

MEMBERS PRESENT: MONTGOMERY, WELLS, BUECHLER, BRADLEY, BRUCKNER, ARMBRUSTER AND CRAWFORD
MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE
ALSO PRESENT: MARK VANDERFEYST, FIRE CHIEF
FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS-BRENT WOOLMAN, JACOB PLATZER, ADAM EBEJER, ROB BENNATTS

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of March 5, 2025, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: *

Vance Richardson voiced opposition to Item #1A, Old Business. Feels Department should be sent to every medical call.

Angela Defrain referred to Item #5, New Business and asked that packet information be made available to residents prior to the meeting, online, as the agenda is.

Steve Goudy opposed to Fire Department only being called for Delta coded calls.

Larry Osborn opposed to Fire Department only being called for Delta coded calls. Also opposed to 4 people going on a call in one truck. Feels only 2 people should go or they should take 2 trucks with 2 people in each truck.

Sandra Richardson opposed to Fire Department only being called for Delta coded calls. Feels if citizens were surveyed, the majority would feel the same. Also, she attended SCC Health Advisory Board meeting today. Feels it would be beneficial if trustees would take time to talk with people on these Advisory Boards.

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	\$ 2,819,558.11
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 1,757,579.38
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 476,141.81
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 998,238.74
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 276,134.78
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 109,170.26
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 1,241,873.47
TOTAL	\$ 7,678,696.55
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$ 1,326,083.41
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 9,004,779.96

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Buechler, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 9,004,779.96.**

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

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 177,435.93
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 12,248.38
FIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 0.00
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$ 0.00
TRASH / RECYCLING FUND	\$ 0.00
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 0.00
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$ 10,949.48
TOTAL	\$ 200,633.79
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS (MAINT. & IMP)	\$ 7,155.84
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 207,789.63

Motion by Wells, seconded by Bruckner, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 7/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 207,789.63.

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

Total Calls for Service for the month of February, 2025, (456). Number of Patrol Hours, (1008). 10 Animal Complaint; 1 Assault & Battery; 57 Assist Other Depts.; 99 Assist Public; 26 B&E/Alarm; 1 B&E Building/Vehicle; 8 Disorderly Persons; 10 Domestic Assault; 8 Fraud; 13 Harassment & Threats; 4 Juvenile Matter; 5 Larceny; 2 MDOP; 2 PI Traffic Crash; 20 PD Traffic Crash; 8 Retail Fraud; 2 Sex Offense; 32 Suspicious Incidents; 4 Trespasser; 145 Misc.: School Checks/Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hang-ups, etc.; 112 Traffic Stops; 19 Tickets Issued.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SHERIFF: * NONE

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total runs for the month of February, 2025, (127).

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of February, 2025, (50). 2 Residential Addition / Alteration/Repair (Val. 39,834); 1 Residential Demolition (Val. 15,000); 2 Commercial Sign (Val. 13,150). Total Valuation, \$ 67,984.00. Total Fees, \$ 564.00.

PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of February, 2025, (13). 11 Mechanical (2,150.00); 2 Plumbing (278.00). Total Fees, \$ 2,428.00.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of February, 2025, (12). Total Fees, \$ 2,032.00.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: Total Complaints for the month of February, 2025, (8). 8 Misc. Ordinance Violations. Total Hours, 4.5. Total Miles, 0.

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

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

PUBLIC HEARING(S): NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. TABLED ITEM:

- A. FIRE CHIEFS REQUEST TO SEND A LETTER, WITH SUPPORT OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES, TO TRI-HOSPITAL EMS REQUESTING TO **RESCIND** THE DIRECTIVE THAT FORT GRATIOT FIRE DEPARTMENT BE SENT TO ANY MEDICAL THAT TRI-HOSPITAL RESPONDS TO "EMERGENCY STATUS" IN FORT GRATIOT FIRE DEPARTMENT COVERAGE AREA, RESPONDING TO DELTA CODES ONLY:

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Buechler, to remove Item #1A, from the table. Vote, Unanimous.
MOTION PASSED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, ITEM 1A, CONTINUED:

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * 05/03/2023 - Board of Trustee's approved the Fire Department respond to any medical call that Tri-Hospital responds to "Emergency Status".

Chief van der Feyst presented a spreadsheet indicating the number of and type of calls, from 01/01/23 thru 03/06/25, to Lakeshore Woods, Mercy Village, MediLodge, Regency, Blue Water Lodge and Lake Huron Woods. Of the combined six (6) locations:

TYPE OF CALL	# OF CALLS	% OF TOTAL
Tri Required FD	507	42.39%
Alpha	23	1.92%
Bravo	185	15.47%
Charlie	176	14.72%
Delta	288	24.08%
Echo	17	1.42%
Total	1196	
Normally Not Dispatched	891	74.50%

Mr. van der Feyst stated that by focusing on the Delta & Echo calls, or calls that may take EMS longer than eight (8) minutes to arrive, the department will be much more efficient in service delivery. He also addressed the reasoning for having four (4) members on an engine, rather than two (2).

Ken Cummings, CEO/Executive Director for Tri-Hospital; and sits on Medical Control spoke with regard to the tiered system being used by Medical Services/Tri-Hospital. He explained that the protocol was developed by the fire service to screen out non life threatening emergencies to better utilize resources.

Motion by Wells, seconded by Buechler, to support the Fire Chief in sending a letter to Tri-Hospital EMS requesting to rescind the directive that Fort Gratiot Fire Department be sent to any medical call that Tri-Hospital responds to "Emergency Status" in Fort Gratiot Fire Department's coverage area, responding to Delta Plus Codes only; and authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the letter on behalf of the Township. Roll Call Vote, 7/0.

MOTION PASSED.

2. Motion by Wells, seconded by Bradley, to adopt 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: * Introduction accepted 03/05/2025; published 03/12/2025.
 * Township Planning Commission Public Hearing held 11/12/2024 - Recommended Approval
 * St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission hearing held 11/20/2024 - Recommended Approval

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

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Crawford, to approve the DPW purchase of meters, at a total cost of \$20,530.52, from Ferguson Waterworks, as follows:

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	TOTAL PRICE
2" MACH 10 R900i METER	5	\$ 1,176.76	\$ 5,883.8
1 ½" MACH 10 R900i METER	6	\$ 997.18	\$ 5,983.08
4" MACH 10 R900i METER	2	\$ 4,331.82	\$ 8,663.64
		\$	\$ 20,530.52

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Budgeted Item

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

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

2. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Bradley, to accept the Service Estimate, in the amount of \$10,301.17, from AIS Construction Equipment, for the repair of JD 710D Backhoe, with the request that the hours of operation be recorded at time of repair for future reference.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * To repair two (2) hydraulic cylinders of rear stabilizers

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

3. Motion by Wells, seconded by Crawford, to adopt Resolution (2025-003) Amending Appendix "A", Chapter 36, Utilities, as follows:

Water Charges & Fees:

DESCRIPTION	CHARGE
Under Road (2 Lanes)	\$ 1,800.00
Under Road (3 to 5 Lanes)	\$ 2,400.00

Water Meter Charge:

METER SIZE	METER CHARGE
5/8" x 3/4" Inch Meter	\$ 425.00
1" Inch Meter	\$ 625.00
1 1/2" Inch Meter	\$ 1,150.00
2" Inch Meter	\$ 1,350.00
3" Inch Meter	\$ 3,550.00
4" Inch Meter	\$ 4,525.00
5" x 3/4" Meter Template	\$ 125.00
1" Meter Template	\$ 175.00
R-900 Wall Unit	\$ 175.00
R900 Cell Wall with Data Plan	\$ 225.00
Box & Rod	\$ 200.00

Water Meter Repair Charges:

DESCRIPTION	CHARGE
5/8" x 3/4" Meter Body	\$ 110.00
1" Meter Body	\$ 200.00

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Due to rise in cost for the Township to purchase meters.

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

4. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Buechler, to approve the Fire Chiefs request to sell/trade-in 1998 Engine 36, for the amount of \$15,000.00 in "As Is" condition, to Axes & Irons / Vehicle Alliance Group.

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Engine 36 is out of service.
* No other viable buyers have presented.

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

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

5. Motion by Wells, seconded by Armbruster, to accept the Introduction of Proposed Ordinance No. 233, AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL CHAPTER 6, BUSINESSES, IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS; AND ADOPT CHAPTER 6, BUSINESSES; FOR THE PURPOSES OF REGULATING CERTAIN TYPES OF BUSINESS AND REGISTERING ALL BUSINESSES; TO REQUIRE ALL BUSINESSES TO SUBMIT INFORMATION TO THE TOWNSHIP IN ORDER FOR THE TOWNSHIP TO PROVIDE BETTER POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION, CONDUCT INSPECTIONS PRIOR TO OPENING FOR THE SAFETY OF THE BUILDING OWNER, TENANTS, EMPLOYEES AND CONSUMERS; IMPLEMENT MORE EQUAL AND EQUITABLE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXATION; MAKE AND IMPLEMENT MORE COMPREHENSIVE AND INFORMED PLANNING AND ZONING POLICIES AND OR DECISIONS; ESTABLISH A REGISTRY OF BUSINESSES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP FOR THE GENERAL INFORMATION OF THE PUBLIC AND FOR THE PROMOTION OF FORT GRATIOT; AND PROVIDE MORE ADEQUATELY FOR THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS.

TYPE	TERM
ADULT ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE	ANNUAL
BUSINESS REGISTRATION	PERPETUAL
FOOD TRUCK LICENSE	ANNUAL
PEDDLERS LICENSE	PER OCCURRENCE
TRANSIENT MERCHANT LICENSE	PER OCCURRENCE
SPECIAL TEMPORARY BUSINESS LICENSE	PER OCCURRENCE
SEWER CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE	PER OCCURRENCE

POINTS OF DISCUSSION:

- * Fees will be established by Resolution of the Township Board
- * Repeals Ordinance No. 183
- * Rather than billing for an initial business license with an annual renewal, it will be handled As a business registration. If a business moves locations within the Township or sells the business registration will have to be reapplied for.

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


BOARD DISCUSSION:

- The Regular Meeting of Wednesday, April 2nd, 2025, will be postponed until the Regular Meeting of April 16th, 2025 due MTA's Educational Conference & Expo 03/31/2025 - 04/03/2025.
- Grounds Maintenance will begin April 1, 2025.
- Krafft Road Sewer Repair in progress.
- State of the County Address on May 2, 2025.
- Krafft Road, between Pine Grove Road and Parker Road, road repair to potentially start this spring.
- Road Commission Road Tour, April 10, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
- MDOT Bridge Plaza meeting update. Four (4) phases; could reduce lanes on Pine Grove Avenue under the bridge.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Sandra Richardson regarding change in protocol for fire department medical calls.

Motion by Armbruster, seconded by Bruckner, to adjourn. Time, 8:25 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