

RESOLUTION AND DECLARATION

IN OPPOSITION TO INCREASE IN TAXATION BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FORT GRATIOT
COUNTY OF ST. CLAIR, MICHIGAN

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Charter Township of Fort Gratiot Board of Trustee's, held on the 6th day of February, 2008, held at the Township Hall, 3720 Keewahdin Drive, Fort Gratiot, Michigan, beginning at 7:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

MEMBERS PRESENT: BUCKLEY, CRAWFORD, REYNOLDS, BRADLEY, HARDER, REYNOLDS

MEMBERS ABSENT: BRUCKNER

The following Preamble and Declaration and Resolution was offered by Member Buckley, and supported by Member Bradley.

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has a fiduciary responsibility to its residents to make budgetary cuts at the State level which reflect the decrease in population, loss of jobs, and increased foreclosure rates; and

WHEREAS, rural Townships in Michigan may be subject to significant revenue sharing reductions during the next fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, in a state already plagued with budget woes and limited resources, further taxation by the State of Michigan would be both an undue burden and counter productive; and

WHEREAS, the Federal and State government has inundated the Townships and municipalities with unfunded mandates, draining savings and straining the citizens and businesses to the point of bankruptcy, foreclosure, and loss of jobs, resulting in a mass exodus from the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has a responsibility to make necessary budgetary reductions at the State level, just as our Township and other municipalities have been forced to do at the local level; and

WHEREAS, property values have decreased in both the Township of Fort Gratiot and the State of Michigan, and the so-called 'recession' (which could be described as a depression), continues to be ignored by the State. It is also a fact that the State refuses to make cutbacks at the State level, but has instead chosen to give *raises* at the State level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DECLARED that the Charter Township of Fort Gratiot Board of Trustee's unequivocally opposes any further increase in taxation by the State of Michigan or the Federal Government, and demands that the State of Michigan allow for proper adjustment of taxation to reflect the current economic situation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DECLARED that the State of Michigan does its part in correcting the poor economic situation itself, and not just place the heavy burden upon the citizens of the State of Michigan, and continue doing business status quo.

BE IT, FURTHER, RESOLVED AND DECLARED that this Resolution and Declaration be sent to Governor Granholm, as well as our State Legislators.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: BUCKLEY, CRAWFORD, REYNOLDS, BRADLEY, HARDER, REYNOLDS

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: BRUCKNER (Later submitted letter in support)