

MEMBERS PRESENT: CRAWFORD, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, KISH, BRUCKNER AND ARMBRUSTER  
 MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE  
 ALSO PRESENT: MIKE FRONIMOS, FIRE CHIEF  
 JEFF PARENT, DPW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT  
 PATTY BUNDY, UTILITY BILLING CLERK  
 ROB MONTGOMERY, PARKS COMMISSION  
 CONNIE NEESE, PARKS COMMISSION  
 DEAN MARLAR, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Motion by Wells, seconded by Kish, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

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

Vance Richardson regarding Ranger Power/Portside solar project effect on community.  
 Michaela Garand, introduced herself as County Captain for *St. Clair County Citizens for Local Choice*, which is the body that is putting forth the petition initiative to repeal the law passed giving control to MPSC.  
 Angela Defrain regarding Portside’s appeal, requesting the Township fight the appeal with everything they have.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Armbruster, to approve the Agenda, noting updated costs on Item #10, New Business, due to incorrect amount of lights within the Township-at-Large Lighting District. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,094,719.26
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,156,607.46
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 195,972.77
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 256,365.69
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 134,096.74
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 134,263.34
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 2,438,890.75
TOTAL	\$ 6,410,916.01
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 817,399.57
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 7,228,315.58

Motion by Kish, 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 \$ 7,228,315.58.

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 52,943.16
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 23,701.93
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 7,815.16
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 128.80
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 62,816.90
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 0.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 355,352.50
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 502,758.45

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 502,758.45.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Annual Meeting with St. Clair County Road Commission and Fort Gratiot Township, Monday, February 19, 2024, from 12:30 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Road Commission's Central Service Center Conference Rooms, 21 Airport Dr., St. Clair 48079.
2. St. Clair County Chapter of the MTA 2024 Annual Dinner Meeting at Solitude Links Banquet Center in Kimball, on Thursday, February 29, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (Cost - \$35.00/person)

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

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Wells, to approve the Supervisors recommendation to appoint Dan Gerstenberger to the Township Planning Commission, for a term to expire 12/31/2025.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Two (2) Letters of Interest: Dan Gerstenberger, Lakeshore Road  
Jarred Veal, Old Forge Drive

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

2. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to accept the Proposal, from Kennedy Industries, for replacement of two (2) pumps in Lift-Station 4, (4855 Lakeshore Road), at a cost of \$41,714.00.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* "Chopper" pumps necessary to break-up large debris that clogs the pumps.  
\* Funding from Maintenance & Improvement Fund.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

3. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Invoice, in the amount of \$5,381.53, for 2023 Treatment Service and EGLE Application/Permit Fee for the Fort Gratiot Pond.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Includes Annual EGLE Application/Permit Fee  
\* 3% Price Increase from 2023

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

4. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Buechler, to accept the Quote, from Bound Tree Medical, and purchase AED Devices & Cabinets at a total cost of \$7,183.39.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* 5 DS ONLY Lifepak 1000 (Refurbished) w/Pads, Battery & Case - \$1,349.55 @ \$6,749.75  
\* 4 AED Cabinet (No Alarm) - \$108.41 @ \$ 433.64  
\$7,183.39  
\* Locations: Municipal Center Lobby, Pointe Community Center, DPW Building, DPW Service Truck and Grounds Maintenance Building.  
\* Refurbished units come with the same warranty as a new unit. No maintenance cost for 1<sup>st</sup> year.  
\* Units are same as what is being used on our fire/rescue apparatus.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

**NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:**

5. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve quotes, from J. M. Walters Concrete & Masonry and Ainsworth Door, Inc., to demolish an existing block wall, with steel header; and to install an 8'x10' Roll-up Insulated Gauge Door, totaling \$10,237.00.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* J. M. Walters Concrete & Masonry - \$7,885.00  
Ainsworth Door, Inc. - \$2,352.00  
\* Renovation will allow for movement of equipment while preventing heat loss.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

6. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Buechler, to approve the quote, from Ainsworth Electric, Inc., to install 800 amp Manual Transfer Switch at Municipal Center, with 400 amp pin & sleeve connector to match Station 12, at a cost of \$25,000.00.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Allows for a secondary emergency generator in the event main generator fails.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

7. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Armbruster, to accept the Introduction of Ordinance No. 230, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FORT GRATIOT, REZONING PARCEL ID 74-20-016-2004 (VAC - CARRIGAN ROAD) AND PARCEL ID 74-20-016-2005-000 (VAC - CARRIGAN ROAD), FROM AG-AGRICULTURAL TO R2-TWO FAMILY RESIDENTIAL.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Recommended approval by Planning Commission on 12/12/23; and  
St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission on 01/21/2024.  
\* Ten (10) Acres total

Roll Call Vote, 6/1, Kish voting no. MOTION PASSED.

8. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the 2024 RadioFirst Proposed Campaign at a total cost of \$ 14,276.00, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

9. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Wells, to accept the Proposal, from Spicer Group, for Professional Engineering Services for the development of Parker Road Campground, in accordance with the Land & Water Grant, at a cost of \$ 150,000.00

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Engineering costs are covered by the Land & Water Grant

Roll Call Vote, 5/2, Armbruster and Kish voting no. MOTION PASSED.

10. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Kish, to approve moving forward with the conversion of 230 Streetlights (Township-at-Large Lighting), from High Pressure Sodium (HPS) & Mercury Vapor to LED, at an estimated cost of \$56,860.27; and authorize the Township Administration to publish and set Public Hearing dates to review and hear citizen comments, questions and/or objections to the proposed conversion.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* 230 Streetlights at a total upfront cost of \$ 56,860.27  
\* Estimated Annual Savings of \$ 35,590.12 (Current: \$141,252 / Future Estimate: \$96,917)  
\* Approximate 1.35 years for payback.  
\* Publications and Public Hearings required to make conversion of existing Township-at-Large Highway Lighting Special Assessment District.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

- EDA Annual Meeting, Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- Introduction of Chief Fronimos - Badge Pinning Ceremony 5:00 p.m. Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- Black River Canal Tainter Gate damage
- Flooding at North River Road Park. No damage.
- 02/27/2024 Presidential Primary Election update.
- Car Show

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

Michaela Garand regarding kick-off meeting for *Citizens for Local Choice* on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Rob Montgomery regarding development of campground while there are areas within and throughout the township in need of water and/or sewer improvements.

Vance Richardson regarding feasibility of campground.

Shane Richardson regarding addition upkeep of Parker Road once the campground development is complete.

Sandra Richardson regarding water flow and flooding on Parker Road and Dykeman Road. Also the need for the Township to install a digital display sign in front of Municipal Center.

Angela Defrain regarding campground and flooding on Parker Road.

Shane Richardson regarding campground development.

Vance Richardson regarding feedback and answers with regard to questions and concerns brought up by citizens.

Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, 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/v0

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