

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council
Regular Meeting, January 12, 2009**

1. The regular Village Council meeting of Monday, January 12, 2009, convened at 7:33 p.m. at 114 S. Gremps, Paw Paw, Michigan. President Pro-Tem Basinger presiding. **Meeting Convened**

2. Present: Basinger, Rohr, Wilhelmi, Larcinese, Pioch, and McIntosh. Excused Plaszcak Also present: Village Manager, Larry Nielsen and Village Clerk, Christopher Tapper. **Members Present**

3. Motion by McIntosh supported by Rohr, to approve the corrected December 22, 2008 minutes of the regular meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. **Approved Minutes**

4. Motion by Rohr supported by Pioch, to approve the December 22, 2008 minutes of the workshop meeting. All members present voting yes, McIntosh abstaining, motion carried.

5. Motion by McIntosh, supported by Pioch, to approve accounts payable for \$399,694.65 as presented. Basinger questioned claim number 26711. Wilhelmi questioned claim number 26686. Larcinese questioned claim number 26705. Nielsen responded to all questioned items. All members present voting yes, motion carried. **Accounts Payable**

6. Nielsen advised he is awaiting the revision of both ordinances, Outdoor and Open Burning Ordinance and Parks and Playground Ordinance, before scheduling the required public hearing. The consensus of the Council was to hold the public hearing in February 2009. **Public Hearing**

7. Diana Stump was in the audience to further discuss the ground water concerns in the Hidden Lane area, located in Paw Paw Township. Stump asked Nielsen if the Village had an update from Coca-Cola North America regarding new tests. Stump commented she had been attending Village of Paw Paw Council meeting for several months and has not received much information from the Township. Stump commented she has received a lot of information from Michigan DEQ. Stump added her home; several other residents and businesses in Paw Paw Township are being provided bottle water and have been for longer than a year. **Comments from Audience Members
Diana Stump**

8. A discussion ensued about the communications between the Village of Paw Paw representatives, Coca-Cola North America representatives and Paw Paw Township representatives. The questions included; what does the data from the entire tests mean for the residents in the Hidden Lane area? What levels of EDTA are allowable for drinking water standards? Why did Paw Paw Schools choose to hook up to the Village water system so quickly and why residents in the Hidden Lane area still are advised from the Michigan DEQ not to drink ground water?

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council
Regular Meeting, January 12, 2009**

9. Nielsen asked Stump to consider contacting or attending meetings at Paw Paw Township. Nielsen commented he has spoken to representatives from Coca-Cola North American and Paw Paw Township. The Council thanked Stump for providing more information regarding the discussion and asked Nielsen to continue trying to set up a dialog and discussion opportunity between all parties.
10. Basinger reported the Finance and Administration Committee met tonight before the Council meeting. Several discussion items were discussed including; ergonomic office equipment for Village Hall, mowing equipment for the Department of Public Services, replacement of the automatic start-up from the generator at the wastewater treatment plant, replacement of a hoist for the hydro-electric dam, and depreciation expenses which are to be shown in finance and audited reports as opposed to the categorical fiscal year budgets.
New Business Recommendations from the Finance Committee
11. A general discussion ensued regarding the purchasing of the mowing equipment and whether or not the Village should commit to keep the effort in-house for a number of years. McIntosh stated she preferred a seven year commitment be made to begin in-house mowing.
12. Motion by Rohr, supported by Wilhelmi, to authorize and accept the low bid for mowing equipment from Paw Paw Rental \$9,029.00 as presented to the Finance and Administrative Committee with the requirement that the Village evaluate the cost-effectiveness in three years. The goal would be the Village should at least recoup the cost of the equipment before making any changes. All members present, except McIntosh, voting yes, motion carried.
Purchase of Mowing Equipment
13. Motion by Pioch, supported by Larcinese to authorize and accept low bid from Bridgeway Electric \$4,399.50 and replace the main logic and PC controller for the automatic start-up of the generator at the waste water treatment plant. All members present voting yes, motion carried
Purchase of replacement auto start-up WWTP
14. Motion by Larcinese, supported by Pioch to approve the purchase of a replacement hoist for the hydro-electric power plant which raises the gates controlling the water levels, for a price from Yale Lift-Tech in the amount of \$8,729.00. All members present voting yes, motion carried.
Purchase of replacement hoist
15. Nielsen asked Council for questions and comments regarding labor attorney review of the drafted personnel policies and procedures. Council members with changes were advised to get them to Nielsen before the next meeting. Labor attorney, Richard Fries may have additional comments regarding Section V. Following this, the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual may be ready for action at the next meeting. Consensus of the Council was to allow the additional time for changes and comments.
Ongoing Business Review of Drafted Personnel P & P
16. Already reported
Committee Reports F & A

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council
Regular Meeting, January 12, 2009**

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| 17. Already reported | DPS |
| 18. Wilhelmi reported the Parks and Recreation Committee met January 5, 2009. Items discussed included: DPS mowing equipment; Tom Soule presented the possible agenda for a second annual "Ride for Kids" fundraiser with all proceeds benefiting the Kids Paradise Maintenance Fund; and goals and objectives for the 5 year recreation plan. | Parks & Recreation |
| 19. No report. | DDA |
| 20. Larcinese reported December and January meeting information. Larcinese stated with the recent November Township elections the Fire District Board lost Chairperson Bernard Wilfong. Wilfong was replaced as chairperson by Mike Toth. Larcinese also commented regarding the Lawton Fire Department fire truck accident and several car accidents and assists on I-94. Agenda items included; memo from Cutting & Cutting, financial reports, minutes and total calls for service in 2008. | Fire Board |
| 21. No report, next meeting, January 29, 2009 | Historical
Commission |
| 22. No report | Housing Commission |
| 23. No report, next meeting January 28, 2009 | RLF |
| 24. Pioch reported the Wine and Harvest Festival Committee met January 7, 2009. Items discussed included; new fundraising ideas and an appreciation dinner for volunteers and sponsors. | PPWHF |
| 25. Rohr commented on continued extra effort by Department of Public Services to keep the roads clear of snow. | Council Comments
Rohr |
| 26. McIntosh asked Nielsen of news regarding the rehabilitation of the Warner's winery water tower. McIntosh questioned if the State of Michigan or historical commission offered any type of grants to rehabilitate the tower. Nielsen responded there were several different agencies that may play a role in the rehabilitation of such structures and that he would look into these. | McIntosh |
| 27. Nielsen commented on the expense and revenue reports provided to Council and asked if changes in format were needed. Nielsen commented on DPS and Police Department preliminary budgets worksheets for 2009-2010. Nielsen stated the 5 year recreation information was on the website along with information about the Master Planning session. Nielsen concluded discussion with the topic of a news article from the Kalamazoo Gazette stating "Paw Paw residents pay the most taxes in Van Buren County". Nielsen offered several examples of other communities in Van Buren County that pay the same level of taxes. Nielsen concluded stating the news article was very limited and could easily lead people to incorrect assumptions. | Village Manager |

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council
Regular Meeting, January 12, 2009**

28. Motion by Larcinese, supported by McIntosh, to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted:

Village President
Roman Plaszczak

Village Clerk,
Christopher Tapper