

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Franklin Township Trustees

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held March 9, 2016

The Franklin Township Trustees held a regularly scheduled meeting on March 9th at 6 p.m. Trustee Ruppert, Trustee Morris, Trustee Callahan, Fiscal Officer Fromeyer, Administrator Stivers, Road Superintendent Rose and Cemetery Superintendent Steve Bishop were all in attendance.

The Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 09, 2016 meeting.

Mr. Ruppert seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:           Mr. Ruppert-Yes  
                              Mrs. Callahan- Yes  
                              Mr. Morris- Yes                               Motion Carried

Visitors:

Warren County Sheriff, Larry Simms, presented the 2015 annual report of the Sheriff's office.

Steve Arrasmith, Warren County Drug Task Force, gave the 2015 annual report of the Frug Task Force.

Mark Boy, 7855 Sheri Lane Franklin, Ohio. Mr. Boy made a request for financial records from the pool. He did receive a revenue and expenditures report but it wasn't what he was hoping for. He'd like to know how much each check is for and who it's made out to. He's concerned the pool is losing too much money. He is encouraging the board to look at what is going on at the pool with spending. Mr. Boy would like to encourage the board to look at the spending of the pool to reduce the financial drain on the township.

Joy Broedling, Howard Road, Franklin Township spoke. Ms. Broedling has concerns that the Fire Chief is only questioned in detail about the cemetery and never how we are improving our fire coverage. She said that she learned at the previous meeting that we do not pay volunteer firefighters for 6 months, if they are not certified. She says that is slave labor and that the Fire Chief is overpaid, perhaps we should use some of the money paid to him to pay volunteers. She's upset that we have continued to pay the City of Franklin to cover a portion of the township. She says that we have a Franklin Township station, used by JEMS at no cost, close by. She's also upset that the City of Franklin returned a fire engine to us that the township loaned to the city for the purpose of protecting the area of the township that they cover. She would like to know if we are also paying for JEMS to wash their trucks at that location? She stated that she had heard Chief Riddiough's report at the previous meeting and she'd like to know why levy money isn't being used to staff an ambulance in Hunter. Mrs. Broedling was told by a volunteer fireman that they buy their own equipment. She suggested that the township's policies are outdated. She was told by an unnamed eye witness that when there was a fire on Nikki Court in Carlisle, that there were no first responders for 45 minutes, when they did arrive the first responders were from Madison, the second was Miami Township, third was Franklin Township and fourth was City of Franklin. Carlisle never responded to this fire.

Old Business:

Mrs. Stivers said if the board is certain about going Miami Valley Regional Planning, then we need to approach OKI to change the boundaries. Mrs. Callahan just wanted to confirm that we would still be able to participate with OKI. Mrs. Stivers said we would be part of MVRPC but we could know what was going on with OKI through the county. Mrs. Stivers needs to board to tell her to proceed. Mr. Ruppert made a motion to authorize Mrs Stivers to proceed with the requirements to change our MPO.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:           Mr. Ruppert-Yes  
                              Mr. Morris- Yes  
                              Mrs. Callahan- Yes                               Motion Carried.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Morris made a motion to approve Resolution 01-03092016 authorizing the county to bid resurfacing projects for 2016.

Mr. Ruppert seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert-Yes  
Mr. Morris- Yes  
Mrs. Callahan- Yes Motion Carried.

Mr. Morris said he had spoken with Warren County Regional Planning about the potential to develop a bridge between Middletown and Franklin Township. He believes this will boost Middletown's businesses and help residential growth in Franklin Township. He said it will also alleviate some traffic problems that we currently suffer. He said that the county liked the idea of doing a project that would benefit so many entities; Carlisle, Franklin, Middletown, Franklin Township, Germantown, Madison Township, Warren County, Butler County, and Montgomery County. He said that there is Warren County owned land that could be a park, the land has a large lake and could offer some nice amenities. Mr. Ruppert said that he had no problem with the county looking at it, but he sees a lot of challenges. There's a railroad track that would need to be moved and the cost of that would be significant. He said increasing access is a great goal and he'll be curious to see what the county finds when they do a traffic study. Mr. Ruppert said that we should get input from our residents and see if this is something they would even want. Mrs. Callahan said it's more of a regional study because so many organizations would be affected. Mrs. Callahan said that this might help the City of Franklin, because where the river bank is washing out along Franklin - Trenton is very much like the problem we recently had with Martz - Paulin and it will be very expensive for them. Having another route may help. She also said that when the road floods, it puts our residents in jeopardy. Mr. Morris made a motion to request Warren County Regional Planning Commission provide planning services for the Trenton-Franklin area.

Mr. Ruppert seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion Carried.

Mrs. Stivers said before we move off of this subject, she'd like to request that the meetings regarding this issue be public meetings held at the township. She said she had spoken with the Director of Warren County Regional Planning and that there were several instances where he had multiple meetings with Franklin Township personnel on the same day. Mrs. Stivers would like the board to agree to do all meetings regarding this subject as public meetings at the township so that everyone is on the same page and knows what is going on. By doing these as public meetings all the elected officials could attend, whereas if they are not public meetings only one elected official could attend. This will also add some relief to the Director's calendar, by doing one meeting on a topic instead of several. Mr. Morris was in agreement. Mrs. Callahan suggested this might be a problem because we would have too many people and the township couldn't handle the crowd. Mrs. Stivers suggested that we hold public meetings at the township until we find we can no longer support the crowd. Everyone agreed that planning these meetings as public meetings was agreeable.

Mr. Fromeyer provided a copy of the permanent appropriations. He indicated the changes he had made, such as adding \$11,000 to pay for the membership to Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission, \$4,000 for the payment of the water hook up at the office, and he adjusted the advances out to reflect the changes. He said our STAR Ohio savings is not being appropriated. Mr. Ruppert asked if the other Trustees were comfortable with the STAR Ohio savings not being appropriated. Mrs. Callahan said she had called other fiscal officers and they told her that if we wanted to use the STAR Ohio money, we could request it and we'd have it within a day or two. Mr. Fromeyer said that is correct, that he can request a transfer online and it's a simple process. Mr. Ruppert made a motion to adopt the permanent appropriations.

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Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion Carried.

Mrs. Stivers brought up a park lease fee structure. She said this is something the board had talked about in 2015 and at that time they determined they would implement a fee structure in 2016. Mrs. Stivers provided the board with suggested fees. She said she had reached out to numerous other agencies to determine what they charge and the fees suggested were comparable to neighboring communities. Mrs. Callahan said that the Hunter Youth Recreational Association really runs the park, so we need to ask them because they use so much of it. Mrs. Stivers said in the past she has always coordinated events with the HYRA president. Mr. Ruppert said he'd like this to be on the next agenda so he can take time to look at the HYRA contract.

Mrs. Stivers would like to know if the board is in agreement to do the Serving Seniors Grant program again this year. Mrs. Stivers explained to Mr. Morris that we award \$5,000 a year to an organization that provides services to senior citizens in our community. Mr. Ruppert said that he was in favor of doing it. Mr. Morris agreed.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion for Mrs. Stivers to advertise for the Serving Seniors grant.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion Carried.

Mrs. Stivers said that the tennis courts at our park really need to be done very soon, they are in terrible shape. Mrs. Callahan asked if they needed to be repaired or replaced. Mrs. Stivers said that if we repair them they are only guaranteed to last one year and the average cost is \$10,000. If we replace them the average cost is \$30,000. Mrs. Callahan asked if the other trustees had seen how bad the courts look. Mrs. Stivers provided pictures of the damage to the board. Mrs. Callahan asked Mr. Rose his opinion, he said that the cracks would be repaired before they resurface them. Mrs. Callahan said she'd like to know how long a tennis court should last. Mrs. Stivers said she had contacted both Carlisle schools and the City of Franklin, and neither are interested in going in with us at this time. Franklin needs to wait until the end of the summer and we can't wait that long. Carlisle can't afford to do them this year.

Mrs. Stivers said that Nic Lamb had requested to roll over vacation time.

Mr. Morris made a motion to allow Mr. Lamb to roll over his vacation time.

Mr. Ruppert seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion Carried.

Mrs. Stivers advised the board that she was applying for a Miriam G. Knoll grant to purchase playground equipment for a park. The local share would be approximately \$6,000.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to authorize Mrs. Stivers to apply for this grant.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion Carried.

Road Report:

Mr. Rose said that they were having drainage issues with Beatrice Drive. They recently performed some work to alleviate the problem. The road department is also in the process of doing pothole repairs.

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Mr. Morris asked Mr. Rose if he had heard anything regarding the damage to Martz - Paulin Rd. Mr. Rose said he had not. Mrs. Stivers said she had talked with the Engineer's office and that the engineer's office would be paying for the repairs.

#### Cemetery Report:

Mr. Bishop said they had 16 funerals in February and 5 in March already. They would be starting to pour foundations and do some spring clean up over the next few weeks.

Mrs. Stivers said she had listed an adopt a tree program after looking into how other cemeteries are able to get their landscaping paid for. If there were no objections, she would like to implement a program for the cemeteries. No objections were offered.

Mrs. Stivers said that she had also noticed that some cemeteries have a PayPal button on their websites, for anyone who would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one. She wondered how the board would feel about that? Mr. Ruppert said that he only questioned if it would be a conflict of interest to accept a donation from someone we may do business with. Mrs. Stivers said she would look into that, but since we're not actively asking for donations she thought we'd be okay. Mr. Morris suggested we look for a fundraising site that doesn't charge a fee. Mrs. Stivers said that while talking with the folks at PayPal and GoFundMe, she had been told that she should be weary of any fundraising group that says they don't charge a fee. She feels most confident using PayPal, since it's a well know, reputable company. Mrs. Callahan suggested that the Friends of the Cemetery might look into becoming a 501(c)(3) and then they could solicit donations. Mr. Ruppert questioned if it was less of a conflict if it's one step removed. Mrs. Stivers said she'd talk to the prosecutor's office and get their opinion.

Mrs. Callahan brought up our website and said that she'd like us to have control of the website. We need the IP address and the password. Mrs. Stivers said she believed we'd have to purchase special software. Mrs. Callahan said that the webmaster should be able to create a page that would allow us to add things. Mrs. Stivers said she would look into it.

Mrs. Callahan said she'd recently learned about organic burials. People put their whole bodies in a wrap and get buried in an organic way. Then the body just decomposes underground in a bio-degradable vault.

#### Fire Report:

Chief Bishop said they had had 20 fire runs in the last two weeks. They also had a few in Madison Township. He sent some guys over to cover the fire stations when the Madison School shooting took place. Mrs. Callahan asked how the contract between Middletown & Madison was working out. Mr. Bishop said he wasn't aware of a contract between the two. Mr. Ruppert said Middletown calls on JEMS a lot to offer coverage, so he's not sure how they could handle covering Madison Township, too. Mr. Morris said he had also seen something in the paper about that.

#### Administrative Report:

Mrs. Stivers said that she applied for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant a few weeks ago and had forgotten to mention it. She applied for a new command vehicle. She and Chief Bishop had discussed the various needs of the department and felt that that was what they had the best chance at actually receiving.

Mrs. Stivers sent the funding policy out to the Trustees to verify that the changes were as they had intended. Mr. Morris said we need to put an effective date on the policy. Dates were discussed and it was determined that the first financial statements should be turned in after the second quarter ended, so in July. Mrs. Stivers will be sending notification, along with a copy of the policy to agencies that receive funding from the township.

Mrs. Stivers gave updates on various other projects:

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Street sweeping is set up and ready to go. The first sweep will take place in April.

Mrs. Stivers has also been working with the insurance agency and the trustees will see the OTARMA renewal packet soon.

The paperwork has been sent in and we are all signed up to be members of the Trenton-Monroe-Middletown Chamber of Commerce and that payment is on tonights payment listing to be approved.

Mrs. Stivers has also applied for a grant from the Arbor Day Foundation to potentially get some free trees.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to approve the payment to AAA Wastewater Services.  
Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes  
Mr. Morris - Abstain Motion Carried.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to approve the remainder of the payment listing.  
Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion Carried.

Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the Bank Reconciliation, Appropriations Summary, Appropriations Status, Fund Summary, Fund Status, Revenue Summary and Revenue Status reports.

Mr. Ruppert seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion Carried.

Mr. Fromeyer suggested that organizations affected by our funding policy may have trouble getting their statements quickly. Mrs. Stivers asked if everyone was okay with a 2 week grace period to get statements turned in. Everyone agreed.

Mrs. Callahan said she would not be able to attend the meeting on March 23. Mr. Morris suggested we reschedule. Mr. Fromeyer said we can have a meeting with two trustees and that he will have bills that need to be paid that would be late if rescheduled.

Mrs. Callahan said that Mrs. Stivers had an executive session on the agenda and asked if it was needed. Mrs. Stivers said that it was. Mr. Morris made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:29 p.m.

Mr. Ruppert seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried

Mr. Morris made a motion at 7:40 p.m. to enter into regular session at  
Mr. Ruppert seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

Mr. Fromeyer called the roll, all Trustees were present.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to hire Jake Daniels as a full time employee, with all benefits, at a rate of \$14.50 an hour to float between the road & cemetery departments as needed effective the beginning of the next payroll period.

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Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes                      Motion Carried.

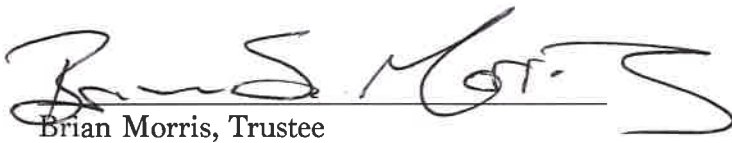
Mr. Ruppert made a motion to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes  
Mr. Morris - Yes  
Mrs. Callahan - Yes                      Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held March 23rd, 2016 at 6 p.m.

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Beth Callahan, President

  
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Brian Morris, Trustee

  
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Ronald Ruppert, Trustee

  
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Scot Fromeyer, Fiscal Officer