

**BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, January 7, 2025  
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: Borkovich, Bechaz, Everett, Marek, Saez, Teceno, Welch, present.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Bruce Borkovich– acknowledges and thanks Bill Routley for attending meeting. Bill Routley – I owe our Residents an apology, I have not been attending, during re-districting I did not pay attention and apologize. We have a good commission; we don't always agree but that's the American way. My goal is to attend one meeting a month at the Township.

Borkovich– Let us know if you have anything you'd like us to add to the agenda for discussion going forward, we are all going to have differences and should not hate each other for voting differently.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** Carman Bean sworn in as Deputy Supervisor.  
Proclamation of Ferris State University Football NCAA II Championship for 3<sup>rd</sup> time  
City of Big Rapids Master Plan notice – meeting on 1/15 at 6:30 pm

**CORRESPONDENCE: 2<sup>nd</sup> Request for follow up Hall use from Mecosta Conservation District –** A motion was made by Teceno to allow the Conservation District to use the hall for a follow up session on 3/2. Supported by Welch. Motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **December 3, 2024 Meeting Minutes:**
2. **December 10, Special Meeting Minutes:**
3. **November Financial Report:**
4. **Sheriff's Report:**
5. **Cemetery and Grounds Report:**
6. **Sewer Department Report:**
7. **Water Department Report:**
8. **Planning Commission Minutes:**
9. **Building Department Report:**
10. **Supervisor Report:**

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Picometre Flyover collaboration with City:** Saez – Dan Kirwin let me know on 12/6 that he has the quotation and the City will review and get back to us. Followed up and have not yet heard back.
2. **NDA Policy Updates/Discussion:** Borkovich presented an updated NDA policy book to incorporate into handbook. A motion was made by Bechaz to approve of the updated NDA policy. Supported by Welch. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Certificates of Recognition:** Certificates presented to: Carman Bean, Tony Geib, Nick Wyma, for years of service and dedication to Township. Jim Tubbs, for years as Fire Chief.
2. **Resolution 2025-01 – 2025 Budget Adoption:** A motion was made by Everett to adopt Resolution 2025-01, supported by Bechaz. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
3. **Resolution 2025-02 – 2025 Wages:** A motion was made by Saez to adopt Resolution 2025-02 with the addition of a zoning administrator wage correction, supported by Bechaz. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
4. **Resolution 2025-03 – Allowing Residents to Appeal Board of Review by mail:** A motion was made by Saez to adopt Resolution 2025-03, supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
5. **Resolution 2025-04 – Poverty Exemption Guidelines for 2025:** A motion was made by Marek to adopt Resolution 2025-04, supported by Bechaz. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
6. **2024 Audit:** A motion was made by Teceno to contract with Siegfried and Crandall for the 2024 Audit. Supported by Saez. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
7. **Application for Exemption of Property (Habitat for Humanity):** Postponed – Marek found a transposed number in the parcel number on the application. Returned to applicant and asked them to revise. Will revisit in February.
8. **HRA/Health Buyout Increase and addition of Dental Plan Subscription:** A motion was made by Saez to increase the HRA to \$3,000 annually, and the health buyout for employees opting out of the health insurance to \$3,600 annually. Supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.  
A motion was made by Marek to approve of adding Dental/Vision coverage up to \$180/month for employees eligible. Supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
9. **Committee Appointment Renewals:** A few openings for public positions. Board members appointed. Saez to post openings and revisit in February.
10. **Update Code of Ordinance Book:** Discussed options of updating Ordinance book.

11. **Plumbing/Mechanical Inspector Discussion:** A motion was made by Saez to authorize Borkovich to make a decision moving forward with the planning/mechanical inspector. Supported by Teceno. Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial**

1. **Payroll:** A motion was made by Marek to approve of Payroll in the amount of \$27,649.72. Supported by Saez. 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 \$117,186.18 Supported by Saez. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chris Vodry – question on ordinance/digital/hard copy maintaining through company – Borkovich is going to ask if it's proprietary.

Jason Kruse – Thanks to the board from Green Charter Township, look forward to working together in the future.

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:44pm**

**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.**