

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council
Regular Meeting, September 10, 2007**

1. The regular Village Council meeting of Monday, September 10, 2007, convened at 7:30 p.m. at 111 E. Michigan Avenue, Paw Paw, Michigan. President Plaszczyk presiding. **Meeting Convened**

2. Present: Plaszczyk, Richardson, Larcinese, Rohr, Wilhelmi and McIntosh. Excused Basinger. Also present: Village Clerk Christopher Tapper, Department of Public Services Director John Small, Chief of Police Patrick Alspaugh, Village Manager Larry Nielsen and Finance Administrator KeVen Riley. **Members Present**

3. Others present: Debra Klinger, John Mohny, Sandy Wiles, Paul DeRight and other members of the Carnegie Board, Ken Berthiaume and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rysenga

4. Motion by McIntosh, supported by Richardson, to approve the August 27, 2007 minutes of the regular meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. **Approved Minutes**

5. Motion by Rohr, supported Plaszczyk, to approve claims in the amount of \$236,624.07, also authorizing Nielsen and Riley to approve and disperse AEP and any additional payments. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Next accounts payable McIntosh and Larcinese **Accounts Payable**

6. Mohny presented to the Council the financial information the Council had request. Mohny stated he and his board have worked very hard over the past several years on the Carnegie Center. Mohny commented he did not have an answer as to why the Carnegie was not **attaching correction 9/24/07** attracting new clients. Mohny stated he felt the community did not always think of the Carnegie Center as a rental opportunity. Mohny commented the Carnegie had regular renters such as the Paw Paw Art Association and the Garden Club, finding new renters was a problem. Mohny stated he was very concerned about the idea of not having funds available to replace some of the necessary equipment in the building. Mohny concluded he and his members are a volunteer organization and have done an extraordinary great job but he and his members were running out of time, funds and ideas. **Presentation and
Guests
John Mohny and
Carnegie Center
Board**

7. Wiles requested Council direction on dissolving the Carnegie Board if necessary. **Sandy Wiles**

8. DeRight represented the Paw Paw Art Association. DeRight stated the Paw Paw Art Association rents the basement of the **Paul DeRight**

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Carnegie Center and he had already reserved the ~~faultily~~
~~correction 9/24/07~~ facility for upcoming events.

9. Plaszczak thanked all parties for appearing and expressed his appreciation to Mohny and all Carnegie members. Plaszczak commented the members had done a wonderful job over the years making the Carnegie Center a valuable asset for the community.
10. It was the consensus of the Council to have Nielsen meet with Mohny to discuss lease agreement with the Village and discuss new ideas that could help the Carnegie Center find new clients. Nielsen and Mohny commented they would report finding a future Council meeting.
11. Ken Berthiaume from Berthiaume and Company presented the audit report for fiscal year 2007. Berthiaume commented on the Village of Paw Paws financial position. Berthiaume reported on specific funds electric and sewer. Berthiaume stated the completed balance sheet accounts looked healthy. Berthiaume point out the Villages long term debits were in good standing.
12. Berthiaume stated he was a little concerned regarding the electric fund losses but commented the losses were manageable due to the cost of energy. Berthiaume commented on the hiring of Tapper, for the clerk position. Berthiaume stated Riley should be credited for the hard work she had done this last fiscal year.
13. Berthiaume stated the onsite gathering of information went exceptionally well and was thankful for the help the Village Hall staff provide. Berthiaume commented on the Wine and Harvest Festival. Berthiaume stated after speaking with Riley about internal control of the festival he was a little concerned about the practices. Berthiaume stated there needed to be a more internal control of the festival funds during the festival to make sure all funds were accounted for correctly. It was also noted the water fund experienced a loss of cash reserves by almost 50 percent.
14. Berthiaume concluded stating he felt the Village of Paw Paw was heading in a good direction for fiscal year 2008.
15. Plaszczak thanked Berthiaume for the report and commented the Council was already acting on the recommendation he had

**Audit Report for
Fiscal year 2007 Ken
Berthiaume**

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stated in his report.

16. Motion by Rohr, supported by Richardson to allow street closing for the American Legion dedication ceremony for the new monument and a memorial service for three fallen soldiers at Veterans Park along Red Arrow Hwy and East Michigan Ave and Main Street the time will be between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m on September 11, 2007. All members present voting yes, motion carried. **New Business Street Closing Veteran Park along Red Arrow Hwy**
17. Motion by McIntosh, supported by Rohr, to allow street closing of Michigan Avenue between Van Buren Street and Johnson Street to the football field parking lot behind the Middle School on October 5, 2007 for the annual homecoming parade, the parade will start at 5:00 p.m. and lasting approximately thirty minutes. All members present voting yes, motion carried. **Street Closing Paw Paw High School Student Council Parade**
18. Nielsen commented on the request from Mr. and Mrs. Rysenga of 703 Marcelletti Street. Nielsen stated the Rysenga's are asking if the Village would be interested in vacating the plat and unimproved streets that cuts East and West across Marcelletti Street. Nielsen commented this plat is known as Catalpa Street. Nielsen stated he had received a letter from the Rysenga's stating they had maintained the grounds for the past 12 years and were interested in acquiring the plat. **Vacate Platted but Unimproved Street Catalpa Street**
19. Plaszczak questioned the property to the east of the plat. Plaszczak asked staff to do more investigation to find out about the surrounding plats before Council makes a decision. Plaszczak asked Nielsen to contact Paw Paw Township before moving forward with the request. Plaszczak also asked Nielsen to keep contact with Mr. and Mrs. Rysenga regarding request.
20. Nielsen commented on drafted ordinance number 413 that was introduced last meeting. Nielsen stated a memo regarding further consideration of the drafted ordinance was in the Council packets. **Ongoing Business Trash and Rubbish Process**
21. Larcinese questioned the costs of the haulers. Larcinese wanted to make sure recycling would be an option for the residents.
22. Wilhelmi commented he wanted the timetable to accelerate. Wilhelmi commented with the current proposed timetable the

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service would take approximately two years to take affect.

23. Nielsen commented he wanted to make sure residents had an opportunity to voice opinions of the drafted service. Nielsen stated he wanted to be sure about the mandatory, non-mandatory subject.
24. Larcinese commented he felt by mandating the service it would allow the Village to get the lowest prices for the residents.
25. Richardson commented he had anxiety from residents about the drafted ordinance. Richardson stated the residents would need to see specifics on the draft. Richardson commented residents just want to be educated on confusing drafted ordinances.
26. The consensus of the Council was to allow DPS committee to continue working with Nielsen on suggested timetable for drafted ordinance number 413.
27. McIntosh commented Wilhelmi would communicate DPS report to audience.
28. Motion by Wilhelmi, supported by McIntosh, to allow staff to solicit bids to repair wing walls on Maple Lake Dam. The solicitation may go out by September 14, 2007 returning by 9:00 a.m. on September 24, 2007, bids opened at 9:30 a.m. on September 24, 2007 and a DPS committee meeting at 6:30 p.m on September 24, 2007 to review the bids and recommend to Council. All members present voting yes, motion carried.
29. Larcinese questioned why Council was making motions to solicit bids. Larcinese stated this was not done in the past, and he felt Small was capable of making good decisions on behalf of the Village.
30. Small responded this would speed up the bid process and would keep Council informed on decisions made during day to day business.
31. Nielsen commented he wanted to make sure Council gave approval before moving forward. Nielsen suggested if Council did not want to be a part of the bidding process, then he would act accordingly.
32. Larcinese thanked Nielsen and Small for involving Council on

**Committee Reports
DPS**

**Solicit bids for wing
wall on Maple Lake
Dam**

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the solicitations of bid but did not want to hold up the process by waiting for Council meetings. Larcinese expressed he felt all Village employees are looking to price items that would benefit the Village and all residents.

33. Wilhelmi commented on the memorandum from Envirologic Technologies sent to Robert Harvey. Wilhelmi stated the memo discussed reimbursement for the Village of Paw Paw for expenditures associated with closure of the underground storage tank system on 110 Berrien Street. Wilhelmi stated the cost presented are simply for illustrative purpose, the actual cost can be expected to vary when the required bidding processes is completed.

Task	Estimated Costs	Village Pays	State Reimbursement	Net Village Cost
Groundwater Sampling	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$24,000	\$6,000
Additional Excavation	\$32,500	\$32,500	\$26,000	\$6,500
Total Costs	\$62,500	\$62,500	\$50,000	\$12,500

34. Motion by Wilhelmi, supported by Richardson to ~~allow~~ **correction 9/24/07** contract with Envirologic Technologies to run laboratory analyses for ~~underground~~ **correction 9/24/07** closure storage tanks for a not to exceed bid price of \$62,500. All members present voting yes, motion carries.

**Envirologic
Technologies**

35. Wilhelmi commented most items had already been discussed regarding Maple Lake Dam and Envirologic Technologies.

Parks & Recreation

36. Larcinese questioned discussions on a possible skate board park. Larcinese commented he remembered the presentation of Mary Springer but wondered if anything was in the works for another presentation. Nielsen responded the skated board park had been put on hold until the Kids Paradise project was completed.

37. Larcinese commented on the health of Carl Manning. Larcinese commented on the chiefs report which included 183 fire call through July 2007 and the department was waiting to hear from the State of Michigan on the 501C3 status. Larcinese commented on the new officers Joseph Lemahieu as chief, Rick ~~Dunkerly~~ **correction 9/24/07** Dunkerley as second

Fire Board

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assistant chief and Rick Try as first assistant chief. Larcinese commented regarding the storm for last week the department responded to 22 calls in a 24 hour period. Larcinese conclude stating claim were dispersed for \$21,000.

38. Larcinese commented on a dinner coming up ~~September 24, 2007.~~ correction 9/24/07 October 4, 2007. **Historical Commission**
39. Plaszczyk commented the next Revolving Loan Board meeting was September 26, 2007 at 4:00 p.m at Village Hall. **Revolving Loan**
40. Plaszczyk commented the festival went well and thanked everyone for their hard work and effort. **Wine & Harvest Festival**
41. Plaszczyk stated most items had been discussed. Plaszczyk reminded Council about the workshop session for health insurance. Nielsen commented Guylaine Donovan from Mercer Health and Benefits would not have all information Council had requested by the meeting date. Nielsen suggested changing the meeting date to October 1, 2007 so Donovan would have information Council requested on time. **Council Comments Plaszczyk**
42. It was the consensus of the Council to change workshop session to October 1, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall
43. McIntosh commented the Wine & Harvest Festival was great again this year and the fireworks display was even better. McIntosh commented on the status of Maple Lake. McIntosh stated the lake was in horrible condition. **McIntosh**
44. Larcinese questioned staff on the status of the central air project at Village Hall. Small responded the meter was installed last week and things were moving forward. Larcinese questioned the tornado horn. Larcinese questioned who is responsible for sounding the alarm. **Larcinese**
45. Richardson responded the alarm was tested on an annual basis and it was the County responsible to alarm residents of a tornado. Nielsen commented he and Small would review the ~~producers~~ correction 9/24/07 procurers with the County.
46. Nielsen commented on leaf and brush pickup memo in Council packets. Nielsen stated the memo discussed the ending of brush and beginning of leaf pick up. Nielsen commented a drafted advertisement with approval would be sent out. Nielsen also commented on the liability and property insurance return premium. Nielsen commented on the meeting he had **Village Manager**

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with Craig Manser, Regional Risk Manager for Michigan Municipal Risk Management Association. Nielsen commented on the citizen planner training program and encouraged Council and staff to attend possible meetings.

47. Plaszcak commented on the Van Buren County Economic Summit at the VBC Conference Center September 12, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. Plaszcak asked if any Council members wanted to attend please let Nielsen know.

Plaszcak

48. Motion by Wilhelmi, supported by Larcinese to adjourn meeting at 9:40 p.m. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted:

Village President,
Roman Plaszcak

Village Clerk
Christopher Tapper