

HUNTINGTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 11, 2018

President Daniel Mathuews called the April 11, 2018 meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. at the Township Firehouse.

Roll Call:	Daniel Mathuews	Present
	Gary Hopkins	Present
	Larry Kellough	Present

**Motion** by Daniel Mathuews, seconded by Larry Kellough, to approve the March 2018 meeting minutes.

Vote:	Daniel Mathuews	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Daniel Mathuews, to approve payment of March 2018 bills.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Daniel Mathuews	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

**GUEST: Ross County Prosecutor Matt Schmidt.** Appeared before the Board to discuss three topics of interest: The FD Association's case against Melissa Weaver for theft from the Association; the \$18,000 fire claim escrow that the Township received; and township zoning.

- 1) Melissa Weaver. (Sheriff George Lavender appeared with the Prosecutor for this part of the discussion.) Schmidt presented the following summary. The case was opened, closed at the request of the trustees, then reopened by the Association. Ms. Weaver has been deposed by the Sheriff's office and is aware of the investigation. She did make full restitution to the Association for the money that she stole, resigned from the HTVFD, and the paid crew therefore she is no longer an employee. It is his decision whether to present evidence to the Grand Jury. If she is found guilty, the most likely scenario is that she will be placed into a diversion program, the case would be dismissed, and community service would be required. This would require an admission of guilt. She would be arrested, arraigned, charged with a 5<sup>th</sup> degree felony, and perhaps spend a night in jail. She has no prior record. Is this case the best use of his time? Several people then spoke from the Fire Department Association. Members shared that Melissa is now involved with Scioto Township's Association, which is a concern. They felt she wanted to shut down the Association before her theft was discovered for lack of members. They also feel like punishment is merited. Prosecutor Schmidt asked that the Association's officers meet and make a decision as to whether they wish the case pursued or dropped. That decision is to be emailed to Schmidt. Tristan Carter volunteered to ensure the discussion, decision, and email to Schmidt all will occur. Schmidt will await that decision.

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- 2) \$18,000 fire claim escrow. Schmidt provided ORC 3929.86 to the Board for review as well as ORC 505.86. The property at 3992 Black Run Rd has been completely razed, therefore the Board will reimburse American Family Insurance for the full \$18,000. Linda Koloziejewski is the owner of the property. Additional information is on file.
- 3) Regarding township zoning, Schmidt said that only two townships in Ross County are zoned; Buckskin and Deerfield. He provided a copy of Buckskin's zoning law, written in 1978 when zoning began after their voters approved the issue on the ballot. He stated that they are hard to enforce.

**GUEST: Thomas Welsh**, of Burnham & Flowers offering OTARMA coverage. Mr. Welsh presented their property & casualty insurance coverage offering for the Township. He highlighted their strengths – 31 years in business; 1,016 townships of 1,308 statewide, and 11 or 18 in Ross County. AAA rating – the highest. Pooled with other Townships and that pool has not had one single across the board increase since it started. (Although individual townships have had increases based upon their loss records.) The Township would own their policy as such, a certain percent of the money is returned each year, in the range of 7 to 10%. They are offering a \$3million aggregate with unlimited occurrences, not just two. Offer guaranteed replacement cost. Matching our current deductibles. Explained the RC (replacement cost) vs. SA. SA means that they matched the listed value, which is all they will pay, but they feel it is too low and the value should be higher. The Township has 3 vehicles, all from the FD, that they feel are undervalued. Therefore, we could pay more to up those values. After 6 years in the pool we would be fully vested. He mentioned that a 60-day notice is required to exit the pool. And the term “retroactive coverage”. Mr. Welsh left the application and other paperwork that would be required if the Board chooses his company. The cost of coverage quoted is \$11,854. If we pay extra to increase the 3 vehicles to RC, the premium would be \$12,887.

**GUEST: Matt Eyre** appeared on behalf of Huntington Little League Baseball to ask permission to close the lower section of Huntsman Road during Little League baseball games. That road is not a township road, but a county road. Trustee Hopkins said that they would need to discuss this with Ross County Engineer Charles Ortman. Also discussed using the upper drive and talking to the residents of that road

**GUEST: Larry Cuckler**, Fire Chief, approached the Board to ask for approval of three (3) purchase requisitions, as follows:

#1 Fire Safety Services	\$1900	5 sets of boots/hoods for FF
#2 Mike Hopkins	\$550	Portable work bench for the bay
#3 Vickers Consulting	\$50	Reapply for the SAFER grant on our behalf

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**Motion** by Daniel Mathuews, seconded by Gary Hopkins, to approve the 3 purchase requisitions.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Daniel Mathuews	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

>**Cuckler** asked the Board to approve the application of Cameron Clouser to the paid crew for the Township. He resides in Greenfield and is a L2 FF and an advanced EMT in paramedic school. His hourly rate would be \$11.50 an hour.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Larry Kellough, to approve the hiring of Cameron Clouser as stated above.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Daniel Mathuews	Yes

>**Cuckler** asked the Board to approve the termination of Justin D Waring from the paid crew for failure to maintain an active status.

**Motion** by Daniel Mathuews, seconded by Gary Hopkins, to terminate Justin D. Waring from employment with the paid crew of the Township.

Vote:	Daniel Mathuews	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

>**Cuckler** asked the Board to accept the resignation of Tony Wheeler from the paid crew.

**Motion** by Daniel Mathuews, seconded by Gary Hopkins, to accept Tony Wheeler's resignation from the paid crew of the Township.

Vote:	Daniel Mathuews	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

>**Cuckler** asked the Board to approve removing the following people from the volunteer fire department: Nicole Umphries for lack of a State of Ohio certificate; Cindy Freeman, Deanna Depugh, Josh Oyer, and Patience Oyer for lack of participation.

**Motion** by Daniel Mathuews, seconded by Larry Kellough, to approve the removal of the people listed above from the HTVFD.

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Vote: Daniel Mathuews Yes  
Larry Kellough Yes  
Gary Hopkins Yes

**Discussion:** The Board picked back up last month's discussion regarding mowing the Township cemeteries and the Fire House. The approved mowing schedule is attached and the job was awarded to South Central Services for a total of \$2500 a month: \$2100 for cemeteries and \$400 for the Fire House.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Daniel Mathuews, to revise the mowing schedule as noted and to award this year's work to South Central Services for \$2500 a month.

Vote: Gary Hopkins Yes  
Daniel Mathuews Yes  
Larry Kellough Yes

**Discussion:** The approved paid holidays are not the same between the Road Crew and the Paid Crew of the Fire Department. FO Snyder requested that the Board make them match. After discussion, a schedule of 13 paid holidays, attached to the minutes, will be paid exactly the same for the Road Crew and the FD Paid Crew.

**Motion** by Daniel Mathuews, seconded by Gary Hopkins, to approve the new schedule for paid holidays that are exactly the same for the Road Crew and the FD Paid Crew.

Vote: Daniel Mathuews Yes  
Gary Hopkins Yes  
Larry Kellough

General items under discussion:

- March 2018 Run Statistics: 71 total calls of which 54 were EMS of which we answered 44 calls. 17 were fire calls and we answered 100% of those.
- Chief Cuckler made the Board aware of a request that may be coming from Michelle McAllister on behalf of the Heroin Project. She may ask the Board to install a red box for used needles in exchange for clean needles. Cuckler is not in favor of this program/action.
- Trustee Hopkins brought up the idea of hiring a PT employee or contracting with someone to work for the Township on an as-needed basis for when one of the 2 Road Crew employees are on vacation or sick in order to be productive and get work done. Primarily for ditching. Discussed Terry Long, Don Leist, and employees of South Central Services.
- Trustees Hopkins & Mathuews will open the Fire House at 5:00AM for the May 8<sup>th</sup> election.

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- FO Snyder reminded the Board that the 2 mill levy is already off the duplicate and after 2018 we will no longer receive tax proceeds. The Board should consider placing the levy on the ballot this fall.

**Motion** by Daniel Mathuews, seconded by Gary Hopkins, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Vote:	Daniel Mathuews	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

ATTESTED:

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President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fiscal Officer