

MEMBERS PRESENT: CRAWFORD, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, KISH, BRUCKNER AND ARMBRUSTER

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

ALSO PRESENT: CAPTAIN, TRAVIS WOOLMAN, FIRE DEPARTMENT
 ROB MONTGOMERY, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS / PARKS COMMISSION
 CONNIE NEESE, PARKS COMMISSION

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of November 15th, 2023, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: *

Vance Richardson regarding 2024 Budget with regard to Fire Fighter pay; and the need for a marquee sign in front of the Municipal Center.

Sandra Richardson also asking if the Township has made any headway on a marquee sign.

Angela Defrain regarding need for Board to adopt Resolution opposing State Legislation with regard to solar, wind and battery power.

Rob Montgomery regarding 2024 Budget and determination of proposed wage increase; and Fire Fighter pay.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,141,190.46
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,133,446.99
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 177,625.23
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 302,352.92
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 180,872.48
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 123,925.20
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 2,316,277.90
TOTAL	\$ 6,375,691.18
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 695,720.76
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 7,071,411.94

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bruckner, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 7,071,411.94.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 135,624.63
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,086.38
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 7,815.16
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 16.80
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 63,194.86
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 60.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 336,525.84
TOTAL	\$ 544,323.67
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT. & IMP.)	\$ 105,487.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 649,810.67

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 649,810.67.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Michigan Township Participating Plan Risk Reduction Grant Reimbursement (\$2,698) for the purchase of Security System.
2. COMCAST notification regarding price changes, effective December 18, 2023.

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Kish, to accept correspondence, as presented. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. PROPOSED 2024 BUDGET WILL BE CONTINUED AT THE DECEMBER 20TH, 2023 REGULAR MEETING.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Armbruster, to approve the Subrecipient Agreement between Fort Gratiot Charter Township and St. Clair County, in connection with St. Clair County APRA grant awarded to Fort Gratiot November 14th, 2023 to replace Fire Department radios & equipment for station, base, vehicles and personnel; and authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Township.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * In connection with a certain grant to Subrecipient under the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) otherwise known as American Rescue Plan Act funds (ARPA).
* Awarded amount: \$57,056.14
* Upgrade of Fire Department radios & equipment for station, base, vehicles and personnel.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

2. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells, accept the quote, from Carter Mechanical of Yale, in the amount of \$5,177.00, to install heat pump at the Parker Road Grounds Maintenance Building.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Includes labor, materials & permit.
7 year compressor warranty; 5 year parts warranty; and 1 year labor warranty.
* Additional cost to hire electrician to install 230v 30 amp circuit to condenser.
* Received two quotes: Carter Mechanical, of Yale - \$ 5,177.00
(Includes supplemental heat)
Dependable Heating & Cooling, Inc., of Kimball - \$ 5,490.00
(Doesn't include supplemental heat)

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, adopt the Blue Water Area Transportation Commission Millage Renewal Request Resolution 2023-019, establishing the date of the Special Election to be held on May 7th, 2024, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

RENEWAL OF BLUE WATER AREA TRANSPORTATION MILLAGE

"Shall the limitation on the total amount of all taxes which may be assessed against all real and personal taxable property in the Charter Township of Fort Gratiot, St. Clair County, Michigan, be renewed at the previously authorized rate of up to 0.6068 mills of taxable value (60.68 cents per \$1,000 of state taxable value) as finally equalized for each of the next four (4) years, to expire in 2028, for the purpose of providing funds, estimated to be \$310,874 for the first year of levy, for the Charter Township of Fort Gratiot's share of the operation of the Blue Water Area Transportation Commission for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028? This is a renewal of a 2020 millage passed for the same purpose."

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

4. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Buechler, to adopt the Resolution for Service Structure Application (2023-020), for work done within St. Clair County Road Commission Right-of-Way, 01/31/2024 thru 01/31/2025.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Annual requirement for work within SCCRC Right-of-Ways

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

5. MDOT'S PERFORMANCE RESOLUTION FOR GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES (2023-021) FOR WORK DONE WITHIN MDOT RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR IN THE YEAR 2023:

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Annual requirement for work within MDOT Right-of-Ways

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Armbruster, to adopt MDOT's Performance Resolution for Governmental Agencies (2023-021), for work done within MDOT Right-of-Way, in the year 2024.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

BOARD DISCUSSION:

- Budget Meeting 12/20/2023.
- High bid for Dump Truck - \$3,100.00; High bid for John Deere Lawn Tractor - \$2,126.00
- Winter Tax Notices sent out 12/01/2023.
- New election equipment will be delivered 12/08/2023.
- Resolution regarding wind and solar siting legislation. Governor has signed a law taking away local control for jurisdictions that are not in compliance with State standards.
- DNR Grants approved: One for \$500,000.00 with a 100% Match; and one for \$112,500 with a \$37,500.00 Match.
- Striping of Pointe Community Center parking lot.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Karen Ahearn regarding Resolution on MPSC siting legislation.

Angela Defrain regarding Resolution on MPSC siting legislation.

Rob Montgomery regarding Township Solar Ordinance.

Connie Neese regarding Parks Commission's Holiday Lighting Contest. Ends December 15th, 2023.

Vance Richardson in support of Township adopting Resolution with regard to opposing taking away local control over solar and wind; and concerns with notification to community of planned Ordinances (i.e., Solar Ordinance).

Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to adjourn. Time, 7:42 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