

MEMBERS PRESENT: MONTGOMERY, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, BRUCKNER, ARMBRUSTER AND CRAWFORD  
 MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE  
 ALSO PRESENT: JORJA BALDWIN, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING / ZONING  
 BRENT WOOLMAN, FIRE DEPARTMENT  
 CONNIE NEESE AND PETE IRLAND, PARKS COMMISSION MEMBERS  
 DEAN MARLAR, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS / BOARD OF REVIEW MEMBER  
 PATTI BUNDY, UTILITY BILLING CLERK

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024; and the SPECIAL MEETING of December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

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

Tyler Meganck regarding solar panels and noise.  
 Angie Defrain regarding Advisory Health Committee meeting; and Personnel Committee and Disciplinary Committee.  
 Dave Norris regarding Advisory Health Committee meeting. Complimented sledding hill and recreation areas.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,115,769.27
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,178,839.98
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 292,803.65
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 550,891.44
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 263,295.31
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 124,622.67
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 1,965,784.39
TOTAL	\$ 6,492,006.71
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 1,108,266.05
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 7,600,272.76

Motion by Buechler, 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 \$ 7,600,272.76.

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 51,208.47
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 52,008.12
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 7,815.16
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 91,643.66
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 1,843.14
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 63,680.96
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 58,416.50
TOTAL	\$ 326,616.01
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT & IMP)	\$ 39,511.55
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 366,127.56

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 366,127.56.

\* 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 Pohl

Total Calls for Service for the month of December, 2024, (475). Number of Patrol Hours, (1116). 8 Animal Complaint; 2 Assault & Battery; 56 Assist Other Depts.; 97 Assist Public; 27 B&E/Alarm; 2 B&E Building/Vehicle; 12 Disorderly Persons; 14 Domestic Assault; 2 Fraud; 8 Harassment & Threats; 4 Juvenile Matter; 3 Larceny; 2 MDOP; 7 PI Traffic Crash; 52 PD Traffic Crash; 26 Retail Fraud; 32 Suspicious Incidents; 6 Trespasser; 114 Misc.: School Checks/Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hang-ups, etc.; 135 Traffic Stops; 39 Tickets Issued.

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

Tyler Meganck regarding Sheriff's Report.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Total runs for the month of December, 2024, (159).

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Total permits issued for the month of December, 2024, (13). 8 Residential Addition / Alteration/Repair (Val. 100,874); 3 Fence (Val. 9,850); 1 Deck/Porch (Val. 2,300); 1 Commercial Addition / Alteration / Repair (Val. 350,000). Total Valuation, \$ 463,024.00. Total Fees, \$ 3,281.00.

**PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT:** Total permits issued for the month of December, 2024, (19). 14 Mechanical (2,680.00); 5 Plumbing (1,067.00). Total Fees, \$ 3,747.00.

**ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Total permits issued for the month of December, 2024, (13). Total Fees, \$ 3,423.00.

**ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT:** Total Complaints for the month of December, 2024, (3). 3 Misc. Ordinance Violations. Total Hours, 1.5. Total Miles, 0.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** NONE

Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Montgomery, to accept Reports, as presented. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S):** NONE

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bradley, to approve the *Annual Agreement for Engineering & Surveying Services* with BMJ Engineers & Surveyors, Inc. for 2025, with hourly rates listed in *Appendix A*. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.
2. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bruckner, to appoint Clerk, Robert Buechler as Township Board Representative on the Planning Commission, for a four (4) year term to expire November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2028. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.
3. Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to appoint Trustee, Adam Armbruster as Township Board Representative on the Zoning Board of Appeals, for a four (4) year term to expire November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2028. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. MOTION PASSED.

**NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:**

4. Motion by Wells, seconded by Buechler, to approve the *temporary* appointment of Rick Mills and Chuck Koob to the Planning Commission until final appointments are made at the next regularly scheduled meeting in February.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Posted notice seeking persons interested in being appointed to the Planning Commission on Township's social media and website.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

5. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Armbruster, to approve the *temporary* appointment of Allan Eisenhower to the Zoning Board of Appeals until final appointments are made at the next regularly scheduled meeting in February.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Posted notice seeking persons interested in being appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals on Township's social media and website.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

6. **NO ACTION TAKEN** on the appointment of the Township Personnel Committee.

7. Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Bruckner to appoint Trustee Bruckner, Clerk Buechler and Supervisor Montgomery to the Township Disciplinary Committee.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Three (3) members consisting of two (2) Township Board members and the Township Supervisor.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

8. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bruckner, to approve increasing the Health Insurance Opt-Out Stipend, from the current \$100.00 per pay to \$230.77 per pay, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* 2025 Budget reflects increase.

Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

9. **NO ACTION TAKEN** on Proposed Resolution 2025-001, Establishing Meeting Dates of the Charter Township of Fort Gratiot Board of Trustees, beginning in 2025.

10. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Montgomery, to accept the Introduction of Proposed Ordinance No. 232, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FORT GRATIOT, by rezoning a vacant lot on Keewahdin Road (ID# 74-20-021-1007-000) from R1B-Single Family Residential to RM-Multiple Residential.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Township Planning Commission Public Hearing held 11/12/2024 - Recommended Approval  
\* St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission hearing held 11/20/2024 - Recommended Approval  
\* Density of residential properties within the close proximity to the landfill.  
\* Proposed parcel is 10 acres located on the South side of Keewahdin Road.

Roll Call Vote, 3/4, CRAWFORD, BRADLEY, BRUCKNER AND ARMBRUSTER voting no. **MOTION FAILED.**

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

- Annual Road Commission Meeting on February 5, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. at 21 Airport Drive in the Road Commission Conference Room.
- In the process of updating Personnel Policies. Earned Sick Time Leave Act, effective February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025.
- MTA's 2025 Capital Conference registration reminder.
- Posting, next month, for Seasonal Grounds Maintenance positions.
- Update on Municipal Center generator repairs.
- Consideration of live-streaming meetings.
- Supervisor Montgomery attended and recapped the Advisory Board of Health meeting, held earlier today.
- Consideration of policy change/updates for use of township vehicles.
- Retirement Plan contribution limitations.
- Little League moving forward with painting of dugouts, installation of 2 or 3 batting cages.
- Update on Road Commission meeting with Township Supervisors. Treasurer Wells attended the meeting on behalf of Supervisor Montgomery.
- Township Newsletter to be mailed in February to all property owners.
- North River Road Park - Ice pond is set up and ready to use.
- Krafft Road Force Main Sewer, from Lift Station #12 (across from Krafft 8 Theatre) going east to Helen Avenue, beginning soon.
- Update on Parker Road Force Main.

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

Angie Defrain asked the Board to look into and tightening up the Township's Solar Ordinance.

Motion by Wells, seconded by Buechler, to adjourn. Time, 7:48 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. MEETING ADJOURNED.**



ROBERT D. BUECHLER, CLERK  
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP

RDB/RM/vo

ROBERT MONTGOMERY, SUPERVISOR  
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP