

**BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 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: Greg Vodry – disappointed in disrespect he received from Stanek at the BRT Resident Fall Clean up.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Currie – Assessing update

SPECIAL APPEARANCE: Joe Lenahan (Van Gilder Cemetery): Discussion on having Township attorney research whose responsibility it is to maintain Van Gilder since in Township, and no longer really cared for other than volunteers. **Bean motioned to approve up to \$1700 for care of the Van Gilder Cemetery. Geib supports. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.**

CORRESPONDENCE: State of Michigan (Grant): Clarification/discussion on what Grant will cover. PPE, anything bought since August 30th, Stanek believes valid until August of 2024.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **September 5, 2023, Meeting Minutes:**
2. **September 13, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes:**
3. **September Financial Report:**
4. **Building Department Report:**
5. **Cemetery and Grounds Report:** Oleson forgot to use rebar, engineers said epoxy would be okay if at least 6 inches down, they got 18 inches and everyone is satisfied per Stanek.
6. **Fire Department Report:** Bean to meet with Tubbs regarding Cellar issues. Routley and Bean to set up Fire Committee meeting. Routley asked if we needed any special certification on newly painted truck/pump rating.
7. **Sewer Department Report:**
8. **Water Department Report:**
9. **Planning Commission Minutes:** Bean – let board know he recused himself and that meeting was quite heated.
10. **Planning Commission Special Meeting Minutes:**
11. **Fall Cleanup Report:**
10. **Supervisor's Report:**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Metro Act Application: Currie motioned to approve of the Metro Act Application from Crown Castle dated 8/16/23. Supported by Saez. Motion passed unanimously.**
2. **Resolution to rescind Renaissance Zone:** Discussion on whether or not to have attorney review once more, reassurance that the only change was the date, and moved forward. Discussed Gotion no longer wanting to purchase or build in the Township, no reason to postpone recission any longer. **A motion was made by Everett to approve of Resolution 2023-4, Resolution to rescind Renaissance Zone. Supported by Bean. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.**
3. **Sidewalk Bid:** Engineers bids requested by board, given to those who bid and also put back out for bids as we now have all requirements. Saez to post on Facebook. Possibly postponed until Spring.
4. **Budget (Public Hearing Date)** Set for the next board meeting, also moved, to 11/8/23 due to the November election.
5. **Other:**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Fire Department Request for gear:** Discussion on whether or not to use the grant just awarded for \$10,000, or to use the new FD Capital Reserve funds set aside for purchasing requested turnout gear. **Bean motioned to purchase turnout gear in the amount of \$9750.90, from the funds from the new PPE restricted fund. Routley seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.**
2. **Motion to add Drake Lammers and Kaitlyn Ketchum to fire roster:** Discussion on one member's relation to a Captain, and whether or not our policy would prohibit. General consensus it was fine, reassurance from Chief that they have steps in place so no direct disciplinary action would be a conflict. Request via Routley to

move items up if special guests/new hires are in attendance. **A motion was made by Routley to add Drake Lammers and Kaitlyn Ketchum to the Fire Roster per Stanek and Tubbs interviews. Bean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Cemetery labor recommendations: Routley motioned to approve of 2 new hire recommendations on a part time basis for the cemetery job per Marc and Bills interviews. Currie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
4. **Resolution to support local control over land uses: Bean motioned to approve Resolution 2023-6, Resolution to support local control over land uses. Currie seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.**
5. **2023 Tax Rate--L4029:** Currie pointed out that the L4029 for 2023 has a reduction, discussion on whether or not we may need to lower that in the future. Not currently, as the census did not get approved for an increase. **A motion was made by Currie to approve of the 2023 tax rate request. Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously.**
6. **Fire Department Discussion on Halloween:** Discussion on “recommended donations”, often see better results without having that listed. Saez requested FD to monitor the parking, so that we don’t have a large cleanup in the lawn again, blocking off the lawn.
7. **Public Safety discussion:** Bean would like boards approval to talk to FSU, regarding call log and calls in the township. Would like data to assess. Board agreed.
8. **Other: Assessing update for board-** Currie said Chris Elder is doing great, but there have been some incidents where she knew of 3 individuals having been affected by assessing change, having to do with divisions. David is responsible to train Chris, but has not been able to do so.

Financial

1. **Payroll: A motion was made by Currie to approve of payroll in the gross amount of \$36,199.46. Saez seconded. 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 \$417,247.11 (Roads paid, large expense). Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT: 8:45pm.

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.