

MEMBERS PRESENT: CRAWFORD, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, KISH AND BRUCKNER
 MEMBERS ABSENT: ARMBRUSTER
 ALSO PRESENT: MIKE FRONIMOS, FIRE CHIEF
 NICK PREVOST, ADAM MARSH & ADAM EBEJER, FIRE DEPARTMENT
 STEVE JONES, ASSESSOR & AUTUMN WESTBROOK, ASSISTANT ASSESSOR
 ROB MONTGOMERY & CONNIE NEESE, PARKS COMMISSION

7:00 P.M. - SUPERVISOR OPENED PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION ON:
 THE TOWNSHIP-AT-LARGE
 HIGHWAY LIGHTING AND INDIVIDUAL LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS; AND
 VELMA DRIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT; AND
 2024 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR FIRE PROTECTION; AND
 2024 FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT VOTED MILLAGE LEVY; AND
 2024 POLICE PROTECTION VOTED MILLAGE LEVY; AND
 2024 RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE/YARD WASTE AND CURBSIDE RECYCLING COLLECTION
 AND DISPOSAL SERVICES; and proceeded with the Regular Agenda, at this time:

Motion by Crawford, seconded by Wells, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of October 2nd, 2024, with the correction of Item #5, NEW BUSINESS: Roll Call Vote, 5/1, Kish voting no. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: * NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 4,327,987.64
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,474,529.37
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 325,871.22
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 672,758.61
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 306,491.66
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 128,692.99
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 2,015,576.34
TOTAL	\$ 9,251,907.83
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 1,137,232.79
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 10,389,140.62

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bruckner, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 10,389,140.62.

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

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$	83,377.56
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	30,601.83
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$	0.00
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$	91,643.66
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$	67,520.77
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	0.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$	8,524.92
TOTAL	\$	281,668.74
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (PARKS MLG)	\$	7,350.00
(MAINT & IMP)	\$	11,025.86
GRAND TOTAL	\$	300,044.60

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.
BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 300,044.60.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT REPORT: Given by representative of Sheriff Department: Captain Pohl

Total Calls for Service for the month of September, 2024, (445). Number of Patrol Hours, (1080). 15 Animal Complaint; 3 Assault & Battery; 61 Assist Other Depts.; 92 Assist Public; 13 B&E/Alarm; 1 B&E Building/Vehicle; 5 Child Abuse; 18 Disorderly Persons; 19 Domestic Assault; 7 Fraud; 10 Harassment & Threats; 6 Juvenile Matter; 4 Larceny; 3 MDOP; 1 Narcotics; 4 PI Traffic Crash; 26 PD Traffic Crash; 4 Retail Fraud; 1 Sex Offense; 40 Suspicious Incidents; 5 Trespasser; 107 Misc.: School Checks/Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hang-ups, etc.; 127 Traffic Stops; 43 Tickets Issued.

Sheriff's Office inviting trick-or-treaters to *Trunk or Treat Event* on Friday, October 18th at the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department, 1170 Michigan Road, Port Huron MI 48060, from 5 pm - 7 pm. as part of its annual "*Donuts with Deputies*". Asking attendees to bring canned goods as a donation.

Road Safety Audit Meeting update pertaining to possibility of creating a 10' wide non-motorized pedestrian pathway on Pine Grove Avenue and 24th Avenue (M-25), possibly from Carrigan Road to as far south as Arby's in the City of Port Huron.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SHERIFF: *

Connie Neese regarding recent bicyclist accident.

Luke Wilhelm also asked about the recent bicyclist accident.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total runs for the month of September, 2024, (128).

Fire Department Open House held October 5th, 2024. Approximately 800 - 1,000 attendees.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of September, 2024, (20). 1 New Home (Val. 325,000); 11 Residential Addition / Alteration/Repair (Val. 163,150); 1 Accessory Structure (Val. 12,000); 2 Fence (Val. 4,400); 3 Deck/Porch (Val. 50,725); 1 Residential Demolition; 1 New Commercial Structure (Val. 180,000). Total Valuation, \$ 735,275.00. Total Fees, \$ 6,075.50.

PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of September, 2024, (23). 20 Mechanical (3,251.75); 3 Plumbing (944.00). Total Fees, \$ 4,195.75.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of September, 2024, (13). Total Fees, \$ 8,967.00.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: Total Complaints for the month of September, 2024, (19). 7 Blight; 2 High Grass/Noxious Weeds; 1 Storage/Parking; 7 Unlicensed Vehicles; 2 Misc. Code Violations. Total Hours, 19. Total Miles, 48.

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

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

PUBLIC HEARING(S), CONTINUED:

1. PROPOSED 2024 TOWNSHIP-AT-LARGE HIGHWAY LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT; AND INDIVIDUAL LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS, AS FOLLOWS:

Township-at-Large Highway Lighting	0.1730	\$	90,393.40
Angus Road		\$	2,077.80
Bardamar Drive		\$	2,534.28
Connie Lane		\$	1,246.68
Connie Woods Condominium Subdivision		\$	1,810.20
Fairway Drive		\$	7,480.08
Grace Road		\$	1,662.24
Grant Avenue		\$	1,662.24
Greenview Circle		\$	4,344.48
Hidden Forrest Subdivision Phase I		\$	1,810.20
Janice Avenue		\$	3,689.28
Lake Huron Manor Subdivision (Maplewood, Elmwood & Manor)		\$	4,470.84
Lakeshore Terrace		\$	797.95
Lomar Drive		\$	2,493.36
Milton Road		\$	1,246.68
Old Farm Subdivision		\$	10,634.40
Parker Road		\$	831.12
Pollina Avenue		\$	1,246.68
Shoreview Subdivision (Shoreview Dr., N. Shoreview Dr., S. Shoreview Dr. & San Juan Dr., between N. & S. Shoreview Dr.)		\$	2,835.60
Simpson Road		\$	730.80
Spartan Drive		\$	5,068.56
Stoney Creek I		\$	3,258.36
Stoney Creek II		\$	2,896.32
Stoney Creek III		\$	3,258.36
Stoney Creek IV		\$	6,516.72
Stoney Creek V		\$	2,896.32
Stoney Creek VI		\$	3,258.36
Teeple Avenue		\$	831.12
Watson Drive		\$	567.12
Whitney Place		\$	4,105.92
	TOTAL	\$	176,655.47

Supervisor Crawford asked for citizen comments, questions and/or objections, at this time. Not one was heard.

After hearing no citizen comments, questions and/or objections, a Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to close the Public Hearing to review the Proposed 2024 Township-at-Large Highway Lighting Assessment District; and Individual Lighting Assessment Districts, as noted. Time, 7:14 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.

Motion by Wells, seconded by Kish, to accept the cost estimates provided; and adopt Resolution 2024-011 Confirming Lighting Assessment Districts and Special Assessment Roll for the Township-at-Large Highway Lighting (\$90,393.40); and Individual Lighting Assessment Districts, as noted above, totaling \$176,655.47. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
RESOLUTION 2024-011, ADOPTED.

PUBLIC HEARING(S), CONTINUED:

2. 2024 VELMA DRIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR 2024 SEASON:

	WITHOUT GRAVEL	
PRINCIPAL AMOUNT	16.67	PER PARCEL
INTEREST AMOUNT (2%)	0.67	IF PAID AFTER 10/31/2024
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	17.34	BILLED ON WINTER TAX NOTICE (12/01/2024)

Total Assessment of \$400.00 divided equally between 24 parcels at a rate of four (4%) percent interest.

Supervisor Crawford asked for citizen comments, questions and/or objections, at this time. Not one was heard.

After hearing no citizen comments, questions and/or objections, a Motion by Bradley, seconded by Bruckner, to close the Public Hearing to review the Proposed 2024 Velma Drive Annual Maintenance Special Assessment for 2024 Season. Time, 7:17 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.**

Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Buechler, to accept the cost estimates provided; and adopt Resolution 2024-012 Confirming the 2024 Velma Drive Annual Maintenance Special Assessment Roll for 2025 Season, totaling \$400.00; (\$ 17.34 per parcel, including interest). Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-012 ADOPTED.**

3. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE/YARD WASTE AND CURBSIDE RECYCLING COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL AT A RATE OF \$ 207.00 PER UNIT:

Supervisor Crawford asked for citizen comments, questions and/or objections, at this time:

Joe Falk asked if the cost for curbside recycling is cheaper that it was when the Township provided recycling services at the Department of Public Works site.

Supervisor Crawford noted the issues that arose with finding venders and workers to provide the service at the Department of Public Works site. There were various times the recycler didn't show or staffing could not be provide.

After hearing no further citizen comments, questions and/or objections, a Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to close the Public Hearing to review the Proposed 2024 Special Assessment District for Residential Solid Waste/Yard Waste and Curbside Recycling Collection and Disposal for 2024 Season. Time, 7:20 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.**

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to approve the 2024 Special Assessment for Residential Solid Waste/Yard Waste and Curbside Recycling Collection and Disposal at a rate of \$ 207.00 per unit; and adopt the 2024 Resolution (2024-013) Confirming the Residential Solid Waste/Yard Waste and Bi-Weekly Curbside Recycling Collection and Disposal Services Special Assessment Roll.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * 2023 Rate was \$205.00 per unit

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-013, ADOPTED.**

PUBLIC HEARING(S), CONTINUED:

4. 2024 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RATE FOR FIRE PROTECTION:

2024 RATE PER \$1,000 T.V.	TOTAL TAXABLE VALUATION (REAL PROPERTY ONLY)	TOTAL
3.3141	522,054,618	1,730,141

* 2023 Rate was set at 3.0129

Supervisor Crawford asked for citizen comments, questions and/or objections, at this time. Not one was heard.

After hearing no citizen comments, questions and/or objections, a Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to close the Public Hearing to review the Proposed 2024 Special Assessment for Fire Protection. Time, 7:24 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.**

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells, to approve the 2024 Special Assessment Rate of 3.3141 Mills per \$1,000 TV for Fire Protection, to be assessed against all Real Properties within the Fort Gratiot Charter Township; and adopt Resolution 2024-014 Confirming Special Assessment Roll for Fire Protection. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-014, ADOPTED.**

5. 2024 FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT VOTED MILLAGE LEVY:

2024 RATE PER \$1,000 T.V.	TOTAL TAXABLE VALUATION (REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY)	TOTAL
0.5870	545,785,032	320,375

* 2023 Rate was set at 0.5870

Supervisor Crawford asked for citizen comments, questions and/or objections, at this time. Not one was heard.

After hearing no citizen comments, questions and/or objections, a Motion by Kish, seconded by Bradley, to close the Public Hearing to review the Proposed 2024 Fire Capital Improvement Voted Millage Levy. Time, 7:27 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.**

Motion by Wells, seconded by Buechler, to approve the 2024 Millage Rate of 0.5870 for Fire Department Capital Improvement Voted Millage Levy, to be assessed against all Real and Personal Properties within Fort Gratiot Charter Township; and adopt Resolution 2024-015 Confirming 2024 Fire Department Capital Improvement Voted Millage Levy. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-015, ADOPTED.**

6. 2024 POLICE PROTECTION VOTED MILLAGE:

2024 RATE PER \$1,000 TAXABLE	TOTAL TAXABLE VALUATION (REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY)	TOTAL
2.5000	545,785,032	1,364,462

* 2023 Rate was set at 2.1500

Supervisor Crawford asked for citizen comments, questions and/or objections, at this time. Not one was heard.

After hearing no citizen comments, questions and/or objections, a Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to close the Public Hearing to review the Proposed 2024 Police Protection Voted Millage Levy. Time, 7:29 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.**

Motion by Crawford, seconded by Bradley, to approve the 2024 Millage Rate of 2.5000 per \$1,000 T.V. for Police Protection Voted Millage Levy, to be assessed against all Real and Personal Properties within the Fort Gratiot Charter Township; and adopt the Resolution 2024-016 Confirming the Police Protection Voted Millage Levy.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Headlee Rollback

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-016, ADOPTED.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Kish, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Job Description for Full-Time Assessing Clerk; and to approve the posting and hiring for the position at a salary range of \$19.28 - \$22.17 per hour, with benefits (37.5 hours/week).

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Assessing Department understaffed for last 15 months.
* MCAT Certificate or MCAO Certificate, issued by the State Tax Commission required

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

2. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Contract, between Fort Gratiot Township and the Fort Gratiot Professional Fire Fighters' Union IAAF Local #5392; and Letter of Understanding for a contract period 2024 - 2026.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Ratified by the Union on October 10, 2024
* 6 Full-Time Department Members unionized.
* Special Assessment for Fire Protection
* Charging of non-citizen related calls.
* Structure and oversight of Overtime hours.

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

BOARD DISCUSSION:

- Special Meeting, Wednesday, October 23, 2024 beginning at 7:00 o'clock p.m. regarding update on PA 233 and Pending Litigation in the matter of Portside Solar, LLC v Fort Gratiot Township.
- November 5th, 2024 General Election Update - Early voting to begin Saturday, October 26th thru Sunday, November 3rd from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Rob Montgomery regarding Special Meeting

Connie Neese regarding needed repairs of the Trail Bridge.

Joe Falk regarding charging for Fire Department Calls and suggested charging Utility Companies (i.e., SEMCO, DTE, etc.) for fire calls related to gas leaks or downed wires.

Motion by Kish, seconded by Bradley, to adjourn. Time, 7:45 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED.



ROBERT D. BUECHLER, CLERK
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP

RDB/RCC/vo

ROBERT C. CRAWFORD, SUPERVISOR
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP