

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council  
Regular Meeting, June 26, 2023**

The Regular Village Council meeting of Monday, June 26, 2023, convened at 7:00p.m. at the Paw Paw District Library, Community Room. President Plaszcak presiding.

**Meeting Convened**

Present: President Plaszcak and President Pro-tem Douglas Craddock and Trustees Steve Richardson, Nadine Jarvis, Nicolas Martinez, Ashley Nottingham, and Donne Rohr. Also present: Village Manager Will Joseph, Village Clerk Karla Tacy, Department of Public Services Interim Director Tim Brandys and Chief of Police Eric Marshall (excused).

**Members Present**

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

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Rohr with support from Jarvis to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 12, 2023. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Martinez with support from Jarvis to approve the closed session meeting minutes of June 12, 2023. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Martinez with support from Rohr to approve claims for Monday, June 26, 2023, in the amount of \$412,504.20. All members voting yes, motion carried.

**Approval of Claims**

Emilly Hickmott from the Van Buren County Conservation District gave an update on their recent recycling collection days and upcoming recycling events.

**Audience  
Participation**

Motion by Jarvis with support from Rohr to approve payment of invoices from West Shore Inc for installation of radio frequency receivers for the new fire sirens in the amount of \$8,349.21. Roll Call Vote: Richardson, Rohr, Craddock, Plaszcak, Nottingham, Jarvis and Martinez voting yes, motion carried.

**Action Items:  
West Shore Services  
Siren Repair**

Council would like Manager Joseph to create an RFP to receive bids to have an electric rate study done.

**Utility Financial  
Solutions Proposal**

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to approve the payment request for Fedewa Inc for DWSRF work completed on the water storage tanks in the amount of \$56,699. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

**Approval Fedewa Inc  
Invoice**

Motion by Rohr with support from Jarvis to approve the payment request for Oselka Construction for CWSRF work completed on the waste water improvement project in the amount of \$803,871.74. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

**Approval Oselka  
Construction Invoice**

Motion by Martinez with support from Nottingham to approve the payment request for Lounsbury Excavating Inc for DWSRF water main work in the amount of \$59,308.95. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

**Approval Lounsbury  
Excavating Inc**

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Manager Joseph reported that he has submitted an application to Van Buren County requesting ARPA funds for the Briggs Dam replacement project.

**Non-Action Items:  
Briggs Dam**

A discussion was held regarding the behind the meter generation information that MPPA representatives presented at the previous meeting.

**Behind the Meter  
Generation**

Council is interested in proposing a lease option to Ryan Sylvester, owner of the Paw Paw Brewing Company, for the parking lot adjacent to his brewpub on S Gremps St.

**Ryan Sylvester  
Lease/Purchase  
Request**

Motion by Martinez with support from Jarvis to enter into a closed session for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement, which is exempt from disclosure as allowed under the Michigan Open Meetings Act MCL 15.268 (1)(c) at 8:22 pm. Roll Call Vote: Richardson, Rohr, Craddock, Plaszcak, Nottingham, Jarvis and Martinez voting yes, motion carried.

**Closed Session:  
Admin CBA  
Negotiations**

Motion by Martinez with support from Nottingham to exit the closed session at 9:51 pm. Roll Call Vote: Richardson, Rohr, Craddock, Plaszcak, Nottingham, Jarvis and Martinez voting yes, motion carried

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to enter into a closed session discuss material exempt from public disclosure as allowed under the Michigan Open Meetings Act MCL 15.268 (1)(h) at 9:52 pm. Roll Call Vote: Martinez, Jarvis, Nottingham, Plaszcak, Craddock, Rohr and Richardson voting yes, motion carried.

**Closed Session:  
Exempt Material**

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to exit the closed session at 10:52 pm. Roll Call Vote: Martinez, Jarvis, Nottingham, Plaszcak, Craddock, Rohr and Richardson voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Craddock with support from Richardson to accept the following recommendations from the Village Attorney Report:

**Recommendations  
from Village Attorney**

1. Developing and implementing a code of conduct applicable to Council Members, and with which Council members agree to comply;
2. Consider the Village employees' concerns regarding general office safety
3. For at least a temporary period of time (i) requiring Councilwoman Jarvis to include Manager Joseph on communications sent to Employee A, (ii) limiting Councilwoman Jarvis' access to the non-public areas of the Village offices for non-Council business during the times Employees A and B are working, and/or (iii) requiring Manager Joseph accompany Councilwoman Jarvis when she needs to access the non-public areas of the Village offices for reasons related to the performance of her duties as a Council member. All members present voting yes, motion carried

Motion by Craddock with support from Martinez to admonish Trustee Nadine Jarvis for engaging in unwanted physical contact with a Village Employee. All members present voting yes, motion carried

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No Report.	<b>Committee Meetings and Reports Parks and Rec</b>
No Report.	<b>DDA</b>
No Report.	<b>Economic Develop</b>
The Farmers Market will be hosting a Kids Day on 8/6. Jarvis reported the market has two new vendors.	<b>Farmers Market</b>
No Report.	<b>Fire Board</b>
The Historical Committee continues to work on the Prospect Hill Cemetery Tour.	<b>Historical Committee</b>
No Report.	<b>Housing Commission</b>
No Report.	<b>Maple Lake Preservation</b>
No Report.	<b>Planning Commission</b>
No Report.	<b>Wellhead Protection</b>
No Report.	<b>Wine &amp; Harvest</b>
President Plaszcak congratulated Clerk Tacy on her recent MiPMC certification.	<b>Council Member Comments: Plaszcak</b>
Jarvis reported she has received many compliments on the downtown flowers.	<b>Jarvis</b>
Nottingham has received multiple compliments on the wildflowers planted this year at Sunset Park.	<b>Nottingham</b>
Martinez revisited the idea of possibly changing the controlled burn ordinance to state the Fire Chief would make the decisions in place of the Police Chief. Martinez also discussed Holly Hamilton's concerns regarding the homeless population within the Village and the ordinance limiting downtown buildings to three stories.	<b>Martinez</b>
DPS Director Brandys reported the contractors working on the water main replacement projects are currently on S LaGrave and will next be starting on Dyckman St.	<b>Staff Comments</b>
Motion by Craddock with support by Jarvis to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:56p.m.	<b>Adjournment</b>

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Respectfully submitted:

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Karla Tacy  
Village Clerk

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Roman Plaszczak  
Village President