

HUNTINGTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

President Gary Hopkins called the September 7, 2021 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 John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough, to approve the August Regular Meeting minutes.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough, to approve payment of the August 2021 bills.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

The Board discussed the EMS collections process with Medicount, the township's 3rd party biller. FO Snyder calculated a % collected of 27.9% of total charges. Of that total, 57.7% is adjusted off and 14.8% is written off. Snyder, Cottrill, and Chief Cuckler had a conference call with Sue Siebenthaler and Heath Smedley of Medicount earlier in the day. FO Snyder presented to the Board the results of that meeting. (Attached to these minutes.) Medicount had two solutions to offer to the Board. One suggestion would be to send write-offs of non-residents to the Ohio Attorney General for collection. If those people that owe the Twp do not pay, then their tax returns, lottery winnings, casino winnings, etc. will be diverted to the Twp. A second suggestion would be to consider billing residents a portion of what they owe. Not every resident is a property owner, therefore to collect fees from them is not a form of double taxation. Also discussed in the meeting was the steps necessary should the Board decide to close the account/lockbox at Huntington National Bank (HNB) due to the fees charged, and open a new account at Vinton County National Bank (VCNB) which has the Twp checking account. Medicount indicated that a banking change is not difficult.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill, to close the account at HNB, and to open a new account at VCNB in which EMS billing receipts would be collected. Snyder was instructed to open the new account at VCNB and to close the old one at HNB.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

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Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill, to begin the process of sending non-resident write-offs to the Ohio Attorney General for collections. Medicount will provide the data in an excel spreadsheet and suggests going back three months to submit write-offs. Snyder will begin the process.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

The Board discussed the status of our mutual aid. Our participation in the countywide agreement ends 9.30.2021. Prosecutor Marks has prepared two mutual aid agreements for our township – one for Fire only and one for Fire & EMS. The trustees and Fire Chief will begin to get the agreements signed. FO Snyder will email agreements to other FO, or place in the mail. The Board briefly discussed the letter received from Paul Minney, the Director of The Ross County Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Minney states that the Township has made a mistake in deciding to exit the countywide agreement and would like for us to renegotiate the contract or reconsider our decision. Hopkins discussed the option of someone in house billing for EMS runs. Goal would be to get other residents angry with their trustees when they have to pay another township for EMS services.

GUEST: Jordan Wheeler, candidate for Huntington Township Trustee, introduced himself. Stated he will run a clean race, and that he has no problems with the township operations, but wishes to build off of the Township's assets.

GUEST: Larry Cuckler, Fire Chief, approached the Board to ask for approval of four (4) purchase requisitions, as follows:

#1 Albright Saw	\$216.23	Sharpen FD chain saws
#2 Mark Porter	\$363.12	Oil change squad
#3 Buckeye Apparatus	\$2698.51	Tanker 913 and Engine 902
#4 Quick Stop Tire	\$1040	2 new tires on tankerz

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve all four (4) purchase requisitions.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Update on wrecked squad: Steering box parts arrived. It will be finished today. They will run it on the road, then check the fuel pressure issues, the fuel rail, etc. Expect to have it back at the end of this week.

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Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve the liquor license for Atomic Speedway.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	No

Motion by Larry Kellough, second by Gary Hopkins to set a dollar limit of \$140 per pair of safety shoes for both the Fire Department and the Road Crew. Anything more expensive the employee would have to cover the difference. (This motion was in response to the cost of shoes purchased by one of the R&B crew.)

Vote:	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to re-appoint Jeffrey See to the Ross County Community Action Board as the Huntington Township Representative.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

FO Snyder shared the Rates and Balances as determined by the Budget Commission for 2022 and asked the Board to approve a Resolution to accept those rates and balances.

- Decreased General Fund by (\$63.22)
- Decreased R&B Fund by (\$126.30)
- Increased the Fire Fund by \$1,191.80
- Increased Local Gov't Funding by 3,565.55

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by John Cottrill, to accept the Rates and Balances as determined by the Budget Commission for 2022.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

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FO Snyder asked the Board to approve the following certifications, appropriations, and reappropriation:

Fire Fund:

1. Please certify \$20,000 into 2111-299.0000 other – Charges for Services
 - a. This resource is from strong EMS collections.
2. Appropriate:
 - a. \$5,000.00 into 2111.220.323 Repairs & Maint
 - b. \$5,000 into 2111.220.420 Operating Supplies
 - c. \$10,000 into 2111.230.420 Operating Supplies

American Rescue Plan Funding:

1. Please certify \$326,299.55 into 2273-511-000 Federal Funds
2. At this time we are not appropriating anything as we are uncertain how this money will be spent.
3. The funds were deposited at our bank September 1, 2021

Reappropriation:

1. \$276.29 from 1000.110.312 to 1000.110.314 to cover tax collection expense
2. \$1,338.38 from 2111.230.190 to 2111.220.314 to cover tax collection expense
3. \$1000 from 1000.110.315 to 1000.330.420 because election expense will not be needed
4. \$1,200 from 2041.410.190 to 2041.410.360 to cover mowing
5. \$150 from 2041.410.211 to 2041.410.360 to cover mowing
6. \$10,000 from 2111.230.190 to 2111.230.420 for funding needed in Op supplies
7. \$2,000 from 2111.230.215 to 2111.230.420 for funding needed in Op supplies

Motion by Gary Hopkins, seconded by John Cottrill, to approve the certifications, appropriations, and reappropriation as discussed above.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

General items under discussion:

- August 2021 Run Statistics: 104 total calls of which 88 were EMS for which we answered 88. 16 were fire calls and we answered 100% of those. Gave 36 mutual aid and received 6.
- There was discussion between the Board, Snyder, and the Chief regarding ARPA funds. Snyder stated that she submitted the application, it had been approved, and \$326,299.55 had been received in our account at VCNB. Cuckler mentioned that Scioto Twp decided to increase the EMT pay by \$3/hr until it runs out. The problem with that is once the money is gone, then the hourly rate is cut by \$3.
- Cottrill has not yet heard about the cemetery grant.
- Cottrill intends to apply for the Infrastructure Grant. Could be awarded \$250,000. The Board will need to identify projects to submit. Keiser Rd and Turner Rd were discussed.
- The trustees discussed tires for R&B vehicles – Goodyear vs Continental.

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- Receiving reports of illegal activity at Mt. Tabor Cemetery. Residents have requested a gate be installed. Or dump dirt in the middle of the road. Asked the resident to call the Sheriff.
- Resident on Mt Zion apologized to Cottrill and Hopkins for how he acted towards our Road Crew.
- Resident on Skyver complained about a neighbor who hauls wood for a living, and the wood is getting into the creek. Resident is concerned that it would create a plug and cause flooding.
- Funeral this Saturday for Melissa Ward. Concern about bench in the middle of the grave. Township employees will not relocate the bench and the family will need to do it themselves.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

ATTESTED:

President

Vice President

Member

Fiscal Officer