

**BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 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, Marek, Teceno, Everett, Geib, Bechaz present

PUBLIC COMMENT: James Taylor - running for Sheriff - introduction/pamphlet, extensive career 20 years in law enforcement - emergency mgmt. experience, grants, budgeting. Wants to have a liaison between office and have an officer available to every township. Left Sheriff's office end of 20', since then director of CJ at Westshore college.

Tim Hahn – would like to make it known that (he's) available for questions about what mushrooms he is growing on his property. Would be glad to show someone how it works - does anyone have questions about infidelity in his marriage? Directs a question to public member - Bruce - questions about any infertility problems? Alleged that "Chris" posts the information for Bean.

Everett – Redirects to state that public comment should be directed towards board members.

Bean – Not the time and place, no one speaks for me. Why would this board have any of those questions? I am not the person you think I am.

Continues on, multiple people intervene, 3 minutes is up.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Sidewalk Bid discussion, Wage Increase Recommendation, Part time to Full time Recommendation

CORRESPONDENCE: EGLE Letters
Clerk Petition Withdrawal
Siegfried & Crandall Auditor Letter

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **May 6, 2024, Meeting Minutes:**
2. **Treasurers Financial Report:**
3. **Building Department Report:**
5. **Cemetery and Grounds Report:**
6. **Fire Department Report:**
7. **Sewer Department Report:**
8. **Water Department Report:**
9. **Planning Commission Minutes:**
10. **Sheriff Report:**
11. **Supervisor Updates:**

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Saez and supported by Bechaz. Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System:** No action taken, reconsidered at July meeting. Saez to ask insurance if any coverage in the event we need it.
2. **DNR Cooperative Mutual Aid Fire Control Agreement:** A motion was made by Everett to participate in the DNR Mutual Aid Fire Control Agreement. Supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Cyber Insurance:** A motion was made by Geib for Saez to complete the application for Cyber insurance. Supported by Bechaz. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Electric Gate for Highbanks:** Saez to have Marc to pursue quotes/options for gates.
5. **Other:**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Certificate of Appreciation:** Saez presented to Kevin Cushway for his years of service maintaining the water plant, keeping the costs as feasible as possible for the township taxpayers, and mentorship to Jim Bouman to takeover.
2. **VC3 quote on Email Merging:** A motion was made by Teceno to approve of the quote for the VC3 merge from Outlook to Office 365 in the amount of a one time \$4,126.00 fee and a recurring monthly fee of \$270 to maintain emails. Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
3. **Planning Commission Request:** A motion was made by Saez to approve of appointing John Montross to the planning commission. Supported by Bechaz. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Fire Provident Insurance Renewal:** A motion was made by Saez to approve of the Acrisure/Provident Fire Department insurance renewal for the 3-year prepaid policy in the amount of \$33,734.00. Supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
5. **MTA Renewal:** A motion was made by Bechaz to approve of the MTA renewal cost in the amount of \$3,728.01. Supported by Everett. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
6. **DNR Volunteer Fire Capacity Grant Request:** A motion was made by Saez to allow the Fire Department to apply to the DNR Volunteer Fire Capacity Grant. Supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously.
7. **Review and Wage recommendation for Grounds Manager:** A motion was made by Teceno to approve of the wage increase recommendation for Marc Veldman to \$24.18. Supported by Saez. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
8. **Seasonal part time hire:** Saez to post to indeed/Marc to interview.
9. **Part time to Full time recommendation:** A motion was made by Teceno to approve of the recommendation to hire Lonny Lanway full time at \$19.50 to assume the responsibilities of Grounds Manager as ours transitions to zoning. Supported by Bechaz. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
10. **Other:**

Financial

1. **Payroll:** A motion was made by Teceno to approve Payroll in the amount of \$40,597.43. Supported by Geib. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
2. **Accounts Payable:** A motion was made by Marek to approve of Accounts Payables in the amount of \$77,777.69. Supported by Geib. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Joe Lenahan- Put together costs for the board and asked them to cover for the Van Gilder cemetery updates. Saez asked for costs associated on average annually so we can develop a budget/line item to cover costs by July meeting. Geib mentioned Regina used to maintain. Noted that our attorney stated the Township is not responsible unless the cemetery becomes "abandoned" but Joe has been the one maintaining it for the last few years.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:12pm

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.