

BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024
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: Bean, Saez, Currie, Geib, Everett, Teceno present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chris Vodry - Assessor hours on website? Saez - they are as of last week along with a contact forum.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

CORRESPONDENCE: Montross – board of review opening. Noted. Only one additional member is now needed for the last opening.

SPECIAL APPEARANCE: Eric Williams – Tax Tribunal Appeals- Unable to attend, moving to a Special Meeting.

Text My Gov: John Kenna – Presentation - Moved to a Special Meeting.

Josh Chandler – Fire Department Roster Request - A motion was made to approve of adding Josh Chandler to the Fire Roster by Currie. Supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **December 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes:**
2. **November Treasurer's Report:**
3. **December Financial Report:**
4. **Building Department Report:**
5. **Cemetery and Grounds Report:**
6. **Fire Department Report:**
7. **Sewer Department Report:**
8. **Water Department Report:**
10. **Planning Commission Minutes:**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Trustee Vacancy -**A motion was made by Saez to accept Routley's resignation due to relocation.

Supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Everett to appoint Joe Bechaz to the Trustee Vacancy. Supported by Currie. Motion dies.

A motion was made by Currie to appoint Dakota Ross Trustee Vacancy. Supported by Geib. Motion dies.

A motion was made by Geib to appoint Dakota Ross Trustee Vacancy. Supported by Currie. Motion dies.

A motion was made by Currie to Joe Bechaz to the Trustee Vacancy. Supported by Everett. Motion passes 4-2. Saez, Teceno, no.

2. **Resolution 2023-10 2024 Wages:** A motion was made by Currie to approve of a 3.5% cost of living increase in wages, in addition to merit raises when applicable, with the exception of the Fire Department before evaluations are completed, along with the Treasurer and Supervisor. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Water Plant operator contract for 2024:** Moved to a Special Meeting.
2. **Fire and First Responder Services:** Bean discussed graphs on the call response rate and Chief not meeting 9.9% of all calls, and the required 25% not being met. Discussed disappointment regarding many situations recently with the Fire Department.
3. **Computer for Cemetery**
4. **Board of Review Positions -** Currie supports Bean's decision for new board of review members.

FINANCIAL:

1. **Payroll:** A motion was made by Saez to approve of Payroll in the amount of \$33,622.89. Supported by Geib. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
2. **Accounts Payable:** A motion to approve of Accounts Payables in the amount of \$116,714.94 was made by Currie with the note that they had hoped to have the Cemetery arch finishing costs included in the 2023 budget, but were unable to complete so those costs will be included in 2024. Supported by Geib. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brian Miller - monthly Sheriff reports, includes significant complaints. Saez supports including reports in monthly packets.

Chris Vodry - on AP - the healing center - Saez - physicals.

Computer for cemetery - board has iPads - does board use them? Bean - yes very handy

Greg Vodry- What's going on with ARC? Bean - Township requested site plans and the request was handled incorrectly, which has delayed the process. Meeting next week.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:35pm

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.