

# BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD

## REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2023

BIG RAPIDS TOWNSHIP HALL, 14230 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, Bean, Everett, Geib, Routley present.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

### SPECIAL APPEARANCE: Eric Williams/Brian Miller--New Ordinance

Presented 2 possibilities – understands Brian would like one similar but need to hear that from him to do so.

Recommended posting in advance and taking a board vote. Two big components to the party nuisance list of conditions – also common sense, 3 nuisance parties within 3 months, can lock site up for a year – up to board to determine. Can order individual apartments to be padlocked, they can appeal to circuit court if we exceed a few months and it's usually a combo of repeat offender tenants and landlords not handling the issue. Padlocking gets landlords attention because they face revenue loss. Caused them to place provision agreements so they can evict or fine they can prove they catered to their clause. Recommended sending ordinances to the landlords/owners to gather feedback.

**Bean – Motion to put both ordinances on the agenda for the next meeting for discussion. Everett supports. Motion passed unanimously.**

### Eric Williams—2020 Census

Prepared request to Census bureau to review the count in BRT – limited opportunity to do this. City was successful – similar situation with City. Went with by the bed leases – got info from Apartment Managers – submitted a request for a recheck, acknowledged receipt, city waited around 30 days for a response.

CORRESPONDENCE:

### CONSENT AGENDA

1. **June 6, 2023, Meeting Minutes:**
2. **June 26, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes:**
3. **June Financial Report:**
4. **February Treasurer Report:**
5. **March Treasurer Report:**
6. **Building Department Report:**
5. **Cemetery and Grounds Report:**
6. **Fire Department Report:** Currie – discussion moving forward with FD on what procedures will be followed moving forward.

Stanek – met with Jim, he agreed to catch up reports, asked Jim what assurance we will have on that. Jim – 2 of us making sure they are going on correctly, now have Nick Wyma entering them. Currie – good idea to submit reports and then to supervisor to ensure they're being done? Stanek – Didn't know we had to, but now I know how to check.

7. **Sewer Department Report:**
8. **Water Department Report:**
9. **Planning Commission Minutes:**
10. **Supervisor's Report:**

Currie – question on Utility Committee meeting – board asking if the committee would bring a recommendation for the water plant.

Bean – How much was spent/generating. Geib – no specific \$ amounts, unsure how things were going to play out. **Bean – Would like to know in the last 10 years what our expenditures have been on those wells, and what our income has been. All maintenance and everything included to maintain. Would also like a quote of all 3 wells that would need to be put in for each customer.**

**A motion was made by Bean to approve of the Consent Agenda. Supported by Currie. Motion passed unanimously.**

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Discussion on withdrawing from renaissance zone:**  
Bean – Already voted as a board to have language drafted from prior representation. Law specifically says 15 years and 20 with special circumstances. No communication, no complying with CFIUS and wouldn't present us their declaration when asked.  
Eric – no definitive opinion on withdrawing – have to consider the parcel changes, and the 30 year exceeding the State law 15, need time to consider opinion.
2. **Other:**

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. **2024-2029 Capital Improvement Plan:** Currie – would like 180k removed for playground equipment changed to parks improvement. A motion was made by Bean to approve of the Capital improvement plan for 2023-2029 as submitted with the change on park language. Supported by Currie. Motion passed unanimously.
2. **Resolution to transfer ownership Circle Drive Water System:** A motion as made by Currie to approve of the Circle Drive Resolution 2023-3. Supported by Saez. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
3. **Bid for sidewalk in front of township:** No Action taken.
4. **Bid to repair sidewalk on Fifteen Mile:** No Action taken.
5. **Water Plant operator response:** None so far. Discussed if we could ask city to take it over.
6. **Final invoice on Hall Building:** A motion was made by Currie to approve of the final Iltis Bill for \$3,737.24. Supported by Saez. Motion passed unanimously.
7. **Generator Quotes:** A motion was made by Saez to approve the Generator Quotes in the amount of \$9973.90, not including the water plant quote. Supported by Bean. Saez amends motion to include water plant, with a total of \$12,720.77. Supported by Routley. Motion passed 6-1. Currie, no.
8. **Highbanks Park maintenances:** Currie to talk to Marc about Parks Maintenance.
9. **Other:**

## Financial

1. **Payroll:** A motion was made by Currie to approve of Payroll in the amount of \$39,888.05. Supported by Saez. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
2. **Accounts Payable:** Not available due to system update. A motion was made by Currie to move AP to June/July without the amount until next month. Supported by Bean. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

## PUBLIC COMMENT:

**Ormand hook** - 1 point to prove a point - early on we were told that VW was major shareholder and that they kind of called the shots. On technicality that was true but a contract was in place for VW to claim that for 36 months. 2022 annual report came out Dec 31st mentions very specifically their annual report is 387. Pg 349 says VW China will irrevocably waive voting rights of its shares so that they are at least 5% lower than voting rights of the founding shareholders. Meaning no matter how many they own; they will never have more voting rights than founding shareholders. Founders are Gotion holding, li Chen, 2023 time is up and they followed up with annual shareholders meeting on 1/18 - repeated same statement again within 36 months from date when relevant shares from company - 5% less than founding shareholders.

Registered in the state of California is company Gotion incorporated. No such thing as Gotion in North America. Registered with sec of state in California. CEO is li Chen. VW is not a major player; they just pretend to fool us.

**Patti Downey** - Gotion issue still hot on everyone's mind w/ exception of local media - what I'd like to ask board - local media reporting that feds gave Gotion blessing for CFIUS review. My understanding is there were 2 and Gotion only requested a declaration. And BRT asked for a full review.

**Currie** - local paper refuses to acknowledge the truth - there was no review done, they basically said that we don't fall under the jurisdiction for a review. Not being told both sides of the story.

**Bean** - as it relates to ours - we needed information from them - gave them 3 options. 1 - please file your own review, NOT declaration, 2 - give us the info? 3 - would you work with us. They said no.

**Saez** - their attorney responded to our atty and said no more info, they won't comply

**Patti** - another question on the ARC of Mecosta County voluntary withdrawal - taken off the agenda, is that permanent? Would she have to apply again? Stanek - yes

**Patti** - related to the Routley septic service - application sent to EGLE - is process where if EGLE were to approve that application do they need any permission from the township?

**Bean** - no that falls under farming and if it's agricultural we have nothing to do with it

## ADJOURNMENT: 8:48pm

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.