

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council
Regular Meeting, February 8, 2021**

The Regular Village Council meeting of Monday, February 8, 2021, convened at 7:00p.m. via electronic meeting. President Roman Plaszczak presiding.

Meeting Convened

Present: President Plaszczak and President Pro-tem Douglas Craddock and Trustees Amanda Bartlett, Nadine Jarvis, Mary McIntosh (excused), Ashley Nottingham and Donne Rohr. Each Council member stated they were participating from their homes, located within the Village of Paw Paw, in Van Buren County, in the State of Michigan. Also present: Village Manager Sarah Moyer-Cale, Village Clerk Karla Tacy, Chief of Police Eric Marshall and Department of Public Services Director John Small.

Members Present

Motion by Rohr with support from Jarvis to approve the agenda as presented. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Jarvis with support from Craddock to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 25, 2021. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Craddock with support of Rohr to approve all claims for Monday, February 8, 2021, in the amount of \$331,276.01. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Approval of Claims

Moyer-Cale presented the Council with the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget. Moyer-Cale noted the village should be able to make an additional MERS contribution this year (\$10,000) to help offset the increased pension liability. New police radio equipment, completion of Sunset Park project, completion of the Maple Lake dam automation, continuation of the Briggs Mill dam design and the Michigan Avenue road Streetscape project are several items listed for the new year. The DDA is saving for their contribution to the Michigan Ave Streetscape and wayfinding sign projects. Sponsorship for the Wine & Harvest Festival is expected to be down due to Covid. Many of the projects listed for the Electric fund are part of the Capital Improvement Plan, with the addition of a more robust tree trimming program to help alleviate power outages. Motor Pool equipment purchases were also discussed.

Presentations: Budget Workshop

The Village has contracted out its electrical line work to Midwest Energy and Communications (MEC) since October 2020. Moyer-Cale presented to Council an agreement that would continue this relationship with MEC for a 10-year period with 5-year renewal options thereafter. Council had questions regarding the wording in Exhibit A of the agreement and asked Moyer-Cale to correspond this back to MEC for clarification before they were comfortable voting.

**Action Items:
MEC Agreement**

The Village plans to complete the remainder of its electric CIP program this year, with the exception of one project. This will get everything back on schedule and allow is to save money. The contractors will work around the Wine and Harvest Festival and streetscape project. Michael McGeehan from GRP gave an overview of the project at our December meeting.

GRP Proposal Approval

Motion by Bartlett with support from Jarvis to accept the proposal from GRP Engineering for engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$51,000 with an

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adjustment to the timeline. Roll call vote; Bartlett, Jarvis, Plaszczak, Nottingham, Rohr and Craddock voting yes, motion carried

This is an annual resolution that is required to exempt ourselves from the requirements of PA 152 which limits the pension and health care offerings of the village. This is required to maintain our level of benefits which we offer our employees and to comply with state law.

**Resolution 21-02 PA
152 Exemption**

Motion by Rohr with support from Jarvis to approve Resolution 21-02 to comply with PA 152 by exercising the village's right to exempt itself from the requirements of the act. Roll call vote; Craddock, Rohr, Nottingham, Plaszczak, Jarvis, Bartlett voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Bartlett with support from Rohr to schedule a public hearing to accept public comments on the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget on February 22, 2021 at 7:00pm via electronic means in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

**Schedule Budget
Public Hearing**

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to approve the use of village sidewalks for the Wings of God Pledge for Pearls campaign on June 18th and 19th from 8am-1pm. All members present voting yes, motion carried

**Pledge for Pearls
Campaign Approval**

The Village anticipates increasing water/sewer rates by 4% overall. The rates will also be distributed by equivalency ratios. These ratios help to evenly distribute the charges over residential and business customers, with larger businesses carrying more of their share.

**Non-Action Items:
Water/Sewer
Proposed Rates**

Rohr reported the Finance Committee discussed finalizing the PD contract negotiations and a retirement plan for the new DPS Deputy Director position.

**Committee Meetings
and Reports
Finance and Admin**

No Report.

Public Services

Jarvis reported the Parks and Rec Committee discussed the installation of electronic locks for the Tyler Field restrooms, inspection problems at Kid's Paradise, obtaining bids for mowing and updates on the new Sunset Park restrooms.

Parks and Rec

No Report.

DDA

No Report.

Economic Develop

No Report.

Farmers Market

Craddock reports the Fire Board will be meeting in the next several weeks for the new fire building.

Fire Board

No Report.

Historical Committee

No Report.

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No Report.

Jarvis reports the Planning Commission drafted a drawing for the accessory structure on waterfront lot ordinance. They also discussed modifying the use of barb wire fencing at the new Sheriff's Dept storage facility.

No Report.

Craddock believes certain events of the Wine & Harvest festival can safely be held this fall but others will need to be eliminated. At this time Stompy Land and the Grape Stomp have been canceled.

Jarvis inquired as to whether businesses will be notified prior to the start of the Michigan Ave Streetscape project. Moyer-Cale reported a committee has been established and is putting together information to distribute to the businesses.

Director Small reported the hydro plant would be undergoing deicing 2/9 at 10:00am.

Chief Marshall reported his officers are more frequently having to administer Narcan to help resuscitate individuals that have overdosed. Marshall notes there has been an unnerving influx in heroin activity in the area. He will be reaching out to the Sheriff's Department's Narcotics Team to get involved.

Motion by Bartlett with support by Jarvis to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Karla Tacy
Village Clerk

Roman Plaszczak
Village President

Housing Commission

**Maple Lake
Preservation**

Planning Commission

Wellhead Protection

Wine & Harvest

**Council Member
Comments
Jarvis**

**Staff Comments
Small**

Marshall

Adjournment

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