

**BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023
BIG RAPIDS TOWNSHIP OFFICES, 14212 NORTHLAND DR.
BIG RAPIDS, MI 49307**

7:00 PM

APPROVED

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m. ROLL CALL: Stanek, Saez, Currie, Everett, Routley present. Bean, Geib absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Iltis Bill

CORRESPONDENCE: Survey Responses – letter from Lawrence Root and Beth Ranger

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **January 3, 2023, Meeting Minutes:** Currie asked about the minutes from the January 3rd meeting, Kelly stated she would update the timeline and email to us the next day. Did anyone receive one? No.
2. **January 12, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes:**
3. **January 24, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes:**
4. **February 2, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes:**
5. **November Treasurers Report:**
6. **December Treasurers Report:**
7. **Building Department Report:**
5. **Cemetery and Grounds Report:**
6. **Fire Department Report:** Request for updates/resignations on Roster.
7. **Sewer Department Report:**
8. **Water Department Report:**
9. **Construction board of Appeals Minutes:**
10. **Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes:**
11. **Planning Commission Minutes:**
10. **Industrial Park Committee Minutes:**
11. **Supervisor's Report:** Currie asked about the Supervisor report - wetlands - how many acres in each township wanted? Stanek said unknown but the number keeps going down - EGLE wants them to see if they can locate buildings in a manner that they don't take up wetlands. Unsure of amounts - never divided between ours and Green Twp. Looking for additional amounts of land to transfer wetlands to.

No knowledge of asking for the animal shelter/pioneer to sell? - Currie

The Right Place realtor working on it - Stanek

Bill says he has talked to their broker and knows they have tried to "land in green".

Currie - concerned that if they can't make it go on parcels that they will move west looking for wetlands. I'd like the information on that.

Bill - working with EGLE real close.

A motion was made by Currie to approve of the consent agenda. Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Wal-Mart Tax Appeal:** Tax trib results stand as given unless we'd like to appeal them, but it wasn't recommended. No action taken.
2. **Par Plan Grant:** A motion was made by Saez to approve of the Par Plan Grant amount awarded in the amount of \$1,377. Supported by Currie with a suggestion to order cameras in March and add to the agenda.
3. **Other:**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Recommendation to add Bob Szykowski to ZBA:** A motion was made by Currie to approve of the addition of Bob Szykowski to the ZBA. Supported by Saez.
2. **Brining of Gravel Roads:** A motion was made by Saez to approve of the MCRC 2023 Dust Control for 2 applications at \$140 per mile. Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
3. **Recommendation to add Rachel Snyder to Fire Roster:** A motion was made by Everett to approve of the addition of Rachel Snyder to the BRT FD. Supported by Saez.

4. **Recommendation to add Noah Silk to Fire Roster:** A motion was made by Everett to approve of the addition of Noah Silk to the BRT FD. Supported by Currie.
5. **Fire Department DNR Grant:** A motion was made by Currie to accept the DNR 2023 Grant match of \$1,025.00. Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
6. **Mecosta Conservation District Hazardous Waste Collection:** A motion was made by Currie to approve of a contract with the Mecosta County Conservation District for the Hazardous waste collection in the amount of \$3,000 for 2023. Supported by Saez. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
7. **Iltis Bill:** Currie - on Iltis bill - question with additional ceiling tiles/stonework etc. No excuse for money to be spent twice to redo the project. A motion was made by Currie to approve of the Iltis Construction bill in the amount of \$55,045.35 noting a difference between the additional first bill of \$26,117.60 being \$31,162.95 over what was approved from the original \$50,000. Supported by Everett. Motion passed 4-1. Stanek, no. (There was a remaining amount to be spent with first motion of \$145,000 to renovate using ARPA funds, but the Township should have stopped the work being done to the building before it got to the point it was from the original renovation.)

Financial

1. **Payroll:** A motion was made by Currie to approve of Payroll in the amount of \$22,972.10. Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
2. **Accounts Payable:** A motion was made by Currie to approve of Accounts Payables in the amount of \$116,043.12, less the 30% deposit reimbursed from Ayers Basement. Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Patti Downey- There have been a lot of special meetings - only 18 hours' notice for a special meeting granted most have been in the middle of the day - I think we need to get the word out to check the website - check daily on special meetings. A lot of good discussion in those meetings. Also related - is there any kind of mechanism for when the public comes - and you go into closed session. How can we know when we are able to return when it's back in open session?

Currie - I can answer that question. We should have moved to a different room, we could have very easily gone to the break room and come back. We should do that in the future.

Jerry - On the public meeting next **Monday, February 13th in the County Services Building at 7pm**. Guest speakers with experience in economic development community and corporations.

Patti - Was there a deadline on surveys and timeframe?

Saez - We didn't set one, evaluating results currently and plan to present in future. 2,800 were sent out to registered voters in Township, probably around 1,000 received back. We are deciding on the best way to evaluate the responses. People either strongly for it or strongly against it.

Currie - There will be a small presentation on the company's origin - feel very strongly that if this community cannot agree on the origin, how will we ever get the important questions revolving around environmental responsibility answered. So that people can trust us that we have the proper answers.

ADJOURNMENT:

Big Rapids Charter Township will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed material, if individuals with disabilities, upon five business days notice to the township. Individuals requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Hannah Saez, Big Rapids Charter Township Clerk, 14212 Northland Drive, Big Rapids, Mi 49307- call 231 796 3603 or fax request to 231 796 2533.