

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council
Regular Meeting, August 10, 2009**

1. The regular Village Council meeting of Monday, August 10, 2009, convened at 7:35 p.m. at 114 S. Gremps, Paw Paw, Michigan. President Plaszcak presiding. **Meeting Convened**

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

3. Motion by Basinger supported by Wilhelmi, to approve the corrected July 27, 2009 minutes of the regular meeting. All members present voting yes, Rohr abstaining, motion carried. **Approved Minutes**

4. Motion by Basinger, supported by Larcinese, to approve accounts payable for \$172,820.52 as presented. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Next claims Pioch & Rohr (8-24-09). Follow claims: Wilhelmi and McIntosh **Accounts Payable**

5. LET IT BE KNOWN that it is with great pride that we join with the good people of the Village of Paw Paw in celebrating its 150th anniversary. As the residents of the community gather to pay their respects to the memory of those who established this community and to reaffirm their commitment for the future, we commend them and thank them for all that Paw Paw has meant in helping to define the character of our beloved Great Lake State. **Special Tribute from State of Michigan for VOPP 150 B-Day**
Founded by an act of state legislature in 1859, Paw Paw can trace its roots to the pioneer spirit of the men and women who first cleared the land and built the institutions and homes that make this community what we know and celebrate today, While those early pioneers would likely not recognize many of the things we take for granted now, they would recognize the pride that makes this community a home for individuals and families seeking a secure and prosperous tomorrow.
Paw Paw has rich history that demonstrates on a local level much of what make Michigan a great state to live in. Paw Paws served honorably in the Civil War, even aiding in the capture of Jefferson Davis. Paw Paws also played a distinct role in the Underground Railroad during that anti-slavery movement. Additionally, Paw Paws have gone on to have great success in their chosen profession, including business, the military and professional baseball among others. This undoubtedly reflects the unconditional support that Paw Paw receives from their local community. Having a history like this should make all present and future residents of Paw Paw immensely proud. In observing an anniversary like the people of Paw Paw, we all learn a little more about our hometowns. Often in recalling the struggles of the founders, we gain new insights into how our neighborhoods, businesses, churches, and schools developed as they did. For the children of Paw Paw, there are even grater rewards, as they discover that they are part of traditions of citizenship that will be with them all their lives. With the wonderful gifts they share, the people of Paw Paw certainly have much reason for thanks and for optimism. IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, therefore, this document is signed and dedicated to

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commemorate the 150th anniversary of the village of Paw Paw. We commend all those who have coordinated the events marking this observance. Signed; Governor, Jennifer Granholm, Fred Upton, U.S Representative, Thomas George, State Senator and Tonya Schuitmaker, State Representative.

6. Plaszcak presented Trace Kirvan, Motor Pool Supervisor and Bruce Hendrickson, Motor Pool Mechanic with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Village Council for dedication of services in the Motor Pool Department. Plaszcak commented Kirvan and Hendrickson have shown excellent cost saving means by rehabbing two older Village of Paw Paw dump trucks at a substantial cost savings to the Village. With this dedication and cost saving Kirvan and Hendrickson are both valuable assets to the Village of Paw Paw.

**Employee
Appreciations
Trace & Bruce**

7. Eric Rottman, Vice President of the POAM was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Rottman commented on several areas of the review and stated some of the information was incorrect after contacting several of the departments referenced in the review. Rottman commented on the recommendations in the review and asked Council to consider other options not discussed in the review.

**Comments from
Audience
Eric Rottman POAM
Vice President**

8. Al Parsell, Road Lieutenant for the Paw Paw Police Department. Parsell was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Parsell commend on several areas of the review and stated some of the information was incorrect after contacting several of the departments referenced in the review. Parsell commented on the recommendations in the review and asked Council to consider other options not discussed in the review.

Al Parsell

9. Marv Flick was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Flick commented he was not a Village resident but felt the Paw Paw Police Department was an excellent department and would hate to see the Village cut officers. "You get what you pay for" Flick commented and hoped the Village Council would consider other options not discussed in the review.

Marv Flick

10. Robert Budner was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Budner commented he was not a Village resident but felt the Paw Paw Police Department was an excellent department and would hate to see the Village cut officers. Budner commented he hoped the Village Council would consider other options not discussed in the review.

Robert Budner

11. John Redmond was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Redmond comment he was a Village resident and hated to see the Village Council make cuts to a department with an excellent customer service to the Village residents. "The department works well now please do not change it" Redmond commented.

John Redmond

12. Loren Tarner, President of the POAM was in attendance to discuss the Police

**Loren Tarner
President POAM**

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Department Operational Review. Tarner commented on several areas of the review and stated some of the information was incorrect after contacting several of the departments referenced in the review. Tarner commented on the recommendations in the review and asked Council to consider other options not discussed in the review

13. Paul Rebori was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Rebori comment he was a Village resident and hated to see the Village Council make cuts to a department with an excellent customer service to the Village residents. Rebori commented. Rebori stated he did not read the review but would like to think the Village Council and the Police Chief would be able to work out the budget concerns without losing officers. **Paul Rebori**
14. Rose Brattain was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Brattain commented she lived in a neighboring community that contracted with the Van Buren County Sheriffs Department. Brattain stated since her community started contracting with the County she was afraid to go outside during the evening because the Sheriffs Department did not have the man power to patrol her community during the evening hours. Brattain hoped to see the Village of Paw Paw not make that mistake for its residents. **Rose Brattain**
15. Trent DeGroff was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. DeGroff commented he was not a Village resident but felt the Paw Paw Police Department was an excellent department and would hate to see the Village cut officers. **Trent DeGroff**
16. Donald Mortimer was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Mortimer comment he was a Village resident and hated to see the Village Council make cuts to a department with an excellent customer service to the Village residents. **Donald Mortimer**
17. Doug Hubbell was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Hubbell comment he was a Village resident and hated to see the Village Council make cuts to a department with an excellent customer service to the Village residents. . **Doug Hubbell**
18. Wanda Redmond was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Redmond comment she is a Village resident and hated to see the Village Council make cuts to a department with an excellent customer service to the Village residents. **Wanda Redmond**
19. Dawn Parsell was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Parsell commend on several areas of the review and stated some of the information was incorrect after contacting several of the departments referenced in the review. Parsell commented on the recommendations in the **Dawn Parsell**

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review and asked Council to consider other options not discussed in the review.

20. Bob Zinkel was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. Zinkel comment he was a Village resident and hated to see the Village Council make cuts to a department with an excellent customer service to the Village residents. **Bob Zinkel**

21. Joe LeMahieu was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review. LeMahieu commented he was a Village resident and hated to see the Village Council make cuts to a department with an excellent customer services to the Village resident. LeMahieu also discussed the excellent working relationship between the Paw Paw Police Department and the Paw Paw Fire Department. LeMahieu commented he would hope to see the Village Council discuss other options not stated in the report. **Joe LeMahieu, PPF**

22. Chief of Police, Patrick Alspaugh was in attendance to discuss the Police Department Operational Review, Alspaugh commented on his memo addressed to Council regarding the review. Alspaugh stated if the Council wanted to compare departments with the 15 other agencies listed the biggest comparison was the Paw Paw Police Department was roughly 12% under paid compared to the others. The Village Council should be very proud of the work the Police Department does on a 24 hour basis. The Police Department has done everything asked by the Village Manager and Council with regards to the budget. **Patrick Alspaugh,
Chief of Police**

23. Janet Cloud was in attendance to discuss the damaged sidewalk on the south side Michigan Avenue in front of the Paw Paw Library. Nielsen commented he would have Department of Public Services to follow up with the damage. **Janet Cloud**

24. Bryan Stump was in attendance to continue the discussion with the Village of Paw Paw regarding the request from Coca-Cola North America to hook up residents from the Hidden Lane to Village of Paw Paw water. Stump commented at meeting was scheduled with Paw Paw Township and wanted to know if the Village had met with the Township regarding in hook up to municipal water. Stump concluded by stating, "Everyone was missing the big picture with this problem and the Township nor the Village wanted to work with the residents to solve the problem." **Bryan Stump**

25. Diana Stump was in attendance to continue the discussion with the Village of Paw Paw regarding the request from Coca-Cola North America to hook up residents from the Hidden Lane to Village of Paw Paw water. Stump had asked if the Village had met with the Township or any other parties regarding CCNA's request. Nielsen responded the Village had met with a representative from Warner Norcross & Judd. Nielsen also referenced a Franchise Agreement with the Township. **Diana Stump**

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| 26. Mark Nottley, Principal Director of Governmental Consulting, Rehmann Robson CPA was in attendance to provide the Operational Review of the Police Department. Nottley wanted to thank the Council for the opportunity to review such an excellent Police Department. Nottley explained the operational review was not a personal attack on the Police Department but an outside eye looking into the Village of Paw Paw general fund verse the Police Department. Nottley commented the Village of Paw Paw expensed 37% of its general fund to the Police Department. Nottley provided a final presentation handout to the Council outlining the recommendations in the review. Nottley again stated these recommendations are only recommendations and it is ultimately the Councils decision to proceed with what is best financial for the Village. | Presentation & Guest
Mark Nottley |
| 27. A general discussion ensued regarding the Operational Review presented by Nottley. Some comments and questions included; what tools were used to locate the comparisons of departments, what are the average percentages cities and village's expense for their Police Departments, part time officers would fill gaps left when overtime is a concern. Other comments and questions from Council included; allowing Village Manager to do his job, this is management decision not a Council decision, the longer the delay more money being lost by the Village general fund. | Council Questions &
Comments |
| 28. Motion by Larcinese, supported by McIntosh, to accept the Police Department Operational Review date July 2009 from Rehmann Robson CPA to authorize the Village Manager to implement the necessary recommendations given in the report in order to help obtain and secure the Village of Paw Paw General Fund's integrity and ensure a high quality of public safety. All members present voting yes, Plaszczak no, motion carried. | Police Department
Operational Review |
| 29. Motion by McIntosh supported by Basinger, to accept the employee designated Allen Parsell as employee delegate, Trace Kirvan as employee alternated delegate, Larry Nielsen as employer delegate and John Small as employer alternated to attend the annual MERS conference and business meeting on behalf of the Village of Paw Paw. All members present voting yes, motion carried. | New Business
MERS Reprs. |
| 30. Motion by Larcinese, supported by Rohr, to authorize the release of the drafted Master Plan for its formal 63 day comment period and authorize the Planning Commission to schedule a public hearing to take comment on the plan following the 63 day comment period. All members present voting yes, motion carried. | Master Plan 63 day
comment Period |
| 31. Motion by Pioch, supported by McIntosh to authorize the application processes for lowering of Maple Lake to affect repairs to the Hydro Electric Dam. All member present voting yes, motion carried. | Ongoing Business
Lowering Maple Lake |
| 32. No report. | Committee Reports
Finance & Admin |

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| 33. McIntosh reported the Department of Public Services met before tonight's Council meeting. Items discussed included; sidewalk edging, Michigan Works Program, Hasting Street Pond and 2009 Heavy Road Maintenances. | Department of Public Services |
| 34. Motion by McIntosh, supported by Pioch to approve and accept the bids from Lounsbury Excavating for the 2009 Heavy Road Maintenance Projects as stated in the memorandum from John Small, Director of Department of Public Services dated 8-10-09. Roll call vote; Basinger yes, Plaszczak yes, Larcinese yes, Rohr yes, Pioch yes, Wilhelmi yes and McIntosh yes, motion carried. | 2009 Heavy Road Maintenance |
| 35. Wilhelmi reported the Parks and Recreation Committee met August 3, 2009. Items discussed included; weed boat process, goose hunt suspended for 2009, mowing and the Tyler Field Pavilion. | Parks & Recreation
Tyler Field |
| 36. No report. | DDA |
| 37. Larcinese reported the Fire Board met August 4, 2009. Items discussed included; possible changes banks, audit report available no one wanted to discuss will have report next month. | Fire Board |
| 38. No report | Historical Commission |
| 39. No report | Housing Commission |
| 40. No report | RLF |
| 41. No report | PPW&HF |
| 42. No report | Maple Lake
& NR &E |
| 43. Plaszczak commented he wanted people to remember the Village Manager works for the Village Council and sometimes the Village Manager has to make difficult decisions on behalf of the residents. The Operational Review of the Police Department was a Council decision and a Council recommendation. Plaszczak also discussed the events from the Sesquicentennial Celebration and thanked all who volunteered. | Council Comments
Plaszczak |
| 44. McIntosh commented on the Sesquicentennial Celebration and thanked all who volunteered. | McIntosh |
| 45. Motion by Pioch, supported by Larcinese, to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. | Adjournment |

Respectfully submitted:

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Village President
Roman Plaszczak

Village Clerk,
Christopher Tapper