

MEMBERS PRESENT: CRAWFORD, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, KISH AND BRUCKNER
 MEMBERS ABSENT: ARMBRUSTER
 ALSO PRESENT: MIKE FRONIMOS, FIRE CHIEF
 BRENT WOOLMAN AND ADAM EBEJER, FIRE DEPARTMENT
 STEVE JONES, ASSESSOR
 CONNIE NEESE AND ROB MONTGOMERY, PARKS COMMISSION
 PATTY BUNDY, UTILITY BILLING CLERK

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of September 18th, 2024, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: *

Mulkund Wankhede introduced himself as a candidate for SC4 Trustee on the November General Election ballot.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 4,369,837.34
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,534,580.29
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 333,477.45
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 674,366.63
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 308,328.99
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 128,362.89
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 1,964,277.99
TOTAL	\$ 9,313,231.58
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 1,146,027.35
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 10,459,258.93

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bradley, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 10,459,258.93.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 31,405.31
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 18,492.19
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 7,815.16
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 93,674.16
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 2,030.50
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 236.64
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 24,061.82
TOTAL	\$ 177,715.78
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (PARKS MLG)	\$ 2,330.50
(MAINT & IMP)	\$ 8,717.54
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 188,763.82

Motion by Wells, seconded by Kish, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 188,763.82.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. St. Clair County Chapter MTA Fall Meeting, 11:30 am on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at Burtchville Township Hall.

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

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells, to adopt Ordinance No. 231, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FORT GRATIOT, to rezone 4007 Pine Grove Road (74-20-021-3027-000) from R1B-Single Family Residential to C1-Neighborhood Business.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Recommended for Approval by the Fort Gratiot Planning Commission on March 20, 2024; and Recommended for Approval by SCC Metropolitan Planning Commission on April 10, 2024.
* Consistent with the Township's Master Plan.
* Introduction accepted 09/18/2024 and published on 09/24/2024.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. ORDINANCE NO. 231, ADOPTED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Fire Chief's request to hire Part-Time personnel: Alayne Palmateer (EMT) at a pay rate of \$15.00/hour; and Carter Belanger (Recruit) at a pay rate of \$11.00/hour. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
2. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Buechler, to approve appointing Damian Polack as Fort Gratiot US Passport Agency Manager, with an annual stipend of \$600.00.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Stipend increase from \$500.00/year.
* Damian has been an Acceptance Agent since October, 2016.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Assessor's request to promote Autumn Westbrook, from Assessing Clerk to Assistant Assessor, at an hourly rate of \$26.62 per hour, effective September 23, 2024.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Autumn achieved her MCAO, Michigan Certified Assessing Officer Level 2 Certification from the Michigan State Tax Commission on September 23, 2024.
* Pay rate comparable to same position in surrounding area.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

4. Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to accept the recommendation, from BMJ Engineers & Surveyors, Inc., to award the Krafft Road Pump Station (No. 12) Forcemain Replacement (BMJ PROJECT NO. 2308.32) to Raymond Excavating Company, in the amount of \$416,692.75.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Three (3) Sealed Bids opened September 12, 2024 at 10 a.m.
Raymond Excavating - \$ 416,692.75
Murray Underground System - \$ 583,072.00 (Disqualified - Incomplete Bid)
Teltow Contracting - \$ 606,890.00
* Replaces the sewer line on Krafft Road that has failed several times.
* Funds available in the Sewer Fund.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

5. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Bruckner, to accept the recommendation, from BMJ Engineers & Surveyors, Inc., to award the Parker Road Campgrounds Sanitary Pump Station and Forcemain (BMJ PROJECT NO. 2306.12) to Teltow Contracting, in the amount of \$524,520.50.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Three (3) Sealed Bids opened September 12, 2024 at 10 a.m.
* Teltow Contracting - \$ 524,520.50
Murray Underground System - \$ 544,476.00 (Disqualified - Incomplete Bid)
Raymond Excavating - \$ 560,883.00
* To place a Sanitary Sewer Station across from the dog park to receive sewage from future bathrooms, splash pad or campground on the Park properties.
* Funds available from Township's ARPA Funds.


Roll Call Vote, 5/1, Kish voting no. **MOTION PASSED.**

BOARD DISCUSSION:

- Joint request for Grants for funding the repair of the Black River Canal Tainter Gate.
- Pickleball Courts are open and are being utilized; 1.5 mile trail, from Pickleball Court to Brandymore Trail is open.
- November 5, 2024 General Election Update. Permanent Voter Absentee Ballots sent 9/26. Early voting 10/26 thru 11/03 from 8:30 am until 4:30. General Election day is 11/05/2024, 7 am - 8 pm.
- Treasurer Wells reported on his attendance of the MTA Regional Meeting in Frankenmuth. Brief discussion held regarding Short Term Rentals (STR's); and Data Centers.
- Special Meeting Date tentatively set for October 10, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.
- Scarecrow Saturday was last weekend and had a very large turnout.
- Fire Department Open House, Saturday, October 4th, from Noon until 4 p.m. Next week is Fire Prevention Week.
- Projection of Millages and Revenue Sharing for next year.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: NONE

Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to adjourn. Time, 7:39 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