

MEMBERS PRESENT: CRAWFORD, OPRITA, BUECHLER, KISH, BRUCKNER AND ARMBRUSTER
 MEMBERS ABSENT: BRADLEY
 ALSO PRESENT: PAT SMITH, FIRE CHIEF
 SHARON WILTON, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
 PATTI BUNDY, UTILITY BILLING CLERK
 DEAN MARLAR, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBER
 JORJA BALDWIN, COUNTY COMMISSIONER
 NATHAN SPARSCHU, DAN & BECKY SPARSCHU AND JOAN SPARSCHU
 KEN CUMMINGS, TRI HOSPITAL EMS
 DAVE NORRIS

Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of September 7th, 2022, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: * NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Oprita, seconded by Buechler, to approve the Agenda, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,264,756.01
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,202,731.39
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 65,904.07
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 531,934.60
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 268,103.39
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 91,253.91
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 1,899,442.14
TOTAL	\$ 6,324,125.51
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 1,198,141.30
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 7,522,266.81

Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Buechler, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 7,522,266.81.**

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 52,547.26
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 3,158.48
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 62,779.00
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 82,388.43
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 0.00
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 0.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 194,235.23
TOTAL	\$ 395,108.40
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT. & IMP.)	\$ 141,608.79
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 536,717.19

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Oprita, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 536,717.19.**

* According to Section 6 of the Charter Township of Fort Gratiot By-Laws adopted 02/20/2003.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT REPORT: Given by representative of Sheriff Department: Captain M. Pohl

Total Calls for Service for the month of August, 2022, (577). Number of Patrol Hours, (1116). 22 Animal Complaint; 35 Assist Other Depts.; 227 Assist Public; 18 B&E/Alarm; 1 B&E/Building & Vehicle; 3 Child Abuse/Neglect; 13 Disorderly Persons; 17 Domestic Assault; 4 Fraud; 5 Harassment & Threats; 6 Juvenile Matter; 4 Larceny; 7 MDOP; 1 Narcotics; 9 PI Traffic Crash; 36 PD Traffic Crash; 6 Retail Fraud; 1 Sex Offense; 2 Stolen Vehicle; 58 Suspicious Incidents; 3 Trespasser; 99 Misc.: School Checks/Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hang-ups, etc.; 194 Traffic Stops; 100 Tickets Issued.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SHERIFF: *

Mr. Marlar thanked the Sheriff's Department for their quick response to monitor speed on North River Road.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total runs for the month of August, 2022, (178). 13 Fire; 137 Rescue/EMS; 5 Hazardous Condition (No Fire); 5 Service Calls; 7 Good Intent Calls; 11 False Alarm/False Call. Total Cost, \$24,793.95.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of August, 2022, (50). 1 New Home (Val. 175,000); 34 Residential Addition/Alteration/Repair (Val. 633,178); 2 Accessory Structure (Val. 143,000); 8 Fence (Val. 32,368); 1 Multiple Residential (Val. 370,000); 3 Commercial Addition/Alteration/Repair (Val. 278,799). Total Valuation, \$ 1,648,345.00. Total Fees, \$ 10,996.50.

PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of August, 2022, (22). 16 Mechanical (2,545.00); 6 Plumbing (1,197.00). Total Fees, \$ 3,742.00.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of August, 2022, (20). Total Fees, \$ 39,888.00.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: Total Complaints for the month of August, 2022, (27). 9 Blight; 14 High Grass/Noxious Weeds; 1 RV Storage/Parking; 3 Misc. Ordinance Violations. Total Hours, 38. Total Miles, 98.

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bruckner, to accept Reports, as presented. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Bruckner, to adopt and present the Proclamation of the Charter Township of Fort Gratiot Board of Trustee's in Appreciation Recognizing Life Scout, Nathan Sparschu, the design, construction and installation of handicapped accessible planting beds and a community sharing cupboard at the Fort Gratiot Community Garden. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
2. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Oprita, to adopt Resolution 2022-013, making Application to the St. Clair County Road Commission for the 2023 Local Road Funding Assistance Program, to replace the culvert on State Road over the Brace County Drain - C03, at an estimated cost to the Township of \$130,000.00.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION:

- * Existing culvert is deteriorating with rust-out holes in the bottom, 5-10% steel loss; and top of culvert is defecting downward 3"-6" at the centerline.
- * Estimated life is 3-5 years before road posting and 10-12 years before closure if not replaced.
- * State Road is the only north/south road, in Fort Gratiot, that can be used as an alternative to M-25.

Roll Call Vote, 5/1, Armbruster voting no. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2022-013, ADOPTED.**

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

3. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the removal of the existing pole and overhead light fixture at Keewahdin Road Beach and replace it with a Colonial Style Lamp Post, with underground electrical service, at a cost of \$1,469.59 for the fixture and an annual estimated cost of \$274.20.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * The Annual cost of lighting is charged to the Township-at-Large Highway Lighting
\$ 22.85 per month x 12 months = \$ 274.20 per year.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

4. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bruckner, to accept the *Letter of Agreement for Professional Services*, from Spicer Group, to prepare a Grant Application through the Michigan DNR for improvements at the Parker Road Park, at an estimated cost of \$8,500.00; and authorize the Township Supervisor or Township Clerk to sign the Agreement on behalf of Fort Gratiot Charter Township.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Due to unknowns of the Grant program, the proposed fee is submitted as an hourly estimated fee.
* Grant submittal due date anticipated for some time in Fall of 2022.
* Requesting preparation estimates from other Grant writers.
* Infrastructure; seeing a more clear and precise plan

Roll Call Vote, 4/2, Kish and Armbruster voting no. **MOTION PASSED.**

5. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Crawford, to approve the Fire Chiefs request to raise Captain Woolman's hourly rate of pay, from the Lieutenant's rate of \$21.79 per hour to Captain's rate of \$23.96 per hour, retroactive to July 6, 2022, when he received the promotion.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Captain Woolman's promotion, from Lieutenant to Captain, was approved on July 6, 2022, "effective immediately".

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

6. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Ambulance Services Agreement between Fort Gratiot Charter Township and Tri-Hospital Emergency Medical Services Corporation; and authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Township.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Last contract was dated 1985
* Ken Cummings explained how millage monies would be distributed.
* Oversight of millage funds.
* Facilities which don't pay taxes and uninsured service users

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

7. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Buechler, to accept the updated Letter of Retirement from Sharon Wilton, Community Development Coordinator, effective October 14th, 2022.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Sharon originally put in for December 30, 2022 as her retirement date; accepted by the Township Board on July 6th, 2022.

Vote, 5/1, Crawford voting no. **MOTION PASSED.**

BOARD DISCUSSION:

- First Amendment auditors visited; no issues.
- Scarecrow Saturday, September 24th, 2022.
- Discussions regarding Sharon's replacement.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Jorja Baldwin, St. Clair County Commissioner, regarding Eagle Scout project; and the ambulance millage.

Dean Marlar regarding First Amendment auditors.

Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to adjourn. Time, 7:51 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. MEETING ADJOURNED.**



ROBERT D. BUECHLER, CLERK
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP

RDB/RCC/vo

ROBERT C. CRAWFORD, SUPERVISOR
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP