

STATEMENT

As a Bay City Commissioner and State Senator, Kristen McDonald-Rivet supported raising taxes and fees for Michiganders, including higher income taxes, higher property taxes on homeowners, increased energy prices, and increased water and sewer rates. She even voted to give herself a taxpayer-funded pay raise.

Verification

House Bill 4001: Income Taxes

In February 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Preventing A Planned Tax Cut, Which Would Have Saved Millions Of Michigan Households And Hundreds Of Thousands Of Small Businesses An Estimated \$721.6 Million Annually

On February 1, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of House Bill 4001. (House Bill 4001, [Roll Call #16](#), Passed: 20 – 18, Rivet Voted Yea, 2/1/23)

Roll Call No. 16		Yeas—20	
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polchanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Nays—18			
Albert	Hauck	Lindsey	Runestad
Bellino	Hoitenga	McBroom	Theis
Bumstead	Huizenga	Nesbitt	Victory
Daley	Johnson	Outman	Webber
Damoose	Lauwers		

(House Bill 4001, [Roll Call #16](#), Passed: 20 – 18, Rivet Voted Yea, 2/1/23)

On February 16, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Final Passage Of House Bill 4001, Concurring With The House. (House Bill 4001, [Roll Call #22](#), Passed: 20 – 17, Rivet Voted Yea, 2/16/23)

Roll Call No. 22		Yeas—20	
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polchanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Nays—17			
Albert	Hauck	Lauwers	Runestad
Bellino	Hoitenga	Lindsey	Theis
Bumstead	Huizenga	Nesbitt	Victory
Daley	Johnson	Outman	Webber
Damoose			

(House Bill 4001, [Roll Call #22](#), Passed: 20 – 17, Rivet Voted Yea, 2/16/23)

On February 16, 2023, Senator Singh Made A Request For Immediate Effect That Failed. “Michigan Senate Journal 17 of 2023, for Feb. 16, shows Sen. Sam Singh made a request for immediate effect, and that request failed.” (James David Dickson, “Michigan Senate Republicans Held The Line On House Bill 4001; Will Democrats Change The Rules?,” [Michigan Capitol Confidential](#), 2/27/23)

On February 16, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of House Bill 4001 Taking Immediate Effect. (House Bill 4001, [Roll Call #23](#), Failed: 20 – 17, Rivet Voted Yea, 2/16/23)

- **NOTE:** Immediate effect [requires a 2/3 vote](#). Thus, this motion failed.

In The Chair: President			
<p>Senator Singh moved that the bill be given immediate effect. On which motion Senator Singh requested the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered, 1/5 of the members present voting therefor. The motion did not prevail, 2/3 of the members serving not voting therefor, as follows:</p>			
Roll Call No. 23		Yeas—20	
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
206 JOURNAL OF THE SENATE [February 16, 2023] [No. 17]			
Nays—17			
Albert	Hauck	Lauwers	Runestad
Bellino	Hoitenga	Lindsey	Theis
Bumstead	Huizenga	Nesbitt	Victory
Daley	Johnson	Outman	Webber
Damoose			
Excused—1			
McBroom			

(House Bill 4001, [Roll Call #23](#), Passed: 20 – 17, Rivet Voted Yea, 2/16/23)

If The Bill Was In Effect Immediately, It Would Have Prevented The Tax-Cut Trigger. “If House Bill 4001 does not take effect by April 18, there will be no \$180 checks. This is because the Democratic majority plans to move funds into the prior fiscal year to avoid the tax-cut trigger, a move that would have to take immediate effect. Both houses have passed versions of the bill and approved the conference committee version with simple majorities.” (James David Dickson, “Michigan Senate Republicans Held The Line On House Bill 4001; Will Democrats Change The Rules?,” [Michigan Capitol Confidential](#), 2/27/23)

The Scheduled Drop In The Michigan Income Tax Rate From 4.25% To 4.05% Was Preserved When The Michigan Senate Denied Immediate Effect To House Bill 4001. “A scheduled drop in the Michigan income tax rate, from 4.25% to 4.05%, was preserved Tuesday when the Michigan Senate denied immediate effect to House Bill 4001.” (James David Dickson, “On House Bill 4001, Michigan Senate Republicans Deny Immediate Effect, Preserve Tax Cut,” [Michigan Capitol Confidential](#), 3/1/23)

The Mackinac Center Strongly Opposed House Bill 4001, Claiming It Would Deny Michiganders The Personal Income Tax Rate Reduction They Had Been Owed For At Least 15 Years. “The Mackinac Center strongly opposes the new version of HB 4001 to be considered later today. We specifically object to two provisions of the agreement: the machinations that will deny Michiganders the personal income tax rate reduction they have been owed for at least 15 years; and the diversion of corporate tax receipts into an ongoing, dedicated revenue stream for company-specific subsidies.” (David Guenther, “Vote NO On HB 4001,” [Mackinac Center For Public Policy](#), 2/8/23)

The Mackinac Center Claimed That House Bill 4001 Would Cause The Personal Income Tax To Be 0.2% Higher Than It Otherwise Would Have Been, Costing Michiganders \$721.6 Million. “This will also be the first bill on the Michigan Tax Hike Tracker, a new collaboration between the Mackinac Center and Americans for Tax Reform. Under current law, Michigan’s personal income tax rate would automatically drop from 4.25% to 4.05% as soon as the state publishes its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for FY 2022. However, by creating a new fund and backdating by five months the contribution into the fund for the purpose of preventing the tax reduction trigger from taking effect, it causes the personal income tax rate to be 0.2% higher than

it otherwise would have been. HB 4001 will be scored on the Tax Hike Tracker at \$721.6 million, an annual average of the first five full years' total revenue increase above current law.” (David Guenther, “Vote NO On HB 4001,” [Mackinac Center For Public Policy](#), 2/8/23)

House Bill 4001 Would Cancel The Planned Income Tax Rate Reduction, Increasing The Income Tax Burden For Michigan Residents By Nearly Half A Billion Dollars Annually.

“Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer (D) wants to prevent her state’s income tax rate from dropping from 4.25% to 4.05%, as is expected happen later this year, and she’s close to getting her way. House Bill 4001, legislation that would cancel the planned income tax rate reduction, which is facilitated by revenue triggers enacted in 2015, passed out of the Michigan House on February 9 and will soon be taken up by the Senate. If approved by the Senate, the income tax burden for Michigan residents will rise by nearly half a billion dollars annually compared to current law.” (Patrick Gleason, “Gretchen Whitmer’s Middle Class Tax Hike Doesn’t Get As Much Coverage As Blue State Wealth Tax Bills, But Is More Likely To Become Law,” [Forbes](#), 2/16/23)

Instead Of Letting Michigan’s Flat Personal Income Tax Rate Permanently Fall From 4.25% To 4.05%, Governor Whitmer And Legislative Democrats Instead Want To Send A \$180 Inflation Relief Check To Every Taxpayer.

“Instead of letting Michigan’s flat personal income tax rate permanently fall from 4.25% to 4.05%, Governor Whitmer and legislative Democrats instead want to send a \$180 inflation relief check to every taxpayer. Governor Whitmer also wants to increase the Earned Income Tax Credit and exempt pension income from state income tax.” (Patrick Gleason, “Gretchen Whitmer’s Middle Class Tax Hike Doesn’t Get As Much Coverage As Blue State Wealth Tax Bills, But Is More Likely To Become Law,” [Forbes](#), 2/16/23)

- **Whitmer’s Tax Package Would Raise Taxes On Millions Of Michigan Households And Hundreds Of Thousands Of Small Businesses That File Under The Individual Income Tax Code.** “With her tax package, which would raise taxes on millions of Michigan households and hundreds of thousands of small businesses that file under the individual income tax code, Governor Whitmer is seeking to take fiscal policy in the opposition direction compared to that of her Democratic counterpart in Connecticut. There Governor Ned Lamont (D-Conn.) has proposed a rate reduction for the bottom two of Connecticut’s seven income tax brackets.” (Patrick Gleason, “Gretchen Whitmer’s Middle Class Tax Hike Doesn’t Get As Much Coverage As Blue State Wealth Tax Bills, But Is More Likely To Become Law,” [Forbes](#), 2/16/23)

The Clean Energy Future Plan

In 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Green Energy Legislation That Would Require The State To Use 100 Percent Clean Energy By 2040 - A Faster Forced Energy Transition Than Even California

VIDEO: Rivet Touted The Clean Energy Package That Sets Michigan To Have 100 Percent Clean Energy By 2040. “As you know, we are very busy at work on a clean energy package, uh, setting the goal that Michigan will be entirely clean energy by [unintelligible]. So I think that we are on draft 10 of one of the bills that sets the 2040 target. We're working really hard energy law is very complex, it's very hard. So the idea is we have to ensure that we're bringing rates down, that we're increasing reliability, and that we're working with everybody involved. So we do have industry at the table, we've got utilities at the table, we've got the environmentalists at the table talking to local communities. And so it's we're hard at work doing that and hopefully you should be able to see something, uh, move in the next couple of weeks.” (Fundraising Picnic In Midland, MI, [Clipped](#), 10/6/23)
Minute: 1:24 – 2:06

- **VIDEO: Rivet: “As You Know, We Are Very Busy At Work On A Clean Energy Package”** (Fundraising Picnic In Midland, MI, [Clipped](#), 10/6/23) Minute: 1:24 – 2:06
- **VIDEO: Rivet: “So The Idea Is We Have To Ensure That We're Bringing Rates Down, That We're Increasing Reliability, And That We're Working With Everybody Involved.”** (Fundraising Picnic In Midland, MI, [Clipped](#), 10/6/23) Minute: 1:24 – 2:06

In October 2023, The Michigan Senate Passed Senate Bills 271, 273, And 502, Which Would Require The State To Use 100 Percent Clean Energy By 2040. “MIDLAND, Mich. — Bills passed by the Michigan Senate last night will drastically increase Michigan’s energy costs and harm energy reliability. The Senate passed SB 271, SB 273 and SB 502, which would require the state to use 100% clean energy by 2040.” (Holly Wetzal, “New Energy Bills Would Increase Costs And Blackouts,” [Mackinac Center For Public Policy](#), 10/27/23)

HEADLINE: “Michigan Gov Whitmer Signs Sweeping Green Energy Bill Forcing Transition From Fossil Fuels” (Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan Gov Whitmer Signs Sweeping Green Energy Bill Forcing Transition From Fossil Fuels,” [Fox News](#), 11/29/23)



(Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan Gov Whitmer Signs Sweeping Green Energy Bill Forcing Transition From Fossil Fuels,” [Fox News](#), 11/29/23)

HEADLINE: “Michigan Dems, Gretchen Whitmer Are Pursuing A Green New Deal, Threatening Future Grid Stability” (Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan Gov Whitmer Signs Sweeping Green Energy Bill Forcing Transition From Fossil Fuels,” [Fox News](#), 10/27/23)



(Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan Gov Whitmer Signs Sweeping Green Energy Bill Forcing Transition From Fossil Fuels,” [Fox News](#), 10/27/23)

On October 26, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Senate Bill 271. (SB 271, [Roll Call #629](#), Passed: 20 – 18, Rivet Voting Yea, 10/26/23)

Roll Call No. 629			
Yeas—20			
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Nays—18			
Albert	Hauck	Lindsey	Runestad
Bellino	Hoitenga	McBroom	Theis
Bumstead	Huizenga	Nesbitt	Victory
Daley	Johnson	Outman	Webber
Damoose	Lauwers		
Excused—0			
Not Voting—0			

(SB 271, [Roll Call #629](#), Passed: 20 – 18, Rivet Voting Yea, 10/26/23)

On November 8, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Final Passage Of Senate Bill 271, Concurring With The House. (SB 271, [Roll Call #674](#), Passed: 20 – 17, Rivet Voting Yea, 11/8/23)

Roll Call No. 674		Yeas—20	
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Nays—17			
Albert	Hoitenga	Lindsey	Runestad
Bellino	Huizenga	McBroom	Theis
Daley	Johnson	Nesbitt	Victory
Damoose	Lauwers	Outman	Webber
Hauck			
Excused—1			
Bumstead			

(SB 271, [Roll Call #674](#), Passed: 20 – 17, Rivet Voting Yea, 11/8/23)

Senate Bill 271 Establishes A Renewable Energy Standard Of 50 Percent By 2030 And 60% By 2035. “Senate Bill 271, one of the bills included in the package, establishes a renewable energy standard of 50% by 2030 and 60% by 2035, meaning electric utilities meet at least that share of their electric generation capacity with renewable energy credits or direct renewable energy generation. That mandate supersedes previous laws requiring utilities to achieve a 15% renewable energy standard through 2029.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan Gov Whitmer Signs Sweeping Green Energy Bill Forcing Transition From Fossil Fuels,” [Fox News](#), 11/29/23)

Senate Bill 271 Requires Utility Providers To Meet An 80 Percent Clean Energy Standard By 2035 And A 100 Percent Clean Energy Standard By 2040. “In addition, under the bill, utility providers must meet an 80% clean energy standard by 2035 and a 100% clean energy standard set to be achieved by 2040. The clean energy standard would include natural gas-fired generation with 90% carbon capture, a nascent and expensive technology that hasn't been deployed at any power plant nationwide.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan Gov Whitmer Signs Sweeping Green Energy Bill Forcing Transition From Fossil Fuels,” [Fox News](#), 11/29/23)

The Senate Passed Senate Bill 271 Would Require Energy Companies To Generate 50% Of Their Energy Through Renewable Sources By 2030 And 60% By 2035. “The Senate passed Senate Bill 271, sponsored by state Sen. Erika Geiss (D-Taylor), would require energy companies to generate 50% of their energy through renewable sources by 2030 and 60% by 2035 which would include sources like biomass, landfill gas made from solid waste, gas from methane digesters using municipal sewage waste, food waste and animal manure, and energy-generating incinerators in operation before Jan. 1, 2023.” (Kyle Davidson, “Michigan Senate Advances Clean Energy Legislation Amid Fierce Opposition From Republicans,” [Michigan Advance](#), 10/27/23)

Senate Bill 271 Would Also Require Energy Companies To Meet A 100% Clean Energy Standard By 2040. “It would also require energy companies to meet a 100% clean energy standard by 2040 which would include nuclear power and natural gas using 90% effective carbon capture technology.” (Kyle Davidson, “Michigan Senate Advances Clean Energy Legislation Amid Fierce Opposition From Republicans,” [Michigan Advance](#), 10/27/23)

On October 26, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Senate Bill 273. (SB 273, [Roll Call #602](#), Passed: 20 – 18, Rivet Voting Yea, 10/26/23)

Roll Call No. 602		Yeas—20	
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Nays—18			
Albert	Hauck	Lindsey	Runestad
Bellino	Hoitenga	McBroom	Theis
Bumstead	Huizenga	Nesbitt	Victory
Daley	Johnson	Outman	Webber
Damoose	Lauwers		

(SB 273, [Roll Call #602](#), Passed: 20 – 18, Rivet Voting Yea, 10/26/23)

On November 8, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Final Passage Of Senate Bill 273, Concurring With The House. (SB 273, [Roll Call #705](#), Passed: 20 – 15, Rivet Voting Yea, 11/8/23)

Roll Call No. 705		Yeas—20	
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Nays—15			
Albert	Hoitenga	McBroom	Theis
Bellino	Huizenga	Nesbitt	Victory
Damoose	Johnson	Outman	Webber
Hauck	Lindsey	Runestad	
2492 JOURNAL OF THE SENATE [November 8, 2023] [No. 99]			
Excused—3			
Bumstead	Daley	Lauwers	

(SB 273, [Roll Call #705](#), Passed: 20 – 15, Rivet Voting Yea, 11/8/23)

Senate Bill 273 Would Increase The State’s Energy Waste Reduction Standard For Electrical Sources From 1% To 1.5% With A Goal Of 2% And Slightly Increase The Standard For Natural Gas From .75% To .875% Beginning In 2026. “Senate Bill 273, sponsored by Sen. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing), would increase the state’s energy waste reduction standard for electrical sources from 1% to 1.5% with a goal of 2%. It would also slightly increase the standard for natural gas from .75% to .875% beginning in 2026.” (Kyle Davidson, “Michigan Senate Advances Clean Energy Legislation Amid Fierce Opposition From Republicans,” [Michigan Advance](#), 10/27/23)

On October 26, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Senate Bill 502. (SB 502, [Roll Call #613](#), Passed: 20 – 18, Rivet Voting Yea, 10/26/23)

Roll Call No. 613		Yeas—20	
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Nays—18			
Albert	Hauck	Lindsey	Runestad
Bellino	Hoitenga	McBroom	Theis
Bumstead	Huizenga	Nesbitt	Victory
Daley	Johnson	Outman	Webber
Damoose	Lauwers		

(SB 502, [Roll Call #613](#), Passed: 20 – 18, Rivet Voting Yea, 10/26/23)

On November 8, 2023, Rivet Voted In Favor Of Final Passage Of Senate Bill 502, Concurring With The House. (SB 502, [Roll Call #676](#), Passed: 20 – 17, Rivet Voting Yea, 11/8/23)

Roll Call No. 676		Yeas—20	
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Nays—17			
Albert	Hoitenga	Lindsey	Runestad
Bellino	Huizenga	McBroom	Theis
Daley	Johnson	Nesbitt	Victory
Damoose	Lauwers	Outman	Webber
Hauck			
Excused—1			
Bumstead			

(SB 502, [Roll Call #676](#), Passed: 20 – 17, Rivet Voting Yea, 11/8/23)

Senate Bill 502 Would Require The Michigan Public Service Commission To Weigh Factors Like Equity, Environmental Justice, Affordability, Compliance With Clean Energy Standards And Public Health When Considering Energy Companies’ Plans For Future Operations. “Senate Bill 502, sponsored by Sen. Sue Shink (D-Northfield Twp.), would require the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) to weigh factors like equity, environmental justice, affordability, compliance with clean energy standards and public health, among other factors when considering energy companies’ plans for future operations.” (Kyle Davidson, “Michigan Senate Advances Clean Energy Legislation Amid Fierce Opposition From Republicans,” [Michigan Advance](#), 10/27/23)

Michigan’s Recently Passed Legislation That Requires That The State Generate 80 Percent Of Its Electricity From Wind, Solar And Other Carbon-Free Sources By 2035 And 100 Percent By 2040 Is A Faster Forced Energy Transition Than The One In California. “Michigan recently passed legislation that requires that the state generate 80 percent of its electricity from wind, solar and other carbon-free sources by 2035 and 100 percent by 2040, which is a faster forced energy transition than the one in California—a state that has often been the leader in climate programs with associated energy price increases. Michigan’s new legislation would also tighten energy efficiency requirements for electric utilities, have more residents enroll in a rooftop solar energy program and streamline permits for new wind and solar power. It also allows electric utilities to continue to use natural gas, as long as 90 percent of the carbon dioxide emissions released are captured and stored—an expensive technology and process not yet commercially available. The bill also mandates that utilities reach a separate renewable energy credit portfolio standard of 60 percent by 2035—a massive undertaking in just over a decade.” (“Michigan Passes Climate Legislation More Extreme Than That Of California,” [Institute For Energy Research](#), 11/14/23)

According To The Mackinac Center For Public Policy The Clean Energy Future Plan Would Nearly Double The Average Monthly Electric Bill In Coming Decades

According To The Mackinac Center For Public Policy The Clean Energy Future Plan Would Nearly Double The Average Monthly Electric Bill In Coming Decades. “Under the Clean Energy Future plan, the average monthly electric bill would be nearly double the current average in coming decades, according to a recent report from the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, a free market think tank which analyzed the package of energy bills. The report further warns that overall grid reliability would be severely diminished under the plan.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan Gov Whitmer Signs Sweeping Green Energy Bill Forcing Transition From Fossil Fuels,” [Fox News](#), 11/29/23)

- **According To The Mackinac Center For Public Policy, Michigan Ratepayers Can Expect An Additional \$2,746 A Year For Less Reliable Electricity.** “Michigan

ratepayers can expect to pay an additional \$2,746 a year for less reliable electricity” (Holly Wetzel, “New Energy Bills Would Increase Costs And Blackouts,” [Mackinac Center For Public Policy](#), 10/27/23)

Salary Increase

Rivet Said That Their Personal Salaries Should “Never Be A Priority” And Was Concerned About Salary Increases When Residents Were Already Concerned With High Costs And Financial Burdens

Rivet Noted That The Adjustment Was Higher Than What Other City Employees Were Receiving And Claimed The 4.2% Increase Would Have Been Out Of Line. “Rivet said that Bay City employees only received a 1.5% - 2.5% cost of living raise this year. She said that the rate from the Compensation Committee calculates to 4.2% and would have been out of line.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Commissioners Reject Salary Increases,” [Michigan Live](#), 12/3/19)

Rivet Claimed It Was “The Right Thing To Do” And That Their Personal Salaries Should “Never Be A Priority.” “‘I think it absolutely was the right thing to do,’ said Rivet. ‘It’s really important that we’re listening to our residents that the personal salaries of this body should never be a priority of what we’re doing.’” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Commissioners Reject Salary Increases,” [Michigan Live](#), 12/3/19)

Rivet Said She Was Concerned About Salary Increases When Residents Were Already Concerned With High Costs And Financial Burdens. “Rivet said that she was concerned about salary raises when there were citizens who had come forward in the past to say that the various fees on bills had become a financial burden and that the high costs made it difficult to reside in Bay City.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Commissioners Reject Salary Increases,” [Michigan Live](#), 12/3/19)

Despite Previous Opposition To Increasing Her Own Salary, Rivet Supported Raising Her Own Salary By 7.1% In 2021

- **NOTE:** Because there [was no resolution](#) rejecting the increase, it was considered a consent agenda, meaning it was approved without a roll call unanimously.

In September 2021, The Bay City Commission Was To Consider Pay Raises For Elected Officials Through Federal Funding Stemming From The COVID-19 Pandemic. “BAY CITY, MI - The Bay City Commission will be working on two meeting’s worth of agenda items after the first meeting of Sept. was canceled thanks to tornadic thunderstorms earlier this month. The agenda for the Monday, Sept. 20 meeting includes potential pay raises for elected officials and ways to address immediate needs in the community through the use of federal funding stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Commission To Discuss Potential Salary Increases At Monday Meeting,” [Michigan Live](#), 9/19/21)

The Bay City Commission Was Expected To Consider Whether Or Not To Reject A \$500 Increase To City Commissioner Salaries. “On Monday, the commission is expected to consider whether or not to reject a salary increase being presented to them. According to information included in the agenda packet for Monday, the city’s compensation commission met on Aug. 25 and is proposing a pay increase in the amount of \$500 to the city commissioners and the mayor.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Commission To Discuss Potential Salary Increases At Monday Meeting,” [Michigan Live](#), 9/19/21)

In 2019, The Bay City Commission Declined A Proposed Salary Increase After Concerns Were Raised By Rivet. “The Bay City Commission declined a proposed salary increase back in 2019 . The Bay City Times previously reported Commissioner Kristen Rivet previously raised concerns at that time about receiving such raises after citizens had come forward in the past to say that the various fees on bills had become a financial burden and that the high costs made it difficult to reside in the city.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Commission To Discuss Potential Salary Increases At Monday Meeting,” [Michigan Live](#), 9/19/21)

The Bay City Commission Opted To Receive A Recommendation For A Salary Increase From The The City’s Compensation Commission. “The Bay City Commission opted to receive a recommendation for a salary increase from the the city’s compensation commission. The Bay City Times previously reported that a separate board called the ‘compensation commission’ met on Aug.

25 and proposed a pay increase in the amount of \$500 per year to the city commissioners and the mayor.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Accepts Pay Raise For Commissioners And Mayor,” [Michigan Live](#), 9/21/21)

The Salary For Commissioners Increased From \$7,000 To \$7,500, A 7.1% Increase. “The new salary brings the commissioners’ salaries up to \$7,500 from \$7,000 and the mayor’s salary up to \$9,000 from \$8,500. This equates to a 7.1% increase in pay for the commissioners and 5.9% for the mayor. According to the agenda item, this pay raise will increase the city’s general fund budget by \$5,000 a year.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Accepts Pay Raise For Commissioners And Mayor,” [Michigan Live](#), 9/21/21)

The Determination Of Salaries Of Bay City Elected Officials Was “Received” And Rivet Was Present. ([Bay City Commission](#), 9/20/21)

Determination of Salaries of Bay City Elected Officials by the Compensation Commission (8/25/21) was received.

([Bay City Commission](#), 9/20/21)

Commissioners Present: Jesse Dockett, Kristen Rivet, Brentt Brunner, Rachelle Hilliker, Christopher Girard, Kerice Basmadjian and Cordal Morris, 7; Mayor Kathleen L. Newsham.
Excused: Commissioner Ed Clements, 1.
Absent: None.

([Bay City Commission](#), 9/20/21)

The Bay City Commission Moved To Receive The Determination, Accepting The Salary Increase. “The Bay City Commission was then presented with a proposed determination of salaries with this increase included in the final amounts from the compensation commission during the Monday, Sept. 20 regular meeting. The city commission moved to receive the determination, which then ultimately meant that the salary increase was accepted.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Accepts Pay Raise For Commissioners And Mayor,” [Michigan Live](#), 9/21/21)

Water Rates

In 2020, The Bay City Commission Unanimously Voted To Increase Water Rates, Costing Residents \$386,147 Or About \$11 Per Household

The Bay City Commission Unanimously Voted To Increase Water Rates After The City Was Charged More For Water By The Bay County Department Of Water And Sewer, Costing Households \$11 A Year. “BAY CITY, MI - The Bay City Commission unanimously voted to increase water rates after the city was charged more for water by the Bay County Department of Water and Sewer. The average Bay City household will pay about \$11 more per year, the city estimates.” (Kaitlyn Farley, “Bay City Approves Water Rate Increase Of About \$11 Annually For Most Homeowners,” [Michigan Live](#), 7/7/20)

On June 15, 2020, The Board Adopted A 13 Cent Increase For Water Rates. “The proposal was first read during a June 15 meeting and was adopted by the board Monday, July 6. The ordinance amendment will increase the volume charge rate to \$4.06 on all water bills effective Aug. 1. This is an increase in 13 cents compared to the previous rate of \$3.93.” (Kaitlyn Farley, “Bay City Approves Water Rate Increase Of About \$11 Annually For Most Homeowners,” [Michigan Live](#), 7/7/20)

The Approved Increase Was Expected To Raise \$386,147 In Revenue. “Martini said the increases approved Monday will additional revenue estimated at \$386,147.” (Kaitlyn Farley, “Bay City Approves Water Rate Increase Of About \$11 Annually For Most Homeowners,” [Michigan Live](#), 7/7/20)

Electric Rates

In March 2022, Rivet Voted In Favor Of A 3% Increase In Electric Rates Over Three Years, Which Would Cost Residents Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars More Annually

On March 7, 2022, The Bay City Commission Approved An Ordinance Amendment That Called For A 3% Increase In Electric Rates Over Three Years. “The Bay City Commission approved an ordinance amendment during the Monday, March 7 meeting that put a new rate adjustment for services from Bay City Electric Light & Power into practice. The approved rate adjustment calls for an overall 3% increase that will be broken up in 1% increments over the next three years. The city noted in the approved agenda item that the increases seen by individual customers may vary based on electrical usage pattern.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Electric Rates To Rise 1% Each Year For Three Years,” [Michigan Live](#), 3/9/22)

According To The City, The Tax Revenue Would Increase By \$374,162 In 2022, \$389,986 In 2023, And \$399,628 In 2024. “According to the city, this rate design will produce an estimated annual revenue increase of \$374,162 in 2022, \$389,986 in 2023, and \$399,628 in 2024.” (Caitlyn French, “Bay City Electric Rates To Rise 1% Each Year For Three Years,” [Michigan Live](#), 3/9/22)

Rivet Voted Yes. ([Bay City Commission](#), 3/7/22)

Yes, Commissioners Dockett, Rivet,
Pinkstock, Hilliker, Girard, Basmadjian, Morris, 7.
No, Commissioner Clements, 1.

([Bay City Commission](#), 3/7/22)

Property Tax

On May 14, 2024, McDonald Rivet Voted Against Increasing The Homestead Property Tax Credit By Increasing The Off Of Property Taxes In Excess Of 3.2 Percent Of Income To 100 Percent Of Income. “Senator Huizenga offered the following amendments: 1. Amend page 12, following line 8, by inserting: ‘Inflation relief fund 500,000,000’. 2. Amend page 12, following line 14, by inserting: ‘Strategic outreach and attraction reserve fund 500,000,000’. 3. Amend page 112, following line 5, by inserting: ‘Sec. 1023. It is the intent of the legislature that the funds appropriated in part 1 for inflation relief fund be used to create Michigan child care tax credits that are equal to 200.00% of the Federal dependent care credit and to increase the homestead property tax credit by increasing the offset of property taxes in excess of 3.2% of income to 100%. Funds in the strategic outreach reserve fund shall be reduced by an equal amount.’. The question being on the adoption of the amendments, Senator Lauwers requested the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered, 1/5 of the members present voting therefor.” (SB 766, [Roll Call #150](#), Failed: 16 – 20, Rivet Voting Nay, 5/14/24)

Roll Call No. 150		Yeas—16	
Albert	Hauck	Lauwers	Runestad
Bellino	Hottenga	Lindsey	Theis
Bumstead	Huizenga	Nesbitt	Victory
Daley	Johnson	Outman	Webber
Nays—20			
Anthony	Chang	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Cherry	McCann	Santana
Brinks	Geiss	McDonald Rivet	Shink
Camilleri	Hertel	McMorrow	Singh
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Wojno
Excused—2			
Damoose	McBroom		
Not Voting—0			

(SB 766, [Roll Call #150](#), Failed: 16 – 20, Rivet Voting Nay, 5/14/24)