

**Huntington Township Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023**

Fiscal Officer Robin Snyder called the January 10, 2023, re-organization meeting to order at 5:35PM at the Township Fire House.

Roll Call:	Gary Hopkins	Present
	John Cottrill	Absent
	Larry Kellough	Present

RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

Motion by Larry Kellough, seconded by Gary Hopkins to elect Gary Hopkins as President for 2023.

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Larry Kellough to elect John Cottrill as Vice President for 2023.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Larry Kellough to appoint Larry Kellough as Road Crew Supervisor and John Cottrill as the Cemetery Supervisor for 2023.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Motion by Larry Kellough, seconded by Gary Hopkins to set the 2023 Board meetings for the second Tuesday of each month at the Fire House at 5:30 PM.

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Larry Kellough, to approve the Annual Permanent Appropriations for 2023 of \$1,298,304.00 leaving \$13,312.14 unappropriated across all funds except the ARP Fund which has \$54,872.55 unappropriated.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

**Huntington Township Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023**

FO Snyder shared that the 2023 Official Certificate of Estimated Resources is \$1,366,488.69: \$236,662.55 is carry-over fund balances from 2022 and \$1,129,826.14 represents the new resources expected in 2023. The additional 1 mill is included in these figures at \$79,419. (Of the carry-over \$160,039.55 is the ARP Fund.)

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Larry Kellough to reappoint TJ Oyer as our fire chief for 2023. Each December the Board will reconsider the position of fire chief.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve the December 13, 2022, meeting minutes.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve payment of the December bills.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Guest: Jeff See, the Township's representative on Ross County Community Action provided an informative update on current programs. Julie Bower is now the head of RCCA. There are 60 beds in the Salvation Army building for the homeless. In addition, rooms are rented at America's Best Value Inn and Quality Inn for homeless families. The group operates 3 recovery homes located on Water Street, Mulberry and Hickory. He also discussed the funding for RCCA and shared that the majority of it comes from the federal government.

Guest: Fire Chief T J Oyer addressed the Board concerning multiple items regarding the Fire Department.

**Huntington Township Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023**

1. Oyer informed the Board of a situation with the lift cot and load system in squad 916. When the squad was involved in an accident several years ago the cot and load system were not inspected by the company that installed it, Stryker. Even though EMSAR has performed maintenance and it passed their inspection, that is not sufficient for Stryker. They stated that if the cot/load system failed, the liability would rest with the township. We have been rotating our two squads, but not now until the matter is resolved. Oyer asked the Board to approve a purchase req for Stryker to perform and inspection at \$1,665.

Motion by Larry Kellough, second by Gary Hopkins to approve the purchase requisition to Stryker for the post-accident inspection.

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

2. Oyer asked the Board to approve 7 purchase requisitions, as follows, all paid for with ARPA funds:

a. VCNB Lowes	\$877.18	Hot water heater repairs
b. VCNB Menards	\$57.68	Hot water heater repairs
c. VCNB Lowes	\$25.82	Hot water heater repairs
d. Vogelpohl Fire	\$440	Class A foam
e. VCNB Lowes	\$11.28	#904 plumbing repair
f. Quick Stop	\$1,081.10	#916 front tires
g. VCNB Chillicothe S&S	\$1,931	uniforms

Motion by Larry Kellough, second by Gary Hopkins to approve all 7 purchase requisitions to be paid with ARPA Funds.

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

3. Other pieces of information: Scioto township is adding 3 full-time firefighters; requested that we need a tax exempt status set up with Menards. Oyer asked if we were random drug testing, and if not, why not. The Board said that random drug testing had previously been approved and test kits had been ordered. The kits have expired and were not used. We will return to sending selected employees to Adena for drug testing. He also asked if

**Huntington Township Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023**

we do BMV checks – Snyder said she does not handle that, and would expect the FD leadership would do so.

4. Chief Oyer asked the Board to go into executive session to discuss confidential FD matters

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to go into Executive Session at 6:25PM.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

The Board returned at 6:40PM and Snyder took roll:

Gary Hopkins Present
Larry Kellough Present

5. **Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to request an advance on the 1st half property tax receipts. Snyder to contact the County Auditor and prepare the necessary letter.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

6. **Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to advance \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Fire Fund, to be repaid once the 1st half taxes are received.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

7. **FO Snyder** reminded the Board that the mutual aid contract would expire at the end of February, and asked if the Board wished to renew that contract. She will contact their fiscal officer to begin the conversation.

**Huntington Township Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023**

8. **Oyer** informed the Board of a Forestry Equipment Grant that is a 50/50 grant for \$20,000 of which the Twp would pay \$10,000. He would like to get nozzles for the handlines, brush fire equipment, and 10 sets of wild land gear.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve application for the forestry grant.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

9. **Oyer asked** the Board to approve the application of Chris Kessinger, currently a volunteer, to the paid part-time crew. He is a FF2/Paramedic that owns Citizens First Fire. Pay rate would be \$13.67/hour.

Motion by Larry Kellough, second by Gary Hopkins to approve the hiring of Chris Kessinger to the paid part-time crew.

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

10. **Oyer asked** the Board to approve the applications of Mariah Richhart, his finance, and Michael Grooms, a rehire, to the paid part-time crew. Richhart is an EMT-B with an hourly rate of \$10.39/hour. Grooms is a FFs/EMT-B at \$12.03/hour.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve the hiring of Richhart and Grooms as discussed above.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

11. **Chris Benson** has resigned from his position of lieutenant, and Oyer asked the Board to approve that resignation. Benson will remain with the paid part-time crew.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to accept Benson's resignation from his lieutenant position with the FD.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

12. **Oyer** asked that Brad Oates be approved as lieutenant replacing Chris Benson at \$100 a month for rank pay.

**Huntington Township Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023**

Motion by Larry Kellough, second by Gary Hopkins to appoint Brad Oates to the open lieutenant position at \$100 a month of rank pay.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

13. The Board discussed the Medicount surveys. It costs \$2.00 a survey, and the cost is increasing to \$2.25 a survey.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to discontinue the surveys.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

14. **Snyder** shared an analysis of two paths to spend the additional 1 mill levy proceeds. One option would be to increase coverage back to 3 people the first 12 hours versus a second option of giving the employees a \$3/hour raise. The net result is practically the same. The Board will discuss in more detail at the February meeting.

Other Twp Business:

1. **The Board continued the discussion from the December meeting regarding** a 2% pay increase for the full-time Road Crew employees for 2023. Given the raise they received in October, the consideration was not to give them another raise 3 months later.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Larry Kellough to not grant a raise for 2023 to Terry Wilt and CJ Watkins, the full-time road crew employees.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Other Items:

- Oyer shared that we had received 100 calls of which 95 were EMS and 5 fire. We received mutual aid 10 times and gave it 18 times.
- The Board and Chief discussed the Twin Township call Christmas night where the person ultimately died. While the weather was bad, we were never dispatched. The call was to a home almost to Frankfort. There was no communication that CPR was given to the patient.

**Huntington Township Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023**

- Oyer provided an update on the status of our new hires who had yet to begin work. Todd Yarman, Derek Howell, John Jason Foster, Coldiron, and Kathy.
- Snyder shared the following financial information for 2023 as part of the discussion of 2023 appropriations:
 - FD Salaries: \$295,835 (2022 was \$248,340)
 - OP-F Pension contributions: \$29,653 (2022 was \$27,783)
 - Loan Repayments
 - Road \$20,633
 - Fire \$51,022
 - ARPF – Appropriated \$49,000 for premium pay, \$25,000 for FD Repairs & Operating Supplies, and \$25,000 in Operating Supplies for Roads.
 - Note: Estimating that after this year’s years expenditures, \$54,872 will remain in this fund for 2024

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to adjourn the meeting at 7:05PM.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

ATTESTED:

President

Vice President

**Huntington Township Regular Meeting
January 10, 2023**

Member

Fiscal Officer