

**BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020  
APPROVED**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:00 p.m. Stanek, Saez, Currie, Bean, Everett, Geib, Merendino, present.  
All lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Brian Miller and James Taylor introduce themselves as running for Sheriff in the upcoming vacancy. Wendy Nystrom spoke on behalf of a drain commissioner.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Ryan Pranger resignation noted and filed.

**APPROVAL OF:** February 4, meeting minutes: A motion to approve the February 4, 2020 meeting minutes was made by Everett. Seconded by Bean. Motion passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL**

1. **January Treasurer Report:** approved as printed.
2. **Financial Report:** approved as printed.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

1. **Accounts Payable:** A motion to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$60,357.29 checks #31990-#32028 plus 4 EFTs was made by Currie. Seconded by Geib. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
2. **Payroll:** A motion to approve payroll in the amount of \$16,802.54 checks #11993-12032 was made by Bean. Seconded by Currie. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**MONTHLY REPORTS:**

1. **Building Department:**
2. **Fire Department:**
3. **Sewer Department:**
4. **Water Department:**
5. **Cemetery committee:**
6. **Fire Committee:**
7. **Planning Commission annual report:**
8. **Supervisor:**
9. **Other**  
Approved as printed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Mecosta Conservation District: Brook Baumann** Agreement to discuss budget increases at a later date to contribute to the MCD for Big Rapids Township Residents costs/usages associated with the program.
2. **Fire Truck Sale:** A motion was made by Geib to sell the fire truck through Phil Currie's Auction Site with a 10% commission for the best price bid. Seconded by Merendino. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Cell Tower Presentation: Anthony Amine:** A motion was made by Bean for approval to move forward with the cell tower right of entry and testing agreement for parcel number 05023013250. Seconded by Merendino. Discussion of negotiating attorney fees to be included. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
  - a. **Right of Entry and Testing Agreement:**
  - b. **Easement Option Purchase Agreement:**
2. **Resolution 2020-1 Poverty Exemption:** A motion to adopt Resolution 2020-1 for Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines was made by Merendino. Seconded by Currie. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2020-1**

**Township Board Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test**

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under the General Property Tax Act; and

WHEREAS, the township board is required by Section 7u of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893 (MCL 211.7u), to adopt guidelines for poverty exemptions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, pursuant to MCL 211.7u, that Big Rapids Charter Township, Mecosta County, adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and board of review to implement.

The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year.

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a homestead the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.
- 3) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 4) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 5) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget .

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are communicated in writing to the claimant.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Merendino and supported by Board Members Currie.

Passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

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Clerk

I, Hannah Saez, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Big Rapids Charter Township, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the township board of said township at the regular meeting of said board held on March 3, 2020, at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hannah Saez, Clerk

3. **Brining of roads:** A motion to approve of two additional road brinings by the Mecosta County Road Commission in 2020 was made by Currie. Seconded by Bean. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:00p.m.

**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.**

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Clerk

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Supervisor