

Huntington Township Regular Meeting September 12, 2023

President Gary Hopkins called the September 12, 2023, meeting to order at 6:00PM at the Fire House.

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

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve the August 5, 2023, regular meeting minutes.

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| Vote: | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | John Cottrill | Yes |

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough to approve the August 21, 2023, special meeting meetings.

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| Vote: | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | Gary Hopkins | Yes |

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough to re-approve the July 2023, special meeting meetings. Budget Hearing was not included in the first set of approved minutes.

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| Vote: | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | Gary Hopkins | Yes |

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

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| Vote: | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |

Fire Department Business – Chief TJ Oyer

- 1) Fire Prevention Week is coming in October. We make purchases from Positive Promotions with a budget of \$2,000. Oyer requested an increase in that budget to \$2,500.

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Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough to approve the increase of the budget for Fire Prevention Week supplies from \$2,000 to \$2,500.

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| Vote: | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | Gary Hopkins | Yes |

- 2) Chief Oyer requested that the board approve a change in employment status for Kathy Dye from part-time to volunteer.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve moving Kathy Dye from a part-time employee with the paid crew to volunteer status.

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| Vote: | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | John Cottrill | Yes |

- 3) There were two more OT mandates the last month of our FT crew for coverage purposes.
- 4) July 2023 run stats: 92 calls of which 13 were fire and 79 were EMS. We received 8 mutual aid and gave 12 with 8 runs into Twin Twp. We refused to give 3 mutual aids.
- 5) Oyer asked the Board to set the status of Krystyna Davis a volunteer. She does not have any certifications, although she will take an EMT class this fall at Pike CTC. We will be reimbursed through the training grant for the expense.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins to set Krystyna Davis's status as a volunteer.

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| Vote: | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |

- 6) The next cycle of the Ohio First Responder Grant was discussed by Oyer with the Board. EH would like to obtain around 22 MARCS radios that cost around \$3 to \$4,000 a radio, plus the subscription fee. The fee to write the grant will be \$1500 payable to Ohio First Responders Grants, LLC. If the grant is awarded, a 5% bonus payment of the entire award is then payable to

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the grant writer. If the Twp wins the award, but then declines it, the grant writer is still due 50% of what the total bonus would have been.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to enter into agreement with Ohio First Responder Grants, LLC to apply for the next cycle of the AFG Grant.

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| Vote: | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |

7) Oyer presented 8 purchase requisitions for approval totaling \$5,057.28 as follows:

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|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| 1. Pike Co JVSD | \$575 | K Dye FFV Training |
| 2. Bio Med Services | \$472.50 | Lifepack/AED Annual Maint |
| 3. Buckeye Apparatus | \$296.40 | 913 Brake repair |
| 4. Quick Stop Piketon | \$1020.82 | tires 917 |
| 5. Cutright's Automotive | \$772.01 | 919 power steering |
| 6. VCNB Amazon | \$1480.29 | Uniform pants |
| 7. VCNB Amazon | \$162.76 | Station Supplies |
| 8. Ohio FRG | \$750 | Ohio FRG Administration |

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve all eight (8) purchase requisitions discussed above.

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| Vote: | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | John Cottrill | Yes |

GUEST: Joan Stephens, resident of Keiser Road, spoke to the Board regarding her frustration with the condition of the township road along which she resides. She explained that she lives at the top of the hill, and asked the trustees what they were going to do with it. Trustee Cottrill stated that there is not a good answer for that road. Trustee Hopkins said he felt they should return the road to gravel since chip and seal does not appear to be a good alternative. They said that road is their number one priority, and they would try to get it fixed this week by working both sides of the hill on either side of Pennington. Use the grader and grade down parts of it on Friday. Then do some repair work Monday. They are going to try out "grinding millings", blacktop that has been milled, to see if it is a better solution. Ms. Stephens shared that the ditches are difficult along that road, stating that the township clears them out, but then after one rain the gravel fills them back up and the water runs across the road again. Kellough estimated it would cost \$160,000 to blacktop Keiser. Cottrill

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discussed that we had applied for an infrastructure grant to pave township roads. Ohio 40B. Trustee Darbyshire of Twin Twp is making another effort on behalf of all townships in Ohio. She asked about trees that were not cut in order to move the ditch back, sharing that she knew the landowner had agreed. Trustee Kellough stated that was his fault.

Fiscal Officer Business

- 1) Snyder reminded the Board that the community meeting regarding the electrical aggregation issue on the ballot this fall in Huntington Township will be Thursday, October 19 at 6:00 PM hosted by Larry Taylor of Trebel.

- 2) FO Snyder shared the Rates and Balances as determined by the Budget Commission for 2024 and asked the Board to approve a Resolution to accept those rates and balances.
 - Decreased the tax budget by (\$10,908.01)
 - Decreased the LGS budget by (306.16)
 - Total tax budget was \$733,646.01 but is now \$722,738.00.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by John Cottrill, to accept the Rates and Balances as determined by the Budget Commission for 2024.

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| Vote: | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |

- 3) Snyder asked the Board to set the date and time for Trick or Treat in the Twp this year.

Motion by John Cottrill, seconded by Gary Hopkins, to set Trick or Treat in the Twp for Tuesday, October 31 from 5:30 – 7:00.

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| Vote: | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |

- 4) Snyder asked the Board to approve the following certifications, appropriations, and re-appropriations.
 - Certify and appropriate:
Wrecked tractor \$16,000 into 2031.892 Misc Non Op

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Appropriated to 2031.330.420 Operating Supplies (chip/seal)

- Reappropriation:
 - Fire Fund \$95 from 2111.220.223 Dental Ins to 2111.220.224 Vision Ins
 - General Fund \$10,000 from 1000.760.740 Machinery/Eqt to 1000.330.420 Operating supplies
 - Gas Tax Fund \$10,000 from 2021.760.740 Machinery/Eqt to 2021.330.420 Operating Supplies
 - ARPF \$2120.02 from 2273.290.2111 OPERS to 2273.290.420 Operating supplies
- Appropriate
 - ARPF \$53,000 to 2273.290.420 Operating Supplies

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough to approve the certifications, appropriations, and reappropriations listed above.

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| Vote: | John Cottrill | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | Gary Hopkins | Yes |

- 5) Snyder informed the Board that a transfer of liquor license was requested for the new owners of the race track. The Board did not want to requests a hearing.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve the liquor license transfer and not request a hearing.

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| Vote: | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | John Cottrill | No |

Road Department and Cemetery Business

- 1) Cottrill stated that the Ohio Department of Commerce cemetery grant application has been submitted for \$1000. The DMMG work has yet to be completed – the cement curbs – but expect it to be completed in August.
- 2) The next hearing for Floral Hills is August 17 at 2:30 in Ater’s courtroom. Hopkins and Cottrill stated that they plan to get on the agenda for the next Ross Co Commissioner’s meeting to discuss Floral Hills, the expense necessary, and if there is an opportunity that the Commissioners could support Huntington if the cemetery would end up with the Twp.

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- 3) The Board discussed the need for a new tractor for the mowing. We will receive \$16,000 from insurance as the proceeds. Discussed 5 Points Implements as a supplier under the state contract. Oyer mentioned Ricers in Pike County as another option with Kubota tractors.
- 4) Trustee Cottrill discussed his changing position on the agreement with Twin Township and the mutual aid contract in Ross County. He said that he had reviewed meeting minutes and came up with a timeline. June 2021 terminated the county wide agreement, then reached out to individual townships to sign either a fire or fire/ems mutual aid agreement with our township. April 2022, we signed an agreement with Twin to bill them for transport at \$350, and non-transport at \$250. In February 2023 we were then asked to renew that agreement, but a more expanded agreement to cover 1/3rd of Twin Twp. At that time the Board tabled the agreement. At a special meeting February 28, 2023, the Board turned the agreement down. It was revisited 3 months later at the June 7, 2023, meeting. At that time the agreement was approved. He stated that recent social media posts were inaccurate, and he wanted to set the record straight. He also said that he does not support any of the FB groups.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM.

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| Vote: | Gary Hopkins | Yes |
| | Larry Kellough | Yes |
| | John Cottrill | Yes |

ATTESTED:

President

Vice President

Trustee

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Fiscal Officer