

MEMBERS PRESENT: CRAWFORD, WELLS, BUECHLER, KISH, BRUCKNER AND BRADLEY
MEMBERS ABSENT: ARMBRUSTER (LATE ARRIVAL - 6:08 P.M.)
ALSO PRESENT: GREG RANDALL, DPW SUPERINTENDENT; AND JEFF PARENT, DPW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
BILLY AINSWORTH, DPW
FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS: CAPTAIN, TRAVIS WOOLMAN; AND NICK PREVOST
STEPHEN JONES, ASSESSOR
PATTI BUNDY, UTILITY BILLING CLERK
ROB MONTGOMERY, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS / PARKS COMMISSION
CONNIE NEESE, PARKS COMMISSION
DEAN MARLAR, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: *

Susan Martin, Carrigan Road - Proposed 15% increase excessive; feels increases to employee wages should be tied to inflation or longevity. Also feels it's a good idea for ambulances charges on calls as the cost is charged to insurance, rather than the individual.

Sarah Beebe, Carrigan Road - Opposes proposed increase to "per diem" pay rate, from \$75.00 to \$100.00, as well as the proposed increases to employee wages. She also noted it took two meetings of residents asking the Board to draft and adopt a Resolution opposing legislation limiting authority regarding wind and solar; look into revising Solar Ordinance.

Rob Montgomery, appreciates that a wage study has been done and agrees employees should be paid a fair wage based on the study. Feels Fire Department, first responders, pay increase is minimal and should be increased further. Suggested a wage study be done on that matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. 2024 BUDGET WORK SESSION DISCUSSION:

6:08 PM - TRUSTEE ARMBRUSTER ARRIVED.

a) DISCUSSION REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES 2024 HOURLY WAGE AND/OR STIPENDS:

- POINTS OF DISCUSSION:
- * Wage Study by Trustee Armbruster and Treasurer Wells.
 - * Supervisor Crawford, on his own, did a Wage Study, as well.
 - * Wage adjustment rather than a cost of living increase.
 - * Union Contracts: DPW Agreement = 2 Years;
Proposed Fire Department Agreement = 3 Years.
Wages & Salaries for these Agreements have been included in the proposed budget.
 - * Account Clerk position - Experience and years of service.
 - * Proposals based on "Market Value", longevity and experience.
 - * Individual Job Descriptions. Importance of maintaining staff with a fair wage.
 - * Suggested formal "Step System"

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

- FURTHER '24 BUDGET DISCUSSION:
- * General Fund Operations
 - * Ambulance Fund (Countywide Voted & Approved Millage)
 - * Standby Generator - Lift Station #5
 - * Township-at-Large Drain Assessments
 - * General Fund - Township-at-Large Street Lighting & Individual Districts
 - * Dog Park
 - * Cemetery Trust Fund (Restricted Account)
 - * Police Protection Fund
 - * Fire Department Tower 1 Aerial Ladder Truck
 - Fire Department Special Assessment - Operations
 - Fire Department Capital Improvement Millage - Equipment Repair/Replacement
 - * Township Grounds Maintenance
 - * Maintenance & Improvement Fund
 - * Revenue Sharing projections
 - * Property Tax Revenue
 - * Stabilization Fund
 - * Possible mid-term adjustments
 - * Parks Commission Budget

Motion by Crawford, seconded by Kish, to freeze 2024 Stipend pay rates at the 2023 rates. Roll Call Vote, 7/0.
MOTION PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Wells, to approve increasing the per diem rate of pay, from \$75.00 per meeting to \$100.00 per meeting, effective January 1, 2024.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Per Diem rate paid to Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and Parks Commission, paid only when they attend a meeting.

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

Motion by Kish, seconded by Bradley, to adjourn. Time, 6:55 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
SPECIAL MEETING ADJOURNED.



ROBERT D. BUECHLER, CLERK
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP

RDB/RCC/v0

ROBERT C. CRAWFORD, SUPERVISOR
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP