

**BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, March 1, 2023
BIG RAPIDS TOWNSHIP OFFICES,
14212 NORTHLAND DR. BIG RAPIDS, MI 49307
6:00 PM
APPROVED**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m. ROLL CALL: Stanek, Saez, Currie, Bean, Everett, present. Geib, Routley absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Aaron Humphreys - No problem with you Bill but when your other 5 coworkers are doing this and you tell the news you don't know why – I can tell you why. This is poisonous - can't believe we're even here - for what? My taxes go up for me to get poisoned?

NEW BUSINESS:

This special meeting was called by Bean and Currie to contract legal representation regarding the submission of a request for a CFIUS review, as detailed in President Biden's Executive Order 14083.

Bean - I move that we contract with Eric Williams to assist and file the CFIUS review to the treasury - Currie support

Everett - Is John Moleenaar doing this as well?

Stanek - Gotion is filing a CFIUS

Saez - But you just went on the news and asked why we are submitting one?

Stanek - Yes because I don't understand why we are if they are

Currie - Well you just told us this Bill; we were not aware when we voted to do this.

Everett - how much?

Bean - \$750 - I think this is something we need to do - BRT on hold not canceled - still things to discuss with Gotion and the community needs to know that there is low, moderate or severe risk related to the community not just BRT - just because things on hold not willing to stop our journey to discover what we know about the company

Everett - would like to see some questions directly answered - they're responding but not answering the questions we ask

Bean - first meeting - local bodies came in with FAQ - unsure who asked those questions but they were already drafted - wasn't the public because the public wasn't yet aware

Currie - continuous runaround ren zone asked Jeremy from MEDC - why MI ren zone only allows for 15 years why 30? no provision - answer basically was because we can - so Chinese comp a 30-year abatement and Ford a US comp only allowed a 15 year

Bean - questions such as that and no explanation, no sit-down face to face

Currie - only rep of the company we've heard from - Chuck Thelen - did some shady things prior to the company's announcement - friend bought some land on 18-mile rd. - and then at ren zone he promised a water study and then never produced it but was severely reprimanded for doing so and we're supposed to listen to him and trust

Bean - won't be community member holding my hand up for money - if someone tells me a meeting is under NDA, I will leave the meeting because what I know, you should know

Everett - Bill quoted saying that were going to have all of the problems but none of the money

Stanek - our Fire Department has to have mutual aid, (Bean – no it doesn't) roads fixed and other problems

Currie - only other discussion on floor - I would like to see a couple reps from this board talk to Eric on a few detailed concerns so he can really have a feel of the boards concerns

Eric Williams - echo that - whenever asked to handle a project - I need a contact person or team that the board has to right at the beginning - Currie supports – suggests Bean and Saez.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Patti Downey - happy to see Eric - concerns about conflict of interest. Going on - very concerned about some of the quotes from Mr. Stanek - when this first came out that BRT was out - you said it was because the twp. sent the list of questions and then they didn't want to answer the questions so the twp. was out - but then on "Stanek hopes to mend the relationship between co and twp. - wouldn't speculate for the reason with the change in plans" hopefully after that - still get a chance, on and on. impression that there is such a division in the board - need to show support for your board. better way of phrasing comments. agree totally - call me racist, bigot, xenophobe - don't want Chinese company in my community let alone back door.

I went to Green twp. website - totally different breakdown of shareholders than what we have - source where they broke it down and that source link said – "Cannot access this link unless located in China" - don't sit and say it's not a Chinese company because it is period. Environmental concerns too. I will fight to the end to stop this from coming here. Wish I could stop it from anywhere in the US - I do appreciate most of board members out there trying to find out what residents want instead of what they want personally.

Saez – (to Stanek) Did you let your entire board know about Gotion putting on hold before contacting the news?

Stanek - I won't answer that type of question

Aaron - no training on fire department and too close of proximity to the airport - airplane could fly into the buildings

Chris Vodry - along with everyone else - concern I have is if we sell land to anyone we don't investigate thoroughly - and Chinese govt tells them they cannot any longer use that facility - how do we know what they're filling that building with - so for the Twp to sell land they own and not have any idea what is housed in there - could be goodbye to MI

Matt Hustler - new to majority of this - I just see with reading about it and everyone obsessing on it - look at it and say with the 30-year abatement on taxes - how much money has been put in by the local gov to get this here - and then it falls through anyway - who will get it back? big burden falls upon local residents - taxes still consistently go up - who pays it - the residents - yet they receive 30 yr. tax break

Chris Vodry - piggyback - pure MI for those who have lived here a long time - years where so many unusual cancers in the area - everyone questioning if it was from petroleum and logging along river. then we had PBB scare - we didn't eat beef from around here for years. now were opening our door up again to something we have no idea might affect our health

Everett - only asking for information

Currie - for the entire community

ADJOURNMENT: 6:26pm

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.