miles, making it much easier for them to do.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Franklin Township Trustees Special

Minutes of

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held May 27, 2014

Mr. Hosford said that our apparatus are all in very good condition, if we chose to consolidate, there is much more apparatus than what we actually need. He thinks the biggest cost would be the staffing. There are some funding challenges no matter what avenue we pursue.

Mr. Ruppert said he thinks the next step is to do more studies on the feasibility of updating our facilities, consolidating, and working with Carlisle.

Mrs. Callahan asked 'If we put a levy on the ballot, would residents of Middletown who are serviced by Middletown, be able to vote on it?' Mr. Ruppert stated he did not believe that to be true.

Mr. Sample asked Mr. Hosford if he would be willing to continue to help us as we move along. Mr. Hosford said he would be willing to help if it can be worked out with his employer. Mr. Ruppert stated that he would draft a letter to the City of Kettering Division of Fire asking for Mr. Hosford's assistance.

Mr. Sample made a motion to appoint Scot Fromeyer, Chief Bishop, Chief Wyatt and Chief Riddiough to an Emergency Services Task Force to further the research.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Sample – Yes
Mrs. Callahan – Yes
Mr. Ruppert – Yes Motion carried.

Mrs. Callahan made a motion to adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

Mr. Sample seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Callahan – Yes
Mr. Sample – Yes
Mr. Ruppert – Yes Motion carried.



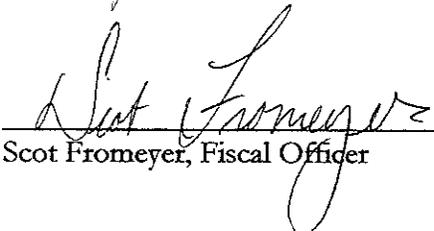
Ronald Ruppert, President



Beth Callahan, Vice President



Gregory Sample, Trustee



Scot Fromeyer, Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held _____

20 _____