Meeting Convened

The Regular Village Council meeting of Monday, March 11, 2019, convened at 7:47 p.m. at the Paw Paw Community Library, 609 West Michigan Avenue, Paw Paw, Michigan. President Roman Plaszczak presiding.

Members Present

Present: President Plaszczak, President Pro-tem Eric Larcinese and Trustees Douglas Craddock, Amanda Bartlett, Mary McIntosh (excused), Nadine Jarvis and Donne Rohr. Also present: Village Manager Sarah Moyer-Cale, Village Clerk Karla Tacy (excused), Chief of Police Eric Marshall and Department of Public Services Director John Small.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bartlett with support from Jarvis to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 25, 2019. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Approval of Claims

Motion by Jarvis with support of Bartlett to approve all other claims for Monday, March 11, 2019, in the amount of $159,381.25. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Audience Participation

Heather Lhamon questioned the invoice she received in regards to her house move, feels that the charges were too high and should receive more of a refund from her deposit. The Council responded that they would look into further and let her know their decision.

Archie Lhamon and Pastor Archie Lhamon voiced their support for Heather Lhamon’s request for a larger refund of her house move deposit.

Kevin Piquette requested the Council put the medical marijuana discussion on a future agenda. Mr. Piquette also spoke on the possibility of getting approval to start a marijuana security and transportation company.

Public Hearing 210 E Michigan Ave CDBG Project Application

Motion by Jarvis with support from Bartlett, to close the regular session at 8:09 pm and enter into a public hearing to take comments regarding the Village’s application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for federal funding in support of a project by 210 East LLC to rehabilitate the property at 210 E Michigan Avenue. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Moyer-Cale gave an overview of the application and the funding sources that would support the project.

Let the record show no public comment was received.

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to close the public hearing at 8:13 pm and re-enter regular session. All members present voting yes, motion carried.
Moyer-Cale explained Resolution 19-08 authorizes the submission of the Village’s application for funding to rehabilitate the building at 210 E Michigan Ave. A similar resolution was previously passed, however since the total contributed dollars for the project have changed, an updated resolution is needed.

Motion by Bartlett with support of Jarvis to adopt Resolution 19-08 Authorizing the submission of an application for the Community Development Block Grant Funding for the 210 E Michigan Ave Downton Rehabilitation Project. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Moyer-Cale reported Night Magic Displays proposes to provide fireworks for the Wine & Harvest Festival again this year. The total cost has increased from $7,000 from past years to $7,750. Funding for the fireworks comes from the Downtown Development Authority’s contribution to the festival.

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to approve Night Magic Displays to provide fireworks for the Wine & Harvest Festival on September 6th or 7th for an amount not to exceed $7,750. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

It was the consensus of the council that the firework contract does not need to be approved by the council in future years.

Moyer-Cale informed the Council that the driveway around the parking lot at the trailhead park area is essentially being used as a road. Patrons of the new brewery as well as people traveling to Harloff Manufacturing and other businesses are cutting through that drive rather than turning onto Commercial and using Factory or Dou Tang Roads. Moyer-Cale would like to name the street, making it an official road allowing the Village to receive annual Act 51 funds to help with maintenance costs. It was the consensus of the council to continue looking into this option.

The Council began discussing future modifications to the Village’s water and sewer ordinances last year. This evening Moyer-Cale enclosed to the Council a review of the suggested changes completed last year by the village attorney. Moyer-Cale noted that she plans to have the attorneys start work on the revisions, but would like to know if there are additional parts of the ordinance that Council would like addressed. Council had no additions to the suggestions and directed Moyer-Cale to continue with the ordinance revision process.

New Business:
Resolution 19-08 Authorization of CDBG Grant Application for 210 E Michigan

Ongoing Business:
Wine & Harvest Festival Firework Approval

Street/driveway Maintenance

Water & Sewer Ordinance Revisions

Committee Meetings and Reports Finance and Admin

Public Services
Area Parks & Rec
DDA
Economic Develop
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No Report.

Larcinese reported the fire department received their new air packs

Plaszczak reported the Historical Committee is working on organizing the new museum at the Carnegie Center.

Jarvis reported the Planning Commission is working on amending the R2 district

Plaszczak commented that the three-lane street concept will not work based on the Village’s previous experience. Plaszczak also questioned putting in bump outs as there is a large amount of semi traffic rounding corners onto Michigan Ave and Kalamazoo St.

Jarvis reported she is glad the lake levels are rising and that the pot holes on Hazen St have been fixed. In regards to the streetscape presentation, Jarvis supports the idea of the bump outs and feels a more updated downtown area will appeal to younger residents. Jarvis noted that the removal of the Van Buren Motor Supply building will add additional parking spaces downtown.

Craddock agrees with Jarvis that the Village will need to refresh/modernize the downtown area to attract new residents.

Rohr believes alleviating the steps along the curb downtown is one of her primary interests with the streetscape plan. Rohr notes that multiple people have been injured on the steps and believes it will make the businesses more accessible. Rohr likes the idea of the bump outs and feels they will add visual interest to the streetscape.

Bartlett stated an effort should be made to alleviate the truck traffic from the downtown area. Bartlett agrees that the steps along the curb are difficult to navigate. Bartlett supports the idea of the bump outs and feels it will create a visually more appealing downtown and will be safer for children and the elderly.

Larcinese believes medical marijuana should be on a future agenda for further discussion. Larcinese stated that 3 driving lanes should not be considered again for
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downtown and that his primary concern is raising the road to eliminate the steps. Larcinese supports the idea of bump outs but is concerned about the truck traffic and feels the 2nd block of town needs more parking. Larcinese was pleased with the community’s engagement and comments during the workshop.

Moyer-Cale reported to the Council that MDOT overpaid the Village $7,473.02 in Act 51 monies. MDOT will be reducing our payments over the next year to make up for the overpayment. Moyer-Cale also discussed the drawn down survey and what some of the initial responses have been.

Motion by Craddock with support by Rohr to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

______________________                         _______________________
Karla Tacy                         Roman Plaszczak
Village Clerk                         Village President