

**Minutes, Paw Paw Village Council
Regular Meeting, February 24, 2025**

The Regular Village Council meeting of Monday, February 24, 2025, convened at 7:00p.m. at the Paw Paw District Library, Community Room. President Plaszcak presiding.

Meeting Convened

Present: President Roman Plaszcak, Pro Tem Douglas Craddock, Trustees Steve Richardson, Holly Hamilton, Nicolas Martinez, David McQueen and Donne Rohr. Also present: Village Manager Bryan Myrkle, Assistant Manager Ed Hellwege, Village Clerk Karla Tacy, Director of Public Services Tim Brandys and Chief of Police Eric Rottman.

Members Present

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

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Martinez with support from McQueen to approve the meeting minutes of February 10, 2025. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Richardson with support from Hamilton to approve claims for Monday, February 24, 2025, in the amount of \$673,676.00. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Approval of Claims

None

**Audience
Participation**

Trustee Hamilton thanked the DPS crew for clearing the sidewalks and installing the warming heaters for the recent chili cook-off.

**Council Member
Comments:
Hamilton**

Trustee Martinez would like to see a representative from the Village periodically attend school board meetings.

Martinez

Jacob Diljak, of the Van Buren County Conservation District, proposed the idea of a Maple Lake clean-up project.

**Presentations: Jacob
Diljak- Van Buren
Conservation District**

Zach Morris of Market One and Chris Khoury, a representative of PEK Investments, spoke to Council regarding creation of a Commercial Rehabilitation District for the property parcel at 854 S Kalamazoo St.

**Zach Morris & Chris
Khoury- Proposed
Commercial Rehab
District**

Motion by Rohr with support from Martinez to enter into a public hearing regarding the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget at 7:45 PM. Roll call vote; Martinez, Rohr, McQueen, Plaszcak, Craddock, Hamilton and Richardson voting yes, motion carried.

**Public Hearing: 2025-
2026 Budget**

No public comment was received.

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Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to close the public hearing at 7:50 pm. Roll call vote; Martinez, Rohr, McQueen, Plaszczak, Craddock, Hamilton and Richardson voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to adopt Resolution 25-03 to Amend the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget and Adopt the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, Beginning March 1, 2025. Roll call vote; Richardson, Hamilton, Craddock, Plaszczak, McQueen, Rohr and Martinez voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Rohr with support from McQueen to set a public hearing to accept comments on a proposed Noxious Weed ordinance, on March 10, 2025, at 7pm at the Paw Paw District Library. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Rohr with support from Hamilton to set a public hearing to accept comments on a proposed Blight ordinance, on March 10, 2025, at 7pm at the Paw Paw District Library. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Richardson with support from Craddock to set a public hearing to accept comments on the proposed creation of a Commercial Rehabilitation District at 854 S Kalamazoo St, on March 10, 2025, at 7pm at the Paw Paw District Library. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Martinez with support from McQueen to set a public hearing to accept comments on the Heritage Woods Condominium PUD, on March 10, 2025, at 7pm at the Paw Paw District Library. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to approve the DWSRF pay request No. 17 for Lounsbury Excavating in the amount of \$192,550.60. Roll call vote; Richardson, Hamilton, Craddock, Plaszczak, McQueen, Rohr and Martinez voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Rohr with support from Martinez to approve Resolution 25-02 to comply with PA 152 by exercising the village's right to exempt itself from the requirements of the act. Roll call vote; Martinez, Rohr, McQueen, Plaszczak, Craddock, Hamilton and Richardson voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Rohr with support from Craddock to adopt the amended MERS Defined Benefit Plan Agreement for the Administrative Employees', increasing the employee contributions from 8% to 10%, as agreed upon in their Collective Bargaining Agreement. Roll call vote; Martinez, Rohr, McQueen, Plaszczak, Craddock, Hamilton and Richardson voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Martinez with support from McQueen to authorize the Village Manager to send the drafted letter of support for a proposed Brownfield Redevelopment Plan to incentivize the DDO Paw Paw LLC housing development in the Village of Paw Paw. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

Discussion continued on the proposed Short-Term Rentals ordinance.

**Action Items:
Resolution 25-03
2025-2026 Fiscal
Budget and Budget
Amendments**

**Schedule Public
Hearing- Noxious
Weeds**

**Schedule Public
Hearing- Blight**

**Schedule Public
Hearing- 854 S
Kalamazoo St
Commercial Rehab
District**

**Schedule Public
Hearing- Heritage
Woods Condos PUD**

**DWSRF Pay Request
#17**

**Resolution 25-02 PA
152 Exemption**

**MERS DB Adoption
Agreement**

**Letter of Support-
Hazen St Housing
Development
Brownfield Plan**

Non-Action Items

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No Report.

**Committee Meetings
Parks and Rec**

No Report.

DDA

No Report.

**Economic &
Residential
Opportunity**

No Report.

Farmers Market

No Report

Fire Board

The Historical Committee will be holding its Prospect Hill Cemetery Tour, October 4, 2025.

**Historical
Commission**

The Housing Commission discussed their budget and planned resident activities.

Housing Commission

The next Maple Lake Preservation Committee will be held, April 22, at 4pm at Village Hall.

**Maple Lake
Preservation**

No Report

Planning Commission

No Report

Wine & Harvest

President Plaszczak passed out blank evaluation forms to Council members. He requested these please be returned to him at the 3/10 Council meeting. President Plaszczak noted that the Chili Cook-Off appears to have been very successful.

**Council Member
Comments:
Plaszczak**

Manager Myrkle reports that EGLE has issued the permit for the Maple Island Bridge project. EGLE is requiring soil samples be conducted, before a permit will be issued for the Briggs Dam project. SolAmerica Energy will be taking out a performance bond for the proposed Paw Paw Rd solar project.

Manager Comments

Director Brandys reports that the Commercial Ave water main replacement project is on schedule. Crews are scheduled to break ground tomorrow on the roadway for the Hazen St planned development.

**Staff Comments
Brandys**

Chief Rottman reports that Larry Haynor is diligently working on blight enforcement.

Rottman

Motion by Craddock with support by Martinez to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Adjournment

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Respectfully submitted:

Karla Tacy
Village Clerk

Roman Plaszczak
Village President