

MEMBERS PRESENT: MONTGOMERY, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, BRUCKNER, ARMBRUSTER AND CRAWFORD

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

ALSO PRESENT: FIRE DEPARTMENT: MARK VANDERFEYST, JOE STOLTZ, JACOB PLATZER,  
 ADAM MARSH AND BRENT WOOLMAN  
 STEPHEN JONES AND AUTUMN WESTBROOK - ASSESSING DEPARTMENT  
 CONNIE NEESE - PARKS COMMISSION

Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: \* NONE

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Armbruster, to approve the Agenda, with the correction of Item #2, NEW BUSINESS: Effective date of January 31, 2025; and the addition of NEW BUSINESS, ITEMS 14 & 15, as noted on the Addendum to the Agenda. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. AGENDA APPROVED, AS AMENDED.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,535,156.67
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,079,366.01
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 277,173.33
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 367,604.12
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 135,933.39
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 122,056.80
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 2,500,864.76
TOTAL	\$ 7,018,155.08
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 1,042,349.20
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 8,060,504.28

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bradley, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 8,060,504.28.**

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:**

GENERAL FUND	\$ 299,029.83
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 22,475.86
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 0.00
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 0.00
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 0.00
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 360.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 350,143.71
TOTAL	\$ 672,009.40
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT. & IMP)	\$ 13,106.25
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 685,115.65

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 685,115.65.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. EDA 2025 Semi-Annual Luncheon, Thursday, February 20, 2025 at the Blue Water Convention Center at 11:00 a.m.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to postpone the Introduction, for consideration, 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, until the Regular Meeting of March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
2. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Wells, to accept, with regrets, the *Letter of Resignation* from Fire Chief, Michael Fronimos, effective January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
3. Motion by Wells, seconded by Buechler, to approve the promotion of Lieut., Brent Woolman to the position of Captain; and Fire Fighter, Joseph Stoltz to the position of Captain, effective February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Roll Call Vote, 6/1, Crawford voting no. **MOTION PASSED.**
4. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Wells, to adopt Resolutions 2025-001, Amending Appendix "A" of Resolution 2024-019, Establishing Township Department Head and Employee Salaries and/or hourly rates for 2025.  
POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Correction of a clerical error on Resolution 2024-019 (adopted 12/18/2024) - Pay rate of \$27.55 per hour (\$ 53,722.00 Annual).  
\* Assessor indicated his 2025 budget as \$ 30.77 per hour (\$ 60,000.00 Annual).  
Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2025-001, ADOPTED.**
5. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Armbruster, to approve hiring Ryan Bullock as Back-up Electrical Inspector, at a rate of \$50.00 per inspection, effective immediately.  
POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Recommended by Rob Bennatts, Electrical Inspector  
Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
6. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bruckner, to accept the quote, from Rescue Training Services, LLC, for Confined Space Rescue Training for DPW employees, in the amount of \$ 3,750.00.  
POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* MIOSHA Part 90 & 29 CFR OSHA 1910.146(k)  
Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
7. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells, to approve posting & hiring for the position of Grounds Maintenance employee.  
POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Possible two (2) hires.  
Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
8. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Buechler, to approve the Invoice from *thePondguy*, in the amount of \$5,381.53 (from the Grounds Maintenance Fund) for pond treatment.  
POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Budgeted in Grounds Maintenance Fund  
Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
9. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bruckner, to accept the Supervisors recommendation to appoint Michaela Garand and Charles Koob to the Township Planning Commission for a three (3) year term to expire December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027.  
POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Letters of Interest received from: Charles Koob; and  
Michaela Garand  
Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

**NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:**


10. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Armbruster, to appoint Allen Eisenhower to the Township Zoning Board of Appeals for a three (3) year term to expire December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027.  
POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Letter of Interest for reappointment from Alan Eisenhower  
Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
11. **NO ACTION TAKEN** on the appointment of two (2) Alternate Members to the Zoning Board of Appeals.
12. Motion by Wells, seconded by Crawford, to accept RadioFirst's 2025 Proposed Campaign, at a total cost of \$4,148.00. Roll Call Vote, 6/1, Armbruster voting no. **MOTION PASSED.**
13. Motion by Wells, seconded by Crawford, to approve hiring Mark Vanderfeyst to the position of Part-Time Fire Chief, at an hourly rate of \$48.08 per hour, effective immediately.  
POINTS OF DISCUSSION: \* Concerns with transitioning from a Full-Time Position to Part-Time.  
\* Six (6) month Agreement with option to "opt-out".  
Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
14. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to authorize committing funds, up to \$6,084, for the purchase of the Clemis Record Management System; and allow the Township Supervisor to authorize and execute all related contracts. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
15. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to approve the sale of the 2008 Mini-Pumper (Engine 35) at a sale price of \$60,000.00 with a seller agent fee of \$4,800.00; net proceed to Fort Gratiot of \$55,200.00. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

- Proposal to adopt new Ordinance changing Business Licensing process from annual to a one-time license per business.
- Skating Rink at North River Road Park.
- Security cameras security concerns.
- Township's EDA Membership and board seat.
- Online survey regarding Township parks. Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CBQ5CQG>
- Use of Ball Diamonds.
- Little League update.
- St. Clair County Road Commission Annual Meeting - County Road Match Money funding availability.
- Fort Gratiot Rotary Club interested in creating a storybook trail, with a small library, around the Fort Gratiot Pond.

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** NONE

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to adjourn. Time, 7:38 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous.  
**MOTION PASSED. MEETING ADJOURNED.**

  
ROBERT D. BUECHLER, CLERK  
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP

RDB/RM/v0

ROBERT MONTGOMERY, 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 the Township Clerk, 3720 Keewahdin Road, Fort Gratiot MI 48059, (810)385.4489, three days prior to said meeting.