

HUNTINGTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 13, 2020

President Gary Hopkins called the May 13 2020 meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. at the Fire House.

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

**Motion** by Larry Kellough, second by Gary Hopkins, to approve the Regular April 2020 minutes.

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill, to approve the Special 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 April 2020 bills.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

**SPECIAL NOTE:** The Board conducted the meeting as usual, but required all in attendance to wear masks.

- Chief Cuckler asked the Board to accept two applications to the volunteer side of the Fire Department: Zach Payne and David Cottrill.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough, to accept the volunteer applications of Zach Payne and David Cottrill.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

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- Chief Cuckler asked the Board to approve seven (7) purchase requisitions, as follows:

#1 Jason Corwin	\$140.95	Reimburse for purchase of 2 chargers
#2 All American Fires	\$1,200.06	Repairs to 902
#3 Bio Medical	\$120	Items for Life Paks and AED
#4 TL Doors	\$710	Repair to damage on garage door in bay
#5 Cutrights Maint	\$631.37	#918 High pressure pump
#6 Chillicothe S&S	\$500	FD uniform items
#7 Fire Safety Svs	595.20	2 prs fire boots

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, seconded by Larry Kellough to approve the seven (7) purchase reqs.

Vote: Gary Hopkins Yes  
Larry Kellough Yes  
John Cottrill Yes

- Chief Cuckler asked the Board to dismiss John Kemme from the paid part-time crew for failing to submit a monthly schedule; the requirement is one 12 hours shift per month.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough, to approve the termination of John Kemme for failing to submit a monthly schedule.

Vote: Gary Hopkins Yes  
Larry Kellough Yes  
John Cottrill Yes

- Chief clarified that some members of the part-time crew do submit schedules, but because they are single-carded, they are not selected when dual-carded employees are available. The current list of single-carded employees: Tony Cottrill (Fire); Greg Campbell (Fire); Michael Grooms (Fire); Cody Hill (EMT); Bill Malone (Fire); and Cassie Noble (EMT).
- Chief Cuckler asked the Board to approve a change to the definition of what constitutes holiday hours. Currently, a holiday is from 12:01AM to 12:00PM. The new definition would run concurrent with a shift, or from 7:00AM the day of the holiday until 6:59AM the following day.

**Motion** by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins, to approve the hours per holiday as discussed above – from 7:00AM the day of the holiday until 6:59AM the day after.

Vote: John Cottrill Yes  
Gary Hopkins Yes  
Larry Kellough Yes

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- GUEST: Bruce Pauley, President of the HTVFD Association approached the Board to discuss the July 11 fish fry fundraiser for the fire department. Due to COVID-19 concerns, the fish fry will be a drive through. People will drive through the bay to pick up their orders. The Ross County Health Department has approved this plan. Pauley requested the Board's approval as well.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill, to approve using the bay at the firehouse for a drive through fish fry on July 11, 2020.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

- GUEST: Brett Gibson was present to listen to the discussion of the cemetery rules for township cemeteries, and to ensure that his family followed the rules.
- Chief Cuckler asked the Board to approve the contract with Fire Recovery USA LLC for 3<sup>rd</sup> party billing of the fire runs by our department. This topic was discussed at the March and April Board meetings.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill, to sign the contract with Fire Recovery USA LLC for 3<sup>rd</sup> party billing of fire runs by our department.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

- The Board received 3 offers on the International Dump Truck as follows:

Wayne Lawson	\$12,535
Chris Posey	\$11,500
Danny Ratcliff	\$10,300

**Motion** by Larry Kellough, second by Gary Hopkins, to sell the truck to Wayne Lawson for \$12,535. Snyder will prepare the title.

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

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- The Board received 8 offers on the Fire Department's '86 Ford F353 brush truck as follows:

Dennis Long	\$2,000	Danny Ratcliff	\$3,318
Brett Gibson	\$2,650	Tristen Carter	\$2,500
Jerry Korody	\$3,855	Dan Mathuews	\$2,459
John Long	\$3,259	Mark Cydrus	\$2,000

**Motion** by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough, to sell the brush truck to Jerry Korody for \$3,855. Snyder will prepare the title.

Vote:

John Cottrill	Yes
Larry Kellough	Yes
Gary Hopkins	Yes

- Chief Cuckler recommended that the Board increase the EMS billing rates and mileage rates. He shared the current rates, and a table that compared the rates utilized currently by other Ross County Townships.

**Motion** by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins, to approve the following increased rates:

ALS II from \$1185 to \$1200

Mileage rate from \$17.50 to \$20.00

Non-transport charge – currently we do not have one. Cuckler was instructed to find out more.

Vote:

John Cottrill	Yes
Gary Hopkins	Yes
Larry Kellough	Yes

- Chief Cuckler asked the Board to declare Squad 918, a 2005 Ford E 450 chassis and a 1996 Braun box, which was rechassied by Lifestar in 2005, as surplus and available for sale.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill, to declare the 2005 Ford E 450 squad #918 as surplus and for sale.

Vote:

Gary Hopkins	Yes
John Cottrill	Yes
Larry Kellough	Yes

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- GUESTS: Sheriff George Lavender and Deputy Kevin Claypool attended the meeting at the request of President Hopkins to discuss several areas of concern.

1) ATVs on Township Roads. In January 2020 the Board approved a motion to permit ATVs, like 4-wheelers and side-by-sides to utilize township owned roads. Sheriff Lavender spoke to Ross County Prosecutor Jeff Marks prior to our meeting. Their recommendation is that our resolution is not specific enough and needs revised to include that the driver must have a valid Ohio driver's license; proof of insurance; follows the Ohio motor vehicle laws; and that the number of passengers are limited to number for which the vehicle is designed. FO Snyder will request a meeting for the Board with Jeff Marks to discuss and ask that he draft an appropriate resolution for the Board to approve.

2) The number of mutual aid calls Huntington Township gives, versus the number we receive, the wear and tear on our equipment, and 9-1-1 Dispatch.

We have signed mutual aid agreements with surrounding townships, private ambulance companies, and the Ross County County-wide mutual aid agreement.

The Sheriff explained that there is a call protocol, that the dispatchers are not using their own discretion in who is called and when. Each township has the right to notify the Call Center of who to call for mutual aid; the specific order. That is private information to which we are not privy. He strongly feels that life and death is what matters, and stated that we should be aware that if we quit providing full mutual aid to a township, they might do the very same thing to us.

Tristen Carter explained our concern from an operational standpoint in that we may wait up to 25 minutes before the call finally comes to us from another township. He expressed support of establishing time limits that force the call to another township for mutual aid. For example, less than or greater than 6 minutes – if the home township has not responded, the call goes out for mutual aid. Or all call after 10 minutes. Often a driver will acknowledge, but that driver cannot treat someone and is therefore ineffective. Eventually they will ask us, for example, to supply an EMT.

Larry Cuckler shared an example from April on Sugartree Road. That township acknowledged the call, but had trouble getting a crew together. It was 34 minutes later before we got the call.

Kevin Claypool stated that one of the dispatchers does call us because she knows we will respond.

Trustee Hopkins shared his experience at the Franklin Township Board of Trustee meeting when he asked them to sign a contract for which we would bill their township each time we took one of their calls.

The Sheriff shared that Deerfield Township does have such an agreement in place with Union Township that permits Union to get something per run, and to soft bill Deerfield's residents. He firmly believes that either we need a countywide answer, or to break the county into 3 or 4 districts where Scioto, Union, Green and Huntington are the hubs. He gave an example of a call at Rifle Machine works, no more than 2 minutes away from the Green township station, but they waited so long that someone there drove him to the hospital.

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Hopkins asked if we could specify the type of calls we would and would not take when called for mutual aid. He is concerned that we will be in another township, and one of our own people will need us.

Trustee Cottrill stated that other townships need to follow our example and do what we have done with community support of levies, 3<sup>rd</sup> party billing, and 24/7 coverage.

The Sheriff said that ultimately, they will follow our protocols, but we need to have them backed up legally by the County Prosecutor. He reminded us that a cruiser cannot take a patient to the hospital.

Sheriff's Recommendations:

1. Get in touch with Melanie Oiler of the Ross County Health Department regarding Narcan used in other townships, but for which we are not able to bill or recoup the cost.
2. Contact Jeff Marks, Ross County Prosecutor, to discuss recommended protocols and the legalities facing the Township regarding our concern with dispatching to other townships, the resistance some townships have towards helping us when we need mutual aid, billing townships for our services, among other items. We should take all mutual aid agreements that we have in place for Marks' review. FO Snyder will request the meeting on behalf of the Board and the Fire Department leadership.
3. Make a public records request of the Ross County Sheriff's Dispatch Records in order to see a summary of calls and responses. This will allow us to see who is and is not fulfilling their duties to their townships.

➤ The Board received 2 offers on the 2020 chip and seal program for the Township; as follows:

Scioto Valley Paving	\$169,046
SC Construction	\$155,763

**Motion** by Larry Kellough, second by John Cottrill, to award the 2020 chip and seal work to SC Construction for \$155,763.

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

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- The Board discussed the current cemetery rules, which have been the same since the newest cemetery was opened in 1994. Trustee Cottrill started the conversation by sharing his idea to have a Facebook page to communicate with our community. He posted the rules of the cemetery in early April. A few people took issue to the rules, stating that they had never seen them before, or that the rules had not previously been enforced, so why now. Cottrill stated that the rules were created in 1994, and modified in 2004, 2011, and 2018. He asked, “If we not going to enforce them then should we get rid of them?”

FO Snyder then passed out the current rules, as well as rules issued by Twin Township and Scioto Township. All of the rules are very similar.

The Board discussed rules 3 and 5, making recommendations to Snyder for change. Snyder will revise the rules based upon the trustees’ discussion, and then leave them at the garage for review. Any additional changes or concerns will be communicated to Snyder for revision. The Board will then re-address the rules at the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- FO Snyder asked the Board if the newly added clause titled “Malicious Acts” coverage was necessary for our property and liability insurance with Rinehart. If the Board feels it is not necessary, since it is optional, we may decline it and save money on premiums.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill, to decline the Malicious Acts coverage.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

- FO Snyder asked the Board to approve the following certifications, appropriations, and re-appropriations to Township funds:

Fire Fund

1. Certify \$213,671 into 2111.971.0000 Other Debt Proceeds.
  - a. This resource is an exact loan from Vinton County National Bank for a new squad.
2. Appropriate \$213,671 into 2111.760.740 Machinery, Equipment, and Furniture.
3. Certify \$5,000 into 2111.539.0000 Other – State Receipts (BWC Refund)
4. Appropriate \$5,000 into 2111.220.420 Operating Supplies
5. Certify \$6,000 into 2111.892.0000 into Other-Miscellaneous Nom-Operating (CARES Stimulus)
6. Appropriate \$6,000 into 2111.230.420 Operating Supplies
7. Re-appropriate a total of \$41,375 currently in Machinery, Eqpt, and Furniture into Operating Supplies as follows: \$5,000 in the MVL Fund; \$29,375 in the Gas Fund; and \$7,000 in the Perm MVL Fund.

**Motion** by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough, to approve the certifications, appropriations, and re-appropriations detailed above.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

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General items under discussion:

- April 2020 Run Statistics: 95 total calls of which 82 were EMS for which we answered 82. 13 were fire calls and we answered 100% of those. Gave 12 mutual aid and received 5.
- Trustee Kellough stated that he would begin using the 2 part-time Road employees immediately; Gary Hickman and Rick Magill. Trustee Cottrill mentioned the possibility of adding a 3<sup>rd</sup> full time person down the road for safety reasons. The Township areas that they work in have changed, and are not as safe as they used to be. While they formerly worked separately, we are now asking them to work together.
- The Board discussed the timing of the chip and seal work in light of our current finances and when the 2<sup>nd</sup> payment of real estate taxes would be received late August 2020. Trustee Kellough stated that he would rather reduce the miles sealed as opposed to splitting the work up across the summer months, or asking SC Construction to wait for payment.
- The Board signed the previously approved loan documents to purchase the 2020 McCoy Miller squad. 6-year loan at \$3.35%.

**Motion** by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough, to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 P.M.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

ATTESTED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

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