

MEMBERS PRESENT: MONTGOMERY, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, BRUCKNER AND ARMBRUSTER
 MEMBERS ABSENT: CRAWFORD
 ALSO PRESENT: FIRE DEPARTMENT - JACOB PLATZER, NANETTE PLATZER, JOE STOLTZ,
 ADAM MARSH AND JERRY WOOLMAN
 CONNIE NEESE, PARKS COMMISSION

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of February 5th, 2025, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: *

Connie Neese expressed her support of Item #7, regarding MDOT's TAP Grant, referencing pedestrian fatalities along M-25.

Tyler Meganck regarding St. Clair County Advisory Health Board Meeting held earlier today. Feels there is too much misinformation being passed around and meetings have become non-productive.

Angie Defrain requested, again, that the Township Board amend the Solar Ordinance. She also noted the Township doesn't have a "Wind Energy Ordinance" or "Battery Energy Storage Facility Ordinance" or an "AI Facility Ordinance". She noted existing proposals in St. Clair County for these types of facilities and requested the Township get these Ordinances in place before being tapped by a developer.

Sandra Richardson also attended Advisory Health Board Meeting. Appreciates their efforts in researching what affects these energy projects have on the community. She also spoke of increase of homeless people in the Township and asked about the availability of warming centers during winter months. Requested more feedback from the Board on issues brought up by citizens addressing the board.

Vance Richardson regarding Advisory Health Board Meeting. Appreciates and supports the efforts being made by this Board with issues that affect the county.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,723,807.18
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,798,589.13
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 426,839.23
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 1,063,737.37
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 645,909.89
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 117,277.64
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 1,845,669.47
TOTAL	\$ 8,621,829.91
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 1,382,829.55
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 10,004,659.46

Motion by Buechler, seconded by Armbruster, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 10,004,659.46.

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

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$	30,999.76
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	7,732.36
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$	7,815.16
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$	94,266.08
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$	63,550.08
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	0.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$	15,238.86
TOTAL	\$	219,602.30
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT. & IMP)	\$	40,122.24
(BRACE/TICE BOND DEBT)		1,957.50
GRAND TOTAL	\$	261,682.04

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 261,682.04.

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

Total Calls for Service for the month of January, 2025, (453). Number of Patrol Hours, (1116). 14 Animal Complaint; 2 Assault & Battery; 61 Assist Other Depts.; 92 Assist Public; 24 B&E/Alarm; 1 B&E Building/Vehicle; 1 Child Abuse/Neglect; 4 Disorderly Persons; 12 Domestic Assault; 8 Fraud; 6 Harassment & Threats; 6 Juvenile Matter; 5 Larceny; 3 MDOP; 1 PI Traffic Crash; 34 PD Traffic Crash; 16 Retail Fraud; 1 Sex Offense; 2 Stolen Vehicle; 32 Suspicious Incidents; 1 Trespasser; 127 Misc.: School Checks/Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hang-ups, etc.; 157 Traffic Stops; 52 Tickets Issued.

Captain Pohl discussed retail fraud and also the Department's "In Service Training". He also discussed the homelessness situation noting that Central Dispatch can be contacted to obtain an active list of warming shelters.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SHERIFF: *

Sandra Richardson regarding warming shelters and the need in the north end of the county.

Angela Defrain regarding Mental Health Response Training. Would like to see "Mental Health" incidents listed separately within the Sheriff's Department Report.

Tyler Meganck regarding homelessness and available resources.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total runs for the month of January, 2025, (158).

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of January, 2025, (9). 5 Residential Addition / Alteration/Repair (Val. 68,965); 1 Fence (Val. 1,200); 1 Residential Demolition (Val. 8,000); 2 Commercial Addition/Alteration/Repair (Val. 611,500). Total Valuation, \$ 689,665.00. Total Fees, \$ 4,511.25.

PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of January, 2025, (22). 18 Mechanical (2,905.00); 4 Plumbing (855.00). Total Fees, \$ 3,760.00.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of January, 2025, (11). Total Fees, \$ 2,023.00.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: Total Complaints for the month of January, 2025, (13). 1 Sheriff's Dept.; 1 Snow Removal; 9 Property Maint.; 2 Misc. Ordinance Violations. Total Hours, 4. Total Miles, 0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Email from Benita Davis regarding SCC MTA Annual Meeting requesting questions and/or topics be submitted to speaker, Steve Simasko, SCC Commissioner by March 7, 2025.
2. St. Clair County Chapter of the MTA's 2025 Annual Dinner Meeting at Solitude Links Banquet Center on Thursday, March 27, 2025 beginning at 6:00 p.m. \$40.00/Person - Reservations due by March 14, 2025.

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to accept Reports & Correspondence, as presented. Vote, Unanimous.
MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Fire Chiefs request to reassign Nanette Nichols-Platzer from Part-Time EMT to Part-Time Administrative Assistant, 15 hours per week at a rate of \$18.75 per hour.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Mrs. Platzer has been with the Fire Department for over 30 years.
* No change in her current rate of pay.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.

2. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the Proposal and Contract Agreement with Nelson Tank Engineering & Consulting, Inc. (NTEC), at a cost of \$7,200.00, to secure bids and permits for water tower maintenance.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * NTEC will secure required EGLE permits, as well as securing bids for maintenance that is required on the Water Tower.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.

3. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Wells, to accept the quote, from Kennedy Industries in the amount of \$80,293.00, to replace sanitary sewer lift-station #6 panel.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Station located at the Northeast corner of Krafft Road and Parker Road.
* Included in 2025 Budget

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.

4. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Wells, to accept the quote, from Ainsworth Electric in the amount of \$38,163.00, for a stand-by generator for sanitary sewer lift-station #6.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Included in 2025 Budget
* Additional charges (estimated between \$9,000 to \$10,000) will follow for the actual wiring and hookup of the generator.
* Stations close location to Krafft Road.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.

5. Motion by Wells, seconded by Buechler, to authorize the Township Supervisor or Township Clerk to sign the Agreement, with UHY Advisors, to perform a Water and Sewer Rates Study, at a cost not to exceed \$ 16,000.00.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Study to determine water and sewer rates that will be sufficient to cover all operating, debt retirement and capital replacement costs.
* Study results to be provided to Township by March 20th, 2025.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.

6. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Bruckner, to approve the posting & hiring of a Full-Time DPW Utilities Worker.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Todd Thibodeau retirement - position not yet filled.
* Starting rate of pay is \$28.25/hour, in accordance with Union Contract.
* Included in 2025 Budget.

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

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

7. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Armbruster, to adopt Resolution 2025-002, In Support of MDOT's Application for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant Application for the construction of non-motorized infrastructure along the M-25 Corridor.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Ten (10') foot wide non-motorized pathway starting at, approximately Arby's and run north to Carrigan Road.
* Township has already approved Maintenance Agreement for the pathway.

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.

8. Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Wells, to adopt the updated Personnel Policies (Policy #1), as presented.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Addressees pending *Earned Sick Time Leave Act* that takes effect 02/21/2025

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

- Update on needed repairs to Municipal Center heating system.
- Ordinance updates.
- Update on new fire truck.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: NONE

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bradley, to adjourn. Time, 7:47 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

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.