

MEMBERS PRESENT: PETRICK , IRLAND , MONTGOMERY , NEESE , KEEFE

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: _____Damian Polack_____

Motion by ___Irland___, seconded by ___Neese___, to approve the Minutes of the **REGULAR MEETING** of 11/20/2023, (as printed and posted). Vote ___4/0___ (Keefe arrived after this vote).

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: * Attendees may speak for three minutes until everyone has had a chance to be heard.

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by ___Neese___, seconded by ___Montgomery___, to approve the agenda, (as printed and posted).
Vote, ___4/0___ (Keefe arrived after this vote).

CORRESPONDENCE:

Email dated 12/6/2023 from Rob Crawford: Press Release: December 6, 2023

Fort Gratiot Charter Township has received notice of two recreation development grants from the MI DNR. The first is a Land and Water Grant for \$500,000 to be matched with \$500,000 Township dollars to start a RV Campground. The campground is to be located on the north west corner of the 101-acre Parker West property. Twenty-five RV sites with full-hookup are being proposed that will ADA compliant.

The second grant is MI DNR Passport Grant of \$112,500 with the Township matching \$37,500 bring the total to \$150,000. The funding is to be used to build a trail highlighting natural beauty of the field area on the Parker West property.

Fort Gratiot has previously been granted \$59,300 for the design engineering for a sanitary sewer system by the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners from their ARPA funding. The sewer system is to provide sanitary sewer service for the Parker Road recreational lands.

There are 330 acres of recreational lands in Fort Gratiot on Parker Road between Keewahdin and Carrigan Roads. This is an asset to Fort Gratiot and the surrounding Blue Water Area. Developing these lands for the enjoyment of all benefits both residents, visitors and area businesses. Fort Gratiot is the ideal location for quality outdoor recreational opportunities for its residents, future residents and visitors.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Pavilion for Parker Road Expansion (Michael Petrick): Installation is complete.

Signs for Park Entrances (Pete Irland): Almost done.

Ice Rink (Rob Montgomery): Set up and filled on tennis courts at North River Road Park.

Chronolog (Connie Neese): Ordered, hopefully can be installed before the ground freezes.

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 Buechler, 3720 Keewahdin Road, Fort Gratiot MI 48059, (810)385.4489, three days prior to said meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ice Rink:

Motion by Montgomery to purchase two horse stall mats for outside the ice rink at a cost of \$49.99 each. Seconded by Irland.

Roll Call Vote:

Montgomery: Y

Neese: Y

Irland: Y

Petrick: Y

Keefe: Y

Dog Park Lights: Petrick will get prices for lights.

Holiday Lighting Contest Judging: Commissioners will judge the lighting contest immediately following the meeting, winning addresses will be included in these minutes.

- 1st Place \$100: 4085 Pine Ridge Dr.
- 2nd Place \$75: 3678 Lantern Lane
- 3rd Place \$50: 4985 Lakeshore Rd.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

Native Plant Center: Neese and Keefe met with Friends of the St. Clair River on 11/28/2023. They are in need of space to propagate local genotype native plants to be used in parks and restoration projects. The area directly north of the maintenance building driveway might work. They are working on grant funding.

Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Irland, to adjourn. Time, 7:32 p.m.

Vote, 5/0. **MOTION PASSED. MEETING ADJOURNED.**