

**Minutes, Paw Paw Planning Commission
Regular Meeting, December 4, 2008**

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| 1. | The regular Planning Commission meeting of Thursday, December 4, 2008 convened at 7:00 p.m. at 114 S. Gremps, Paw Paw, Michigan. Chairperson Larson presiding. | Meeting Convened |
| 2. | Present: Larson, Bogen, Roger, Rumsey, and Thomas. Also present: Village Planning Consultant, Rebecca Harvey. | Members Present |
| 3. | Motion by Rumsey, supported by Bogen, to approve the agenda. All members present voting yes. The motion carried. | Approval of Agenda |
| 4. | Motion by Thomas, supported by Roger, to approve additional corrections to the minutes of the regular Planning Commission meeting of October 2, 2008. All members present voting yes. The motion carried. | Approval of Minutes |
| 5. | Motion by Rumsey, supported by Roger, to approve the corrected minutes of the regular Planning Commission meeting of November 6, 2008. All members present voting yes. The motion carried. | Approval of Minutes |
| 6. | Larson noted no public hearing items were before the Commission at this time. | Public Hearings |
| 7. | No public comment regarding non-agenda items was offered. | Public Comment |
| 8. | Larson noted no new business was scheduled for consideration at this time. | New Business |
| 9. | Commission discussion continued from the November meeting regarding zoning consideration of wind energy systems. Recently adopted wind energy system ordinance regulations by Texas Township and the City of Portage were reviewed. Similarities and differences between the two (2) ordinances and their application to the land use patterns and circumstances of the Village of Paw Paw were noted. | Ongoing Business:
Wind Energy
Systems |
| 10. | Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the need to address wind energy systems at this time. It was noted that providing ordinance standards for same would establish a well-planned approach within the Village, which may serve as a draw to development. Further, the establishment of basic standards at this time would offer some control, which could then be amended as the industry progressed. The Commission recognized, however, a lack of general knowledge regarding the impacts of wind energy systems and concluded that, given the apparent time available to address the issue, the matter would be studied over the next year. Specifically, it was decided that the Commission would revisit the topic of wind energy systems in six (6) months, and that during that time the Village Planning | |

Consultant would keep the Commission informed regarding changes in legislation, the adoption of area ordinances, and movements/advancements in the industry.

11. In conjunction with the discussion of the regulation of wind energy systems, the Commission raised questions regarding the zoning enforcement program in the Village. It was noted that a joint meeting between the Village Council and the Planning Commission would facilitate communication between the boards and would be the appropriate forum for a discussion on zoning enforcement and the current role that the Planning Commission plays in identifying ordinance violations.
12. Larson updated the Commission on the activity of the Master Plan Steering Committee and the results of the November 25, 2008 Steering Committee Meeting. The written report developed by LSL for the meeting, as well as the Issues, Values, Goals, and Strategies noted therein, were specifically referenced. **Ongoing Business:
Master Plan Activity**
13. General discussion ensued regarding the planning process, the role of goals and strategies in the Master Plan, and the concept of an 'action plan' within the Master Plan. It was noted that the next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for February, 2009. The Commission will review the November 25, 2008 document for continued discussion of the Plan's goals and strategies.
14. Harvey provided the Commission with an update on the activity of the Zoning Board of Appeals during September and November, 2008. **ZBA Report**
15. Rumsey noted the removal of a house on Berrien Street and the use of the residential lot for soil storage. Concern was noted for future use of the residential property for commercial access/storage/parking. **Member Comments**
16. Larson noted that the regular Planning Commission meeting for January, 2009 would be held on January 8, 2009, due to the holiday schedule.
17. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. **Adjournment**