

HUNTINGTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 10, 2020

President Gary Hopkins called the June 10 2020 meeting to order at 5:42 P.M. at the Fire House.

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

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough, to approve the May 2020 minutes.

Vote: Gary Hopkins Yes
Larry Kellough Yes
John Cottrill Yes

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough, to approve payment of May 2020 bills.

Vote: John Cottrill Yes
Larry Kellough Yes
Gary Hopkins Yes

- Chief Cuckler asked the Board to hire James Cominski to the paid, part-time crew at \$11.33 hour. He is an EMT-B and FF1.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough, to hire James Cominski to the paid, part-time crew at \$11.33/hr.with the qualifications of EMT-B and FF1.

Vote: John Cottrill Yes
Larry Kellough Yes
Gary Hopkins Yes

- Chief Cuckler asked the Board to approve three (3) purchase requisitions, as follows:

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| #1 Burgess Ambulance | \$1500 | Install power cot on new squad |
| #2 Cutright Total Maint | \$2,410.26 | Turbo work on 916 squad |
| #3 U Line | \$500 | Plastic sleeves light pole covers \$33/per – choose to do front poles only 15 total. |

Motion by John Cottrill, seconded by Larry Kellough to approve the three (3) purchase reqs.

Vote: John Cottrill Yes
Larry Kellough Yes
Gary Hopkins Yes

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- FO Snyder shared the most recent Fire Department cash flow statement and applauded the department for their great financial discipline. (Cash flow statement is attached to original minutes.)

- Chief discussed the 2nd squad, 916, and the history of issues we have experienced with it. He recounted that it had been in a Ford dealer garage 3 times. Noting that we have fought this squad since the beginning. There was discussion of lemon laws, but the time for that has expired. Cuckler shared an email where he had contacted Ford to inquire if they would cover some of the expenses we have incurred; they declined. He also contacted Burgess Ambulance, to no avail. He recommended that when the 2020 squad, 917, reaches the year 2023, that the Board pay for an extended warranty.

- FO Snyder provide an update from Jeff See regarding Ross County Community Action. Meetings have been held via Zoom. They are trying to locate a property to be used as a homeless shelter. The Headstart Director is making an effort to increase teacher salaries to be more in line with public school teacher salaries.

- The Board reviewed the revised cemetery rules discussed at the May 13 meeting. FO Snyder provided the Board members with a copy of the rules, which were read.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins, to approved the revised cemetery rules. Copy is attached to these minutes.

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

- The Board read and reviewed the resolution that was prepared for the Board regarding permitting ATV type vehicles on Township roads. That resolution is attached to these minutes. The first step is to rescind the motion that was approved in January 2020. The second step is to approve the new resolution.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins, to rescind the motion below that was approved by the Board at the January 2020 meeting:

Motion by Larry Kellough, second by John Cottrill, to permit ATV vehicles, such as 4-wheelers and side by sides, to travel on township roads. FO Snyder is to prepare a letter to be sent to Sheriff Lavender; therefore, law enforcement will not chase them since they will no longer break a law. Our trustees do have the right to authorize.

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

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Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough, to approve the resolution below:

RESOLUTION 6.10.2020

WHEREAS, the Huntington Township Board of Trustees desires to allow the operation all-purpose vehicles, as defined by Section 4519.01(B) of the Ohio Revised Code, on Township roads located in Huntington Township; and

WHEREAS, Section 4519.48 of the Ohio Revised Code allows local authorities, including Townships, to regulate and allow the use of such all-purpose vehicles within the jurisdiction of the respective Township; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Township Trustees of Huntington Township, Ross County, Ohio, pursuant to Section 4519 of the Ohio Revised Code, hereby permits the operation of all-purpose vehicles within Huntington Township under the following conditions:

1. This resolution authorizes only those vehicles, which are included in the definition of “all-purpose vehicles” as set forth in Section 4519.01(B) of the Ohio Revised Code, to be operated on Township roads within Huntington Township subject to the provisions listed below.
2. All such “all-purpose vehicles” shall be equipped with at least the minimum equipment, including but not limited to, headlights, taillights, adequate brakes, and muffler systems, as provided for in Section 4519.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.
3. All such “all-purpose vehicles” shall be registered with the State of Ohio in accordance with Sections 4519.03 and 4519.04 of the Ohio Revised Code, and shall display the necessary license plate and registration sticker required by such sections.
4. All operators of such “all-purpose vehicles” shall be properly licensed in accordance with Section 4519.44 of the Ohio Revised Code.
5. No person under the age of sixteen (16) may operate an “all-purpose vehicle” unless such operation is in accordance with Section 4519.44(B) of the Ohio Revised Code.
6. The owner or operator of such “all-purpose vehicle” shall maintain sufficient insurance coverage and proof of financial responsibility as set forth in Sections 4519.01(N) and 4509.01(K) of the Ohio Revised Code, so as not to be in violation of Section 4509.101 of the Ohio revised Code.
7. Operators of “all-purpose vehicles” in Huntington Township are **only permitted** to operate said vehicle in accordance with the permitted uses set forth in Section 4519.41 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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8. Operators of “all-purpose vehicles” in Huntington Township are **not permitted** to operate said vehicle in violation of the prohibitions set forth in Section 4519.40, including, but not limited to, operating the “all-purpose vehicle” on private land without permission of the owner or other person having the right to possession of the property, and operating the “all-purpose vehicle” while under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or a combination of them.
9. Operators of the “all-purpose vehicles” are responsible for obeying all traffic laws set forth in the Ohio Revised Code, as well as any and all other provisions of the Ohio Revised Code pertaining to “all-purpose vehicles” even if not expressly set forth in this Resolution.

Motion by John Cottrill, seconded by Larry Kellough to approve the all-purpose vehicle resolution above. (Snyder was instructed to provide the updated Resolution to the Sheriff and local Highway Patrol)

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

- The Board discussed a change in the planned chip and seal work for 2020. Instead of working on Bethel Road, the decision was made to work on Hartwood Road beginning at St Rt 772 and working on two sections.

Motion by Larry Kellough, second by Gary Hopkins, to proceed with the change outlined immediately above to the 2020 Chip and Seal program.

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

Guest: Dwain Robbins, resident, Baptist Hill Rd. Reiterated his gratitude to the Twp emergency responders, such as Andrew Uhrig, who were on the squad the day he was rushed to the hospital and ended up with a pacemaker. Robbins provided a copy of a letter dated 8.3.2015 from County Engineer Charles Ortman regarding the private drive on Baptist Hill Rd. It contains information about how to upgrade a private drive to an acceptable standard to be a public road. Ortman attached to the letter another letter, but this one is dated 2.22.2002 for a similar situation, but from the Ross County Board of Commissioners to the resident. Robbins referenced a comment about Prosecutor Marks saying it was illegal to abandon township roads. He also asked if we had located our minutes from 1979, 1980, and 1981. We have not. The trustees discussed current township roads that never should have been changed from driveways to roadways; citing Harris Station Road, Shady Glenn, Rice Rd, and McCann Lane. Those trustees permitted this without thinking about the difficulty it would present to future trustees to maintain those roadways. This current Board does not intend to do that to future trustees. Hopkins discussed residents who have approached this Board in recent years asking that a private drive change to a township road – such as Barker Lane off Debord Rd.

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Both Hopkins and Kellough stated that they are not in favor of changing the private lane that Robbins lives on into a township road. Kellough discussed McCann Lane and that the residents want what was a private drive to change to chip and seal. Very unlikely that will occur.

Hopkins said if the County Commissioners and County Engineer are on Board, the work done to meet the requirements at the expense of the landowners, Hopkins would still vote against accepting it and it would be up to the other two trustees.

Robbins referenced Paul Minney, of FEMA, and stated that FEMA funds were used to replace a culvert on that lane years ago. His point was how could FEMA funds be used on a private road.

Snyder shared that the Township only receives \$.74 a mile from the road mileage grant; and that this would not be a practical reason to increase our township road mileage. It costs much more than that to maintain our roads year after year.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Larry Kellough, to set the 2021 Budget Hearing for July 8, 2020 at 5:30PM at the Fire House. The regular meeting will follow immediately afterward.

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

General items under discussion:

- May 2020 Run Statistics: 74 total calls of which 67 were EMS for which we answered 66. 7 were fire calls and we answered 100% of those. Gave 11 mutual aid and received 2.
- President Hopkins asked the Chief Cuckler if the Fire Department had been random drug testing the employees, and reinforced the important of doing so. He asked Cuckler about our inventory of the drug testing we could do ourselves, and Cuckler stated that the cups had expired and were discarded. Hopkins instructed Cuckler to order more and begin testing again. Cuckler asked FO Snyder to forward the drug policy to him, again.
- The road listing on the Township website has some inaccuracies: Add Bland Rd as a township road; Sullivan Rd is a county road, not township; St Rt 772 is ODOT, not county; and the part of Liberty Hill Rd between Rozelle and Mt Tabor is a township road, not county.
- FO Snyder shared that advances are available from the Ross County Treasurer of real estates taxes that have been paid to a certain point in time if the Board needs the funding earlier.
- Trustee Cottrill shared a few cemetery updates. 1) He received a question regarding the Township providing water at the cemetery. He explained that vandalism and theft prevent the Township from adding a water spigot. 2) Disappointment with the mowing at Mt Tabor Cemetery, among others, and expressed that the Eric Estep who holds the mowing contract. Also stated the Fire House mowing was not up to expected standards. 3) Need to purchase new mower blades from Rural King.

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Motion by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

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

ATTESTED:

President

Vice President

Member

Fiscal Officer