

Huntington Township Regular Meeting June 7, 2023

President Gary Hopkins called the June 7, 2023 meeting to order at 6:00PM at the Fire House.

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

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to approve the May 9, 2023 meeting minutes.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins to approve payment of the May 2023 bills.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to move into executive session at 6:07PM to discuss litigation.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Roll call upon return from executive session at 6:15PM.

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

GUEST: Kevin Fausnaugh, Sr. spoke to the Board regarding his grave concern about mutual aid in Huntington Township. He used as an example his elderly father. When speaking to structural fires he said it is an all-call because we never have enough water to fight those fires. Regarding the squad he said that when we are out on a call in the township, then a 2nd call comes in within our township, we rely on mutual aid from a surrounding township to assist.

J. Cottrill stated "We have no intention of doing away with mutual aid."

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TJ Oyer referenced that in response to the petition circulated by a resident the duty crew has not been responded to mutual aid in Twin Twp out of concern that “we are not permitted to go.”

N Cuckler agreed, that they don’t want to go into Twin Twp when they are not supposed to.

Gary Hopkins stated that the Board was going to re-address the agreement with Twin Twp for EMS services that was voted down in February 2023. Huntington Twp would have 1/3 of that township. The first agreement handed to FO Snyder was not the most recent copy, but she had the agreement that had been previously voted down. That agreement is the one presented for approval.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to sign the emergency services agreement with Twin Township.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

The agreement was signed, and Snyder will forward it to Bill Jones, the fiscal officer of Twin Twp for their board to consider.

G Hopkins then discussed a resolution that Mr. Darbyshire, trustee of Twin Twp, is seeking to get as many townships to approve as possible regarding the Infrastructure grant of \$1.2 trillion passed by the Federal Government. He stated that no township has yet received any portion of that grant. He is asking that of the total amount, townships in Ohio will receive 3.25%, which will result in \$1million for everyone.

Resolution

Huntington Township in Ross County Ohio hereby resolves as of this date, June 7, 2023, that we, the duly elected Trustees of Huntington Township are in agreement with the communication concerning the request that each township in Ohio receive \$1,000,000 from the United States Infrastructure Act (H.R. 3684) for the purpose of road asphalt paving within the respective townships. This amount computes to 3.25% of the \$40,000,000 allocated to the state of Ohio from this act for the purpose of infrastructure repairs and upgrades.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to pass the resolution laid out above. Snyder will forward it on to Mr. Darbyshire.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

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Fiscal Officer Business

- 1) Snyder discussed the oldest levy the Township has in place, the 1 mill levy. It falls off the duplicate December 31, 2023, so we do receive collections through 2024. There are three opportunities to get the levy on the ballot: November 2023; Primary 2024; and November 2024. The Board is not interested in putting it on the ballot for this November's general election.
- 2) The 2024 Budget hearing needs to be set for July 11 at 6:00 PM at the firehouse with the regular meeting to follow immediately.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to set the 2024 Budget Hearing for July 11 at 6:00 PM at the firehouse.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

- 3) The county treasurer is partially refunding the first half real estate tax collection fees. We paid \$6,946.19 and will be refunded \$4,069.54 – or 67%.
- 4) Snyder shared the results of the public records request with Scioto Township regarding salaries and benefits paid to their emergency responders. Attached to these minutes.

Fire Department Business – Chief TJ Oyer

- 1) Structural turn-out gear has a 10-year life. We have 5 sets of gear that need replaced now, costing \$15,000. He wants to buy from Vogelpohl who has offered to give us a set to try out and tear up. Firedex was the last supplier for the township.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins to approve the purchase of 5 sets of turn-out gear.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

- 2) Uniform purchases - due to the most recent financial situation we have not made any uniform purchases since 2021. The everyday work uniform for FT: \$150 boot allowance, tee shirt, belt

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and pants. For PT: \$75 boot allowance and pants. He asked for a BC approved for \$3,000. He stated that there is no need for the Class A dress uniforms at this time.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve everyday work uniforms limited to \$3,000.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

- 3) The promised fire department inventory has been completed and will be sent to Snyder
- 4) Oyer asked the Board to approve appointing Kevin Fausnaugh, Sr. as a volunteer to the FD. He has a certification as an FFV.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve the appointment of K Fausnaugh, Sr as a volunteer firefighter.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

- 5) SAFER update: We are still in contention. AFG award began on this day, and we have requested \$155k for SCBA gear and \$85k for rescue tools. If we win the AFG award, it increases our chances of being awarded the SAFER grant.
- 6) May 2023 run stats: 87 calls of which 12 were fire and 75 were EMS. We received 10 mutual aid and gave 21.
- 7) Oyer asked the Board to approve the removal of the following employees from the part-time crew: Michael Grooms, failed to submit anything; Timothy Owens, did not come for orientation; Greg Campbell, has no provided availability for scheduling.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to terminate employment of Grooms, Owens, and Campbell as noted above.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

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8) Oyer asked the Board to approve the resignation of Chris Benson, who will remain as a volunteer. Benson has been unable to fulfill his commitment to our required work schedule.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins to accept Benson’s resignation, keeping him on as a volunteer.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

9) At this time, Oyer shared his employment history with Huntington Township. He started as a part-time employee August 8, 2017, becoming a captain July 7, 2020. In mid-2022 he was appointed as the Fire Chief. The point is that he was with the department for 6 years, he didn’t just walk in and become the Chief.

10) Oyer presented 6 purchase requisitions for approval as follows:

1. Vogelpohl	\$131	Turnout coat repair
2. Johnsons Fire	\$939	Annual SCBA flow test
3. VCNB-Amazon	\$77.73	AA batteries headlight 904
4. O’Reilly	\$125.321	DEF, 913 bulbs, oil dry
5. Quick Stop	\$1019.91	Tires for 919 and oil change
6. VCNB-Lowes	\$274	Station Supplies

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve all six (6) purchase requisitions discussed above.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Road Department and Cemetery Business

- 1) Cottrill shared that the Ohio Department of Commerce is opening up cemetery grants July 1st, with the award of \$2500 or more. If we do not qualify for that award, a second series of awards will require a 50/50 split.
- 2) In addition, the David Meade Massie Foundation meets 6/10 to consider our application for concrete curbing at Huntington Township cemetery.

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- 3) John also has tried to reach Rumpke multiple times to find out why trash service is more expensive at the garage than at the firehouse. No response yet. On top of that, the FD dumpster is falling apart, and needs replaced.
- 4) The fish fry at the firehouse will be Saturday, July 8 beginning at 10:00AM until sold out.
- 5) Our fuel provider and tanks are still unsettled. World Services (Lykins) is still supplying our fuel.
- 6) We have 2 pieces of equipment down: the case tractor and the a/c on one of the dump trucks which may cost \$11,000.
- 7) Kellough discussed black top that is needed for repair work, and he expects it to cost \$100/ton. C&J has hot patch, whereas Jamie of SC Construction could make us cold mix that is more flexible, similar to what is going down on Bethel Road.
- 8) He also discussed complaints about Baptist Hill Road. Wilt will go up there to check it out.
- 9) He stated that he feels Magill mows too fast and needs to slow down. The blades are worn.
- 10) Hopkins shared briefly that Floral Hills is active in Judge Mike Ater's courtroom.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

ATTESTED:

President

Vice President

Trustee

Fiscal Officer