

MEMBERS PRESENT: CRAWFORD, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY AND KISH  
 MEMBERS ABSENT: BRUCKNER AND ARMBRUSTER  
 ALSO PRESENT: TRAVIS WOOLMAN, INTERIM FIRE CHIEF  
 JOE STOLTZ, FIRE DEPARTMENT - IAFF LOCAL 5392 PRESIDENT  
 DEAN MARLAR, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
 CONNIE NEESE, PARKS COMMISSION  
 ROB MONTGOMERY, PARKS COMMISSION

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells, to approve the Minutes of the **REGULAR MEETING** of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** \*

Shane Richardson regarding Ranger Power Appeal of Planning Commission action.  
 Vance Richardson regarding Ranger Power Appeal of Planning Commission action.  
 Joe Stoltz regarding 01/03/2024 Meeting and the position of Lieutenant; and contact with new Fire Chief.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Crawford, seconded by Kish, to approve the Agenda, amending wording of Item #2, NEW BUSINESS: INTERIM FIRE CHIEF COMPENSATION 08/31/2023 THRU 02/04/2024; AND LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. AGENDA APPROVED, AS AMENDED.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,114,128.84
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,024,928.67
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 162,726.83
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 219,010.55
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 118,307.82
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 160,284.95
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 2,586,303.44
TOTAL	\$ 6,385,691.10
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 818,424.57
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 7,204,115.67

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bradley, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 5/0. **MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 7,204,115.67.**

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 36,550.32
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 30,926.74
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 0.00
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 84,423.20
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 62,363.86
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,436.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 26,030.01
TOTAL	\$ 241,730.13
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT. & IMP.)	\$ 3,500.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 245,230.13

Motion by Kish, seconded by Wells, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 5/0. **MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 245,230.13.**

\* 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 December, 2023, (539). Number of Patrol Hours, (1116). 6 Animal Complaint; 1 Assault & Battery; 40 Assist Other Depts.; 218 Assist Public; 24 B&E/Alarm; 1 B&E/Building; 1 Child Abuse; 14 Disorderly Persons; 8 Domestic Assault; 9 Fraud; 9 Harassment & Threats; 4 Juvenile Matter; 7 Larceny; 5 MDOP; 1 Narcotics; 6 PI Traffic Crash; 29 PD Traffic Crash; 8 Retail Fraud; 1 Robbery; 2 Sex Offense; 1 Stolen Vehicle; 44 Suspicious Incidents; 1 Trespasser; 99 Misc.: School Checks/Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hang-ups, etc.; 197 Traffic Stops; 70 Tickets Issued.

Captain Pohl discussed 2024 personnel change-over. He also discussed cold case arrest made within the Township.

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SHERIFF:** \* NONE

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Total runs for the month of December, 2023, (138). 6 Fire; 106 Rescue/EMS; 3 Hazardous Condition (No Fire); 15 Good Intent Calls; 8 False Alarm/False Call. Total Cost, \$16,155.76.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Total permits issued for the month of December, 2023, (11). 7 Residential Addition / Alteration/Repair (Val. 68,848); 1 Accessory Structure (Val. 18,000); 1 Multiple Residential (Val. 6,922,953); 1 Commercial Addition / Alteration/Repair (Val. 76,360); 1 Sign (Val. 8,000). Total Valuation, \$ 7,094,161.00. Total Fees, \$ 22,432.50.

**PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT:** Total permits issued for the month of December, 2023, (21). 15 Mechanical (2,730.00); 6 Plumbing (2,601.00). Total Fees, \$ 5,331.00.

**ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Total permits issued for the month of December, 2023, (8). Total Fees, \$ 1,372.00.

**ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT:** Total Complaints for the month of December, 2023, (17). 5 Blight; 9 Storage/Parking; 3 Unlicensed Vehicles. Total Hours, 17. Total Miles, 46.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Michigan Townships Association St. Clair County Chapter 2024 Annual Meeting/Dinner on February 29, 2024, at Solitude Links Banquet Center in Kimball Township.
2. Michigan Townships Associations 2024 Conference & Expo, April 22-25, 2024 at the Grand Traverse Resort.
3. EDA 2024 Economic Growth Luncheon, February 15, 2024, 11:30 a.m., at the St. Clair Inn in St. Clair.

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

**PUBLIC HEARING(S):** NONE

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Wells, to appoint Karri Petho to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three (3) year term to expire 12/31/2026.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Letters of Interest received from:(12/22/2023) Dan Gerstenberger, Lakeshore Road; and  
(01/08/2024) Karri Petho, East Surrey Lane  
\* Next meeting Supervisor will be making recommendation for appointment to  
Planning Commission Vacancy.

Roll Call Vote, 5/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

**NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:**

2. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells to approve Acting Chief compensation at a rate of \$100.37 per day, from August 31, 2023 to February 4, 2024; and the Letter of Understanding with IAFF Local 5392 titled 2023-2024, Acting Chief Pay for Captain, Travis Woolman.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Compensation for a total of 110 days from August 1, 2023 thru February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Roll Call Vote, 5/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. Motion by Kish, seconded by Buechler, to approve the Proposal and Contract Agreement, from Nelson Tank Engineering & Consulting, Inc. (NTEC) for consulting services on the 200,000 Gallon Water Storage Tank on Collins Road.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Identifies any possible needed repairs; and handling any bidding for necessary repairs.  
 \* Possibility of painting identifier on the water tower.

Roll Call Vote, 5/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

4. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells, to accept the Proposal, from Spicer Group, for Professional Engineering Services for the development of the Parker Road West Trail Development, in accordance to the DNR Recreation Passport Grant, at a cost of \$24,000.00.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Services include design, grant administration, bidding and construction administration for the DNR Passport Grant to construct the trail.

Roll Call Vote, 5/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

5. ST. CLAIR COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION AGREEMENT:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT COST	TOWNSHIP COST (50% Match Money)
Brace Road Culvert Replacement - Replacement of culvert C-043 (Brace Road over #205 County Drain), approximately 1,640' East of State Road.	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 27,500.00

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Kish, to approve the St. Clair County Road Commission Agreement for Brace Road Culvert Replacement (Brace Road over #205 County Drain, approximately 1,640' East of State Road, at a total cost to the Township of \$27,500.00. Roll Call Vote, 5/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

- Lift Station #4 - Upgrade and Replacement of two (2) pumps (\$41,714.00).
- DTE Quote to upgrade current Township-at-Large Streetlights from High Pressure Sodium & Mercury Vapor to LED (\$110,000). Estimated Savings \$44,000/year.
- Water/Sewer Ordinance amendments/changes.
- Proposed use of Opioid Funding for AED Units.
- Lighthouse Pointe Service Road status.
- Thank You to DPW and Fire Department for storm response over the past weekend.

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

Unknown resident regarding Lighthouse Pointe culvert.

Rob Montgomery regarding Denny's water/sewer bill; status of potential widening of Krafft Road; and process required to upgrade Stoney Creek Lighting Assessment District.

Mr. Defrain regarding Lighthouse Pointe Culvert.

Angela Defrain regarding Lighthouse Pointe Culvert.

Connie Neese regarding engineering of trail system.

Shane Richardson regarding AED Units for Sheriff's Department patrol vehicles.

Motion by Kish, seconded by Buechler, to adjourn. Time, 7:37 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