

MEMBERS PRESENT: MONTGOMERY, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, BRUCKNER AND CRAWFORD
 MEMBERS ABSENT: ARMBRUSTER
 ALSO PRESENT: CONNIE NEESE, PARKS COMMISSION
 DEAN MARLAR, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
 BRENT WOOLMAN, FIRE DEPARTMENT

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of December 4, 2024, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: *

Sandra Richardson regarding Advisory Health Board Meeting held earlier today. Thanked Mr. Montgomery for attending. Invited all Board Members to attend the next meeting in January.

Tyler Meganck regarding the lack of decorum at the last meeting; anger went over the top and he hopes for better going forward. Currently working on an article comparing solar to fossil fuels. Should be posted on St. Clair County Voice sometime next week.

Dave Norris regarding 2025 3.5% wage increase. Opposed to solar project.

Chris Barto offended by Ranger Power referring to opposition group as an “angry mob”.

Vance Richardson opposed to solar project. Effect to mental and physical health.

Margaret Allen opposed to wage increase for 2025.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

TREASURER’S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,300,477.36
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,085,552.74
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 248,972.07
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 306,718.11
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 238,123.58
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 124,981.04
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 1,843,255.15
TOTAL	\$ 6,148,080.05
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 1,157,277.31
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 7,305,357.36

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Buechler, to receive the Treasurer’s Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER’S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 7,305,357.36.

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

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$	137,147.14
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	50,904.25
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$	0.00
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$	0.00
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$	61,744.10
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	0.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$	63,555.91
TOTAL	\$	313,351.40
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT & IMP)	\$	45,225.40
GRAND TOTAL	\$	358,576.80

Motion by Wells, seconded by Montgomery, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 358,576.80

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

Total Calls for Service for the month of November, 2024, (497). Number of Patrol Hours, (1080). 6 Animal Complaint; 3 Assault & Battery; 52 Assist Other Depts.; 105 Assist Public; 19 B&E/Alarm; 4 B&E Building/Vehicle; 3 Child Abuse/Neglect; 16 Disorderly Persons; 14 Domestic Assault; 7 Fraud; 7 Harassment & Threats; 13 Juvenile Matter; 6 Larceny; 4 MDOP; 2 PI Traffic Crash; 34 PD Traffic Crash; 16 Retail Fraud; 4 Sex Offense; 1 Stolen Vehicle; 45 Suspicious Incidents; 8 Trespasser; 128 Misc.: School Checks/Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hang-ups, etc.; 114 Traffic Stops; 31 Tickets Issued.

Captain Pohl discussed Shop with a Cop & Shop with a Hero. Also, noted personnel changes for the coming New Year.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SHERIFF: *

Tyler Meganck regarding the change in personnel.

Margaret Allen regarding retail fraud.

Chris Barto thanked officers for their participation in Shop with a Cop and Shop with a Hero.

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

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of November, 2024, (32). 3 New Homes (Val. 437,500); 18 Residential Addition / Alteration/Repair (Val. 599,314); 3 Accessory Structure (Val. 71,120); 3 Fence (Val. 13,850); 1 Manufactured Home (Val. 6,000); 1 Misc. Zoning Compliance (Val. 1,000); 2 Commercial Signs (Val. 19,390). Total Valuation, \$ 1,188,174.00. Total Fees, \$ 11,591.50.

PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of November, 2024, (58). 4 Mechanical (640.00); 1 Plumbing (110.00). Total Fees, \$ 750.00.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of November, 2024, (12). Total Fees, \$ 2,655.00.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: Total Complaints for the month of November, 2024, (14). 2 Blight; 1 High Grass/Noxious Weeds; 5 RV Storage; 1 Unlicensed Vehicle; 5 Misc. Ordinance Violations. Total Hours, 21. Total Miles, 35.

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

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

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET RESOLUTION (2024-012):

DEPARTMENT	PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET
TOTAL REVENUES	15,658,236.21
GENERAL FUND (DEPT. 101-000)	382,000.00
TOWNSHIP BOARD (DEPT. 101-101)	61,527.00
CEMETERY TRUST FUND (DEPT. 101-151)	0
SUPERVISOR (DEPT. 101-171)	127,584.00
CEMETERY (DEPT. 101-209)	67,560.00
CLERK (DEPT. 101-215)	276,889.00
BOARD OF REVIEW (DEPT. 101-247)	4,161.00
TREASURER (DEPT. 101-253)	216,089.00
ASSESSOR (DEPT. 101-257)	282,625.00
ELECTIONS (DEPT. 101-262)	34,425.00
GENERAL FUND OPERATIONS (DEPT. 101-265)	893,247.00
ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT (DEPT. 101-282)	10,043.00
PASSPORT (DEPT. 101-283)	3,135.00
DRAINS-AT-LARGE (DEPT. 101-445)	163,000.00
VELMA DRIVE (DEPT. 101-446)	1,160.00
GENERAL FUND STREET LIGHTING (DEPT. 101-448)	176,655.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING & ZONING (DEPT. 101-721)	121,129.00
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (DEPT. 101-722)	12,430.00
PLANNING COMMISSION (DEPT. 101-723)	17,946.00
PARKS COMMISSION (DEPT. 101-751)	117,680.00
DOG PARK (DEPT. 101-753)	0
TOWNSHIP GROUNDS MAINTENANCE (DEPT. 101-756)	384,156.00
POINTE COMMUNITY BUILDING (DEPT. 101-806)	36,735.00
WATER SHED PLAN (DEPT. 101-960)	2,000.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND (DEPT. 206)	1,790,231.38
POLICE FUND (DEPT. 207)	1,140,893.00
PARKS MILLAGE (DEPT. 208)	64,600.00
AMBULANCE FUND (DEPT. 210)	271,500.00
TRASH FUND (DEPT. 226)	769,600.00
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND (DEPT. 249)	261,637.00
BWATC FUND (DEPT. 250)	330,000.00
CARES ACT (DEPT. 282)	478,911.00
2006 BOND DEBT RETIREMENT (DEPT. 302)	5,800.00
FIRE EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT FUND (DEPT. 403)	109,694.00
MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT FUND (DEPT. 495)	415,500.00
WATER / SEWER FUND (DEPT. 592)	5,626,160.00
2004 BRACE/TICE BOND (DEPT. 640)	770.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	14,532,472.38
TOTAL REVENUES LESS EXPENDITURES	1,000,763.83

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Public Hearing held 12/04/2024.

Motion by Wells, seconded by Montgomery, to adopt the Proposed 2025 Budget Resolution (2024-012) of the Fort Gratiot Charter Township, *by Department Level*, as noted above, totaling \$ 14,532,472.38.
 Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Wells, to adopt the *Resolution 2024-013, to Establish 2025 Per Diem Rate of Pay for the Representative on the Blue Water Area Transportation Commission*, in the amount of \$ 100.00 per meeting attended, effective January 1, 2025. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-013, ADOPTED.**
2. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Bradley, to adopt the *Resolution 2024-014, to Establish 2025 Township Boards and Commissions Per Diem Rate of Pay*, in the amount of \$ 100.00 per meeting attended, effective January 1, 2025. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-014, ADOPTED.**
3. Motion by Wells, seconded by Buechler, to adopt the *Resolution 2024-015, to Establish 2025 Board of Trustees Salary*, in the amount of \$ 5,140.00, effective January 1, 2025. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-015, ADOPTED.**
4. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Bruckner, to adopt the *Resolution 2024-016, to Establish 2025 Supervisor's Salary*, in the amount of \$ 76,002.00, effective January 1, 2025. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-016, ADOPTED.**
5. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Wells, to adopt the *Resolution 2024-017, to Establish 2025 Clerk's Salary*, in the amount of \$ 73,695.00, effective January 1, 2025. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-017, ADOPTED.**
6. Motion by Buechler, seconded by Bradley, to adopt the *Resolution 2024-018, to Establish 2025 Treasurer's Salary*, in the amount of \$ 66,235.00, effective January 1, 2025. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-018, ADOPTED.**
7. Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Bradley, to adopt the *Resolution 2024-019, to Establish 2025 Department Heads and Employee Salaries and/or Hourly Rates, per Appendix "A"*, effective January 1, 2025. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-019, ADOPTED.**

8. 2025 MEETING DATES AND TIMES:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center
PLANNING COMMISSION:	2 nd Tuesday of each month, as needed, at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:	3 rd Tuesday of each month, as needed, at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center
PARKS COMMISSION:	3 rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * First meeting of Board of Trustees will fall January 1st, 2025 (New Year's Day). No meeting will be held that day.
* Potential to hold one Board of Trustee's meeting per month, rather than twice. Will reach out for feedback from community and discuss the matter in the future.

Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Bruckner, to adopt the 2025 Meeting Dates and Times, as noted. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

9. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Montgomery, to adopt 2025 Office Hours, January 1st thru December 31st, 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
10. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Bruckner, to adopt the Resolution for Service Structure Application (2024-020), for work done within St. Clair County Road Commission Right-of-Way, 01/31/2025 thru 01/31/2026.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * For work within SCCRC Right-of-Ways

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-020, ADOPTED.**

11. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Buechler, to adopt MDOT's Performance Resolution for Governmental Agencies (2024-021), for work done within MDOT Right-of-Way, in the year 2025.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * For work within MDOT Right-of-Ways

Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION 2024-021, ADOPTED.**

BOARD DISCUSSION:

- Trash Collection Contract valid through 2027.
- New Fire Department Equipment.
- MTA Annual Conference, March, 31st thru April 3rd, 2025 in Grand Rapids.
- Directional boring for sanitary sewer line on Parker Road has been completed today.
- Shop with a Hero: Fire Department, Sheriff's Department and Customs Border Patrol. Very successful event.
- Supervisor Montgomery attended Advisory Health Department meeting held today. Dr. Nevin plans to issue his report and recommendation in January. Gave a brief update of what he learned at the meeting.
- BWATC - Offering free rides on New Year's Eve.
- Potential Special Meeting before year end tentatively set for December 30th with a time yet to be determined.
- Bidding period, for Kubota tractor, ends Friday at 11:00 a.m. Minimum bid \$25,000.00.


CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Connie Neese announced 2024 Holiday Lighting Contest Winners:

1 st Place -	3678 Lantern Lane
2 nd Place -	3694 Lantern Lane
3 rd Place -	4053 Lancaster

Unidentified resident regarding the closure of one of Port Huron Fire Departments stations and the possible impact on Fort Gratiot Townships Fire Department.

Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Wells, to adjourn. Time, 7:30 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED.



ROBERT D. BUECHLER, CLERK
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP

RDB/RCC/va

ROBERT MONTGOMERY, SUPERVISOR
FORT GRATIOT CHARTER TOWNSHIP