

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

The Regular Village Council meeting of Monday, March 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 (excused) and Trustees Amanda Bartlett, Nadine Jarvis, Mary McIntosh, 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 Bartlett with support from Jarvis to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 22, 2021. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

No claims for March 8, 2021.

**Approval of Claims**

The Trunkline Maintenance Contract allows the village to be reimbursed for expenses related to maintaining M-40. MDOT is requesting a resolution be passed by council which authorizes a signer on the contract. The current agreement expired in 2019.

**Action Items:  
Resolution 21-04  
MDOT Trunkline  
Maintenance  
Contract**

Motion by McIntosh with support from Rohr to adopt Resolution 21-04 to extend the state trunkline contract and authorize a contract signer. Roll call vote; Bartlett, Jarvis, McIntosh, Plaszczak, Nottingham and Rohr voting yes, motion carried.

The Village needs to pass a resolution to designate someone to vote on behalf of the village and to participate in the Energy Services Project Committee of MPPA. Moyer-Cale has been serving in this capacity, but a resolution is now need to confirm her participation.

**Resolution 21-05 ESP  
Member Authorized  
Representative**

Motion by Rohr with support from Bartlett to adopt Resolution 21-05 to designate an ESP Member Authorized Representative. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Resolution 21-06 would update our Rate and Fee schedule by adding a fee for hearings of the Construction Board of Appeals and setting a fee for zoning confirmation letters. It would also update our water and sewer rate by 4% to commence April 1, 2021.

**Resolution 21-06  
Adoption of Fee  
Schedule &  
Water/Sewer Rates**

Motion by McIntosh with support from Jarvis to adopt Resolution 21-06 to adopt an updated rate and fee schedule for the Village of Paw Paw. Roll call vote; Bartlett, Jarvis, McIntosh, Rohr voting yes, Plaszczak and Nottingham voting no, motion carried.

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As a part of the new CBA with the police union, members will contribute \$10/month to a health care savings program and may contribute more if they wish as an after-tax contribution.

**HCSP for Police CBA  
Unit Members**

Motion by Jarvis with support from Rohr to approve the Health Care Savings Program for police collective bargaining unit members as presented. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

The Village is making the transition with new general employees of the village to close the current defined benefit program with a 2.5 multiplier and reduce the multiplier to 1.5 while establishing a match option for the 457 plan and adding a required contribution from the employee and the village to a health care savings program.

**MERS 457  
Participation  
Agreement**

Motion by Bartlett with support from Jarvis to approve the amended MERS 457 plan to allow employees hired after 3/1/2021 to have a matching contribution as presented. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

The MERS HCSP Participation Agreement is a part of our overall change in benefit structure for new full-time General Employees. This plan amendment would require a 1% contribution by the employee and a 1% contribution by the Village on a monthly basis.

**MERS HCSP  
Participation  
Agreement**

Motion by Rohr with support from Nottingham to adopt the amended MERS Health Care Savings Program participation agreement to add employees hired after 3/1/2021 to the program as presented. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

This agreement would close our defined benefit plan with a 2.5 multiplier and create a plan for new general employees with a 1.5 multiplier.

**MERS DB Adoption  
Agreement**

Motion by Jarvis with support from Bartlett to adopt the MERS Defined Benefit Plan Agreement for new General Employees hired after 3/1/2021. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

President Plaszcak is appointing Janet Wartman of Lakeside Inn to join the Downtown Development Authority Board to complete a vacant term ending in March 2023.

**DDA Board  
Appointment**

Motion by McIntosh with support from Rohr to accept the appointment of Janet Wartman to the Paw Paw Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors to fulfill a vacant term ending March 31, 2021. Roll call vote; Bartlett, Jarvis, McIntosh, Plaszcak, Nottingham and Rohr voting yes, motion carried.

Moyer-Cale reports the village has had a mutual aid agreement with other local law enforcement for some time, but the current agreement is in need of many updates. The presented agreement has been reviewed by the Village's attorney; his amendments were implemented into the final draft.

**Updated Mutual Aid  
Agreement for Police  
Services**

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Motion by Nottingham with support from Rohr to authorize the Village Manager and Chief of Police to execute the Police Mutual Aid Agreement on behalf of the Village as presented. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

The amendment to the Open Meetings Act that allows for remote council meetings for any reason for through the end of March. If not extended, we will either have to move to in-person meetings or pass rules for what circumstances allow for a council member to attend a meeting remotely. Chuck Black from the Housing Commission has offered to allow council to hold future meetings in their community room. If the current amendment is not extended, it is the consensus of council to hold in-person meetings beginning April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Moyer-Cale reports the village stopped putting up banners over the road on Michigan Ave for non-profits a few years ago. Since then, we have only put up the Wine and Harvest banner and Paw Paw Days. Paw Paw Schools is requesting to add a banner thanking educators for their hard work serving students during the pandemic. It is the consensus of council to deny this request for liability reasons.

No Report.

No Report.

No Report.

No Report.

Plaszczak reported the Village was recently awarded a \$75,000 state grant to assist with residential improvements. The grant monies will be awarded this summer. Residents will be able to apply for up to \$5,000 per property.

No Report.

No Report

Plaszczak reported the Historical Committee is working on creating a YouTube type video highlighting historical items/areas around town.

No Report.

No Report.

No Report.

No Report.

No Report

**Non-Action Items:  
Future Council  
Meetings**

**Banners Over the  
Roadway**

**Committee Meetings  
and Reports  
Finance and Admin**

**Public Services**

**Parks and Rec**

**DDA**

**Economic Develop**

**Farmers Market**

**Fire Board**

**Historical Committee**

**Housing Commission**

**Maple Lake  
Preservation**

**Planning Commission**

**Wellhead Protection**

**Wine & Harvest**

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McIntosh inquired to Chief Marshall his thoughts on the security of the courthouse and Village buildings. Chief Marshall said the courthouse has developed good screening measures. There is now a single entry into the courthouse and security personnel making rounds. Chief Marshall would like to see camera systems installed at Village buildings.

**Council Member  
Comments:  
McIntosh**

Nottingham asked if the Village has received a response from Mr. Braganini regarding St. Julian participating in the Wine & Harvest Festival. Plaszczak responded that St. Julian is hoping to participate in some capacity but are closely monitoring the pandemic situation.

**Nottingham**

Bartlett asked if council will further be discussing the Wine & Harvest Festival. Moyer-Cale reports she was waiting for Craddock to return from vacation. She hopes to include on the next agenda.

**Bartlett**

Bartlett noted she would like to see a more pro-active approach to enforcing front yard parking within the village. Moyer-Cale noted she would get more information and respond to the request. Moyer-Cale responded that some aspects of code enforcement is behind due to the courts being closed for the pandemic. Chief Marshall noted that up until last week civil infractions were given 3 months to resolve instead of the usual 10 days.

Motion by McIntosh with support by Jarvis to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50p.m.

**Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted:

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Karla Tacy  
Village Clerk

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Roman Plaszczak  
Village President

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