

Huntington Township Regular Meeting February 17th, 2026

President John Cottrill called the February 17th, 2026, Regular Meeting to order at 6:05 pm at the Fire House.

Roll Call:	John Cottrill	Present
	Bud Lytle	Present
	Blake Kellough	Present

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by Blake Kellough to approve the January Regular Meeting Minutes.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Motion by Blake Kellough, second by John Cottrill to approve the January 29 Special Meeting Minutes.

Vote:	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Blake Kellough to approve the payments for January.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Assistant Prosecutor Chase Carter discussed the nuisance property at 6142 S.R. 772, and explained the process going forward with it; which includes holding a hearing at the FD on March 10th at 6pm, notifying the property via certified mail, and posting it on the property as well.

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Motion by Bud Lytle, second by John Cottrill to declare 6142 S.R. 772 a potential nuisance property, set a hearing date for 3/10/2026 at the FD, notify the property via certified mail, and by posting it on the property.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Cottrill then asked Carter about the culverts on Beatty Road, and Carter said that he will have a determination by the end of the week. Cottrill then mentioned resident Brett Clark had plowed Twp Road 905, and said that we will not pay anyone to plow it, because it is the TWP's responsibility. Lytle further elaborated saying that if we'd been contacted that we'd missed 905, that we would have plowed it.

Cottrill next mentioned and discussed raising the prices at our cemeteries to stay at about the same rate as other cemeteries in the County.

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by John Cottrill to approve raising all cemetery lot prices regardless of residency to \$550 beginning 4/1/2026.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by Blake Kellough, second by John Cottrill to approve eliminating Sunday/Holiday burials at cemeteries unless of an emergency, in which the cost will be \$900 beginning 4/1/2026.

Vote:	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by Blake Kellough to approve increasing the cost of burials at cemeteries on weekdays before 4pm to \$600, and \$700 for burials after 4pm.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

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Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to approve adding a \$300 administrative fee to burials at Floral Hills on top of the burial cost.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Cottrill then discussed additions to the cemetery rules, which included: 1. No bricks or fences. 2. No Shepard's hooks, garden flags, or statues. 3. No trees, shrubs, or bushes. 4. Flowers are to be placed on monument or planted up to 18 inches in front of the monument. 5. Mowing by Township employees or contractors only. 6. No pets allowed in the cemetery. 7. Cemetery is open from dawn to dusk. Huntington Township is not responsible for any accidents. These rules are established and enforced in accordance with ORC 517.08.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Blake Kellough to approve the amendments to the cemetery rules.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Cottrill discussed mowing the cemeteries ourselves going forward, and Lytle added having the FD take care of their mowing as well; Kellough also mentioned that the mowing contracts were getting high.

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by John Cottrill to approve applying for the David Meade-Massey grant in the amount of \$6663.99 for the purpose of a mower/weed eaters at Floral Hills Cemetery.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Lytle discussed a resolution for the adoption of an official Twp seal, and gave a description of it.

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Motion by Bud Lytle, second by John Cottrill to approve the resolution as it is written for the adoption of an official Twp seal.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Cottrill next mentioned that we didn't get the Appalachian Regional Development Grant applied for back in 2025.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to approve finishing the paving on Windy Ridge, and on Deboard Road in 2026 for a total of approximately 2.4 miles.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to approve setting a Special Meeting on 2/26 to discuss road paving.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by Blake Kellough to approve the resolution stating that the Twp has 46.614 miles of roadway.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Haines then mentioned that he had spoken with Spectrum and was informed that we could get phone services at \$35 per line, versus the current nearly \$80 a line we are paying Glo Fiber. He then asked Depugh whether or not he still needed phone services for the fax machine upstairs at the FD, and Depugh said that he was not sure but would find out. The Trustees decided to wait until the next meeting to make a decision on the matter.

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Lytle next brought up that FD hours were 925 the previous pay period, and went on to give a further breakdown of those hours, mentioning that only 5 were unscheduled OT.

Next was a brief discussion of comp time hours at the Garage, and a discussion over sick time accumulation at the Garage and FD.

Cottrill discussed the trip that he and Lytle had taken to the OTA Winter Conf. and continued to speak about how the removal of property taxes would have a large negative impact on Townships. He continued to speak about other aspects of the trip as well.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to go into executive session for personnel matters and legal counsel at 7:13 pm.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Blake Kellough to resume the meeting from executive session at 8:07 pm.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Blake Kellough to approve hiring Brandon Grubb full-time to the RB crew at \$22 an hour starting 3/2/2026.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by John Cottrill to approve purchase req's for the FD from Master Locksmiths, and Taylors Tins for a total of \$528.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

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Depugh brought up having Moccasin Creek Tactical supply uniforms/boots for the FD instead of going through the current suppliers, Haines asked for more time to consider and to wait until the next meeting.

Depugh then discussed three quotes for an exhaust system for the FD, which are paid with approximately 95% federal grant money and 5% money from the fire fund. Two quotes were from Magnegrip, one for \$86,906 and the other for \$91,908, the last quote was from Nederman for \$93,493.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to go with the second quote from Magnegrip for \$91,908, with the addition of a 5-year service contract, bringing the total to \$95,508.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by Blake Kellough, second by John Cottrill to hire Bruce Pauley as a volunteer Chaplin for the FD.

Vote:	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by John Cottrill to hire Bruce Hines as a volunteer Chaplin for the FD.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to hire Ashley Thacker to the FD part-time crew as a FF 2/EMT B.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

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Motion by Blake Kellough, second by John Cottrill to hire Stephanie Mason to the FD part-time crew as a FF V/Paramedic.

Vote:	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to hire Daniel Kratzer to the FD part-time crew as an EMT B.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by Blake Kellough to hire Dustin Knox to the FD part-time crew as a FF 1.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Motion by John, second by Blake Kellough to hire Cody Thompson to the FD part-time crew as a FF 2.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by John Cottrill to hire Jacob Ferguson to the FD part-time crew as a FF 2/ EMT B.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

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Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to hire Bryanna Sickels to the FD part-time crew as a FF 1.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by Blake Kellough, second by Bud Lytle to hire Trevor Sickels to the FD part-time crew as a FF 1/EMT B.

Vote:	Blake Kellough	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to move Ashton Lindman from a FD volunteer to a part-time FF 1.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by Bud Lytle, second by Blake Kellough to move Michael Grooms from Assistant Chief to Lieutenant at \$14.71 an hour.

Vote:	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Motion by Blake Kellough, second by Bud Lytle to promote Alec Stewart to Assistant Chief at \$20.60 an hour.

Vote:	Blake Kellough	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

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Next was a discussion over the new Twin Twp EMS contract, which would give us \$40,000 a year in 4 installments. Coverage for us would expand to parts of Mingo, Scott, and Poplar Ridge Roads, and we would not cover parts of Potts Hill and Spargursville.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Bud Lytle to approve the new Twin Contract.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

Motion by John, second by Bud Lytle to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 PM

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Bud Lytle	Yes
	Blake Kellough	Yes

ATTESTED:

President

Vice President

Trustee

Fiscal Officer