

MEMBERS PRESENT: WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, KISH, BRUCKNER AND ARMBRUSTER
 MEMBERS ABSENT: CRAWFORD
 ALSO PRESENT: PAT SMITH, FIRE CHIEF
 PATTI BUNDY, UTILITY BILLING CLERK / ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Minutes of the SPECIAL MEETING of August 2nd, 2023 (6 PM); and the REGULAR MEETING of August 2nd, 2023, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: *

Tim Ward regarding his June request that the Board consider performing a professional engineering study for a sidewalk on Lakeshore Road, from north of Keewahdin to M-25. Offered several suggestions for funding the study & project and requested the Board consider adopting a resolution, tonight, asking for assistance from SEMCOG.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Agenda, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,165,169.20
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,486,961.59
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 199,606.37
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 628,317.14
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 368,541.99
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 93,879.98
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 1,968,679.58
TOTAL	\$ 6,911,155.85
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 888,101.74
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 7,799,257.59

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Armbruster, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 7,799,257.59.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 42,507.34
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 8,500.87
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 0.00
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 100.80
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 61,115.24
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 2,852.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 16,555.95
TOTAL	\$ 131,632.20
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT. & IMP.)	\$ 758.74
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 132,390.94

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bruckner, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 132,390.94.

* 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: Sergeant Schwartzkopf

Total Calls for Service for the month of July, 2023, (602). Number of Patrol Hours, (1116). 12 Animal Complaint; 6 Assault & Battery; 46 Assist Other Depts.; 202 Assist Public; 46 B&E/Alarm; 8 Disorderly Persons; 6 Domestic Assault; 5 Fraud; 10 Harassment & Threats; 15 Juvenile Matter; 8 Larceny; 7 MDOP; 4 Narcotics; 8 PI Traffic Crash; 30 PD Traffic Crash; 9 Retail Fraud; 1 Stolen Vehicle; 32 Suspicious Incidents; 3 Trespasser; 124 Misc.: School Checks/Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hang-ups, etc.; 130 Traffic Stops; 63 Tickets Issued.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SHERIFF: * NONE

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total runs for the month of July, 2023, (172). 8 Fire; 111 Rescue/EMS; 16 Hazardous Condition (No Fire); 5 Service Calls; 15 Good Intent Calls; 17 False Alarm/False Call. Total Cost, \$22,496.70.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of July, 2023, (31). 1 New Home (Val. 150,000); 14 Residential Addition / Alteration/Repair (Val. 264,764); 7 Accessory Structure (Val. 310,245); 4 Fence (Val. 16,675); 4 Deck/Porch (Val. 38,630); 1 Residential Demolition (Val. 1,000). Total Valuation, \$ 781,314.00. Total Fees, \$ 7,384.00.

PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of July, 2023, (9). 4 Mechanical (880.00); 5 Plumbing (716.00). Total Fees, \$ 1,598.00.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of July, 2023, (8). Total Fees, \$ 1,427.00.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: Total Complaints for the month of July, 2023, (70). 9 Blight; 42 High Grass/Noxious Weeds; 7 Signs; 1 Sheriff's Department; 2 Unlicensed Vehicles; 9 Misc. Code Violations. Total Hours, 64. Total Miles, 153.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce *Thank You Letter* for the Township's community support.
2. Great Lakes Restoration Celebration, September 22, 2023 at the Henry Ford in Dearborn from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE, ANDREW BEELER - LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Representative Beeler was unable to attend and will reschedule for an upcoming meeting.

2. Paul Bailey, Township Auditor with UHY, LLC, Certified Public Accountants, gave a presentation on the Township's 2022 Audit Report; and explained the *Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control and Audit Communication Letter*.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Parks Budget
* Board approval of expenditures
* Water/Sewer Rate Study and Sewer Treatment Plant Improvement expenditures.

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Kish, to accept and approve the 2022 Audit Report for Fort Gratiot Charter Township, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

3. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Fire Chiefs request to hire Daniel L. Luther onto the Fire Department at the probationary pay rate of \$11.00 per run, starting August 20, 2023.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Chief Smith introduced Mr. Luther

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

4. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bruckner, to approve increasing Captain, Travis Woolman's pay from \$24.80 per hour to \$25.05 per hour, beginning on pay period starting August 13, 2023, with no back pay.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * 0.25 cent per hour increase

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

5. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Armbruster, to approve increasing Lieutenant, Brent Woolman's pay from \$22.00 per hour to \$22.77, beginning on the pay period starting August 13, 2023, with no back pay.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * 0.77 cent increase per hour

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

6. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the *Letter of Authorization* for BMJ Engineers & Surveyor's to provide professional engineering & surveying services for the replacement of the 12" diameter force main replacement, between Pump Station #12 & Fairway Drive, at an estimated cost of \$69,000.00.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Funds from Utility Receiving Water & Sewer Fund or Capital Improvement Fund
* This project was identified by the SAW Grant as something that needs to be done; this line carries 80% - 90% of the sewage from the Township to the City of Port Huron.
* ARPA Funds

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

7. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Bruckner, to adopt the 2024 Local Road Funding Assistance Program Resolution (2023-010) to replace the failing concrete box culvert on State Road, South of Carrigan Road and North of Keewahdin Road at the Doe Creek Extension.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Estimated project cost is \$200,000.00 with \$100,000 Match Program.
Township cost = \$100,000.00.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2023-010, ADOPTED.**

8. Motion by Kish, seconded by Buechler, to approve the Proposal, from T.G. Priehs Asphalt Paving & Excavating Contractor, for 2023 Pickleball Pathway Paving in the amount of \$29,300.00; ~~and additional 70' x 70' Pickleball Court in the amount of \$9,500.00. (Total = \$38,800.00).~~

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * West side of Parker Road.
* Connectivity to other planned development(s).
* Funds to be used from the Parks Millage.

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

BOARD DISCUSSION:

- August 8th, 2023 Special Election update.
- Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce *Annual Eggs & Issues Legislative Breakfast*, August 21st, 2023 at 7:30 a.m.
- Striping of Pointe Community Center parking lot.
- Lakeshore Road Sidewalk Study funding.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Tim Ward regarding Sidewalk Study for Lakeshore Road. Requested the Board to take action, tonight, in order to direct staff to seek out grant funding.

Dave Norris regarding Item #8, NEW BUSINESS, asking for clarification as to the amount that was approved.

It was, unanimously, clarified by the Board that Item #8, NEW Business was to approve \$29,300.00, which includes 70' x 70' Pickleball Court; 8' x 350' Pathway and 26' x 20' ADA Parking Area. The motion did not include the additional 70'x 70' Pickleball Court.

Mr. Norris asked why the Meeting Room doesn't have a calendar on the wall.

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to adjourn. Time, 8:07 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. MEETING ADJOURNED.**



ROBERT D. BUECHLER, CLERK
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP

RDB/RCC/va

ROBERT C. CRAWFORD, SUPERVISOR
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The Charter Township of Fort Gratiot complies with the "Americans with Disabilities Act" and if auxiliary aids or services are required at the meeting for individuals with disabilities, please contact Clerk, Robert C. Crawford, 3720 Keewahdin Road, Fort Gratiot MI 48059, (810)385.4489, three days prior to said meeting.