

# **Village of Lawrence**

Regular Meeting

April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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## **Call to Order**

The Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of Village of Lawrence was called to order by President Quick at 7:00 PM via Zoom and live.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Quick.

## **Roll Call**

Present: Quick, Glennie, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Webster.  
Lorenzo, Gritter joined via Zoom.

Absent: NA

Also, Present: Theresa Stroud, Becky Everhart, Paul Bianco, Don Hanson, Donna Spenner, and Alex from attorney's office.

## **Additions to Agenda**

Marijuana Ordinance/Resolution.

New Treasurer has been hired. Suzanne Weston started on Monday.

## **Conflict of Interest items**

No conflict of Interest

## **Approval to pay bills and Approval of Consent Agenda and Minutes from March 9<sup>th</sup> and March 23<sup>rd</sup> meetings.**

Motion by Webster second by Ouzts to approve bills and meeting minutes.

All Aye-Motion carried.

No further discussion.

Roll Call: Quick, Glennie, Ouzts, DeLoach, Webster, Lorenzo, Gritter.

## **Presentations and Guests**

### **County – Don Hanson:**

- West Michigan University of Medicine has approved a medical examiner at \$82,000.00 annually with a 2 year contract.
- 911 Service fee voted to approve through June 2025.
- Housing Prisoners; set at 15.
- Email service changing from .org to .gov effective April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- American Rescue Plan-78 page document under review.
  - Webster-Why were Villages not included?
    - Hanson-Villages are included under the Township.
  - Lorenzo-Where is the money coming from?
    - Hanson-Government Relief Bill (American Rescue Plan).

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## Township – Donna Spenner

- Spenner-Tax abatement; discussion in multiple Villages about using funds for tax relief for residents. This is not allowed. Funds need to be used toward projects.
- Spenner-We need to get back to the joint meetings between Township and the Village. Feels there is a need to more communication.
  - Quick-chatter by residents is that the Village and Township have a disconnect and would like meetings to start sooner rather than later.
- Hiring of 10 hour Zoning position in house has been completed. Still looking for the correct person for the Marijuana Administrator. Zoning staff (Kelly) is currently splitting her time between Zoning and Marijuana to assist.
- Township did a overlay zone approval; any applications within this zone are pre-approved.
- Thank you to Stroud for recommending The Tech. They have been working on servers and systems for 2 weeks with great progress. Money well spent.
  - Comments/Questions:
    - DeLoach-Have you heard anything regarding Arlington Township repaving all there roads with the Marijuana funds?
  - Spenner-Arlington Township has a lot of Marijuana facilities. We have to be careful how the funds are used. If the road improves the facilities it can be used to repave.

## Lawrence Township Emergency Services Report – Chief Mike Anchor

- Not present.

## Reports:

### President-Presented by Stroud

- Reservation of 305 Farms License. In reviewing the language Quick determined that it was written that renewal fees would be waived and has been sent over to Attorney for review.
  - Webster-What phase in the building presently on the property?
    - Quick-building is phase one. Plans to add 2 additional buildings.
    - Lorenzo-is this the building next to the road?
      - Quick-no; it is the building at the far back next to the pond.

No further discussion.

### Clerk-Presented by Everhart

- Council Contact information form, I have only received one. I will email copies out.
- Amendment to the Credit Card Policy and Resolution. Form was outdated and has now been updated.
- Addition of an ACH Policy and Resolution. This was recommended by Michigan Dept. of Treasury.
- Past due Utility bills.
  - 30 + days: \$6,061.28
  - 90 + days: \$10,066.08
  - 180 + days: \$11,219.72
    - Total of \$27,347.08 down slightly from last month.

### Village Manager-Presented by Stroud

- Mindset-closed on the purchase of lot 10 in the industrial park.

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- Ouzts-6 licenses. We are adding language to add processing and excessive grow.
  - Alex-yes; excessive grow will be added to the language in the resolution on 4/14/2021.
- Quick-request a motion to approve the resolution/ordinance with the provision of additional excessive grow language.

Motion by: Webster

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Gritter

All Aye,

Motion Carried.

Roll: Quick, Glennie, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Webster.  
Lorenzo, Gritter.

No further discussion.

- Moratorium on shut offs. Has anyone heard if this has been lifted? Unable to locate updates on website.
  - Webster-believes it has been extended.
  - Quick-may want to check MML.
- Bloomingdale is up and running at the Village.
- Email migration has been completed with no issues. Encryption was tested with good results.
- West Michigan Community Action Commodities will be moving to ISD location. Today was the last one held at Village Hall.
- Point N Pay-Kick off has started. Hope to have up and running before the May utility bills go out but will be up before Taxes are done.
  - Spenner-can someone forward over to Jenny?
- MERS-migration is completed from PayChex to MERS.
- Need to request a budget amendment.
  - \$25,000.00 to Police Dept.
  - \$25,000.00 to property/hall projects.
- County wide State of Emergency has been issued. Due to this the Village Hall will not open on Monday as previously planned. Availability for Council Zoom until the end of the year with no Public attendance at Committee or Council meetings.
- New system to replace Remind. Suggesting we use One Call Now. Cost will be \$150.00 annually but will come with the ability to have multiple administrators, voice messaging. In the future it could be used for Township and Emergency Weather Announcements.
- Paw Paw River Trail-requesting vote of sign to be posted on the bridge so paddlers can see.
  - All agreed that option 2 was the better choice due to the fact it indicates 2.5 miles until next stopping point on the river.
- Due to County Wide Emergency order and increased active COVID cases in VB County the office will remain closed.
  - Quick-This needs to include limited access by the Council and Committee members to the Village Hall. If you need to visit the Hall please notify Stroud or Everhart that you are coming.
  - Ouzts-Zoom meetings for Committees; no public.
  - Webster-Should we have Rapid Tests available at the Hall?
    - Spenner-will check with Chief Anchor to see if they have any.
- Request Council approval to speak with Committee's to remove all stored items in the Village Hall. Ox Roast and DDA have several items stored in the garage. We will need these items

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removed so clean up can be done and removal of water damaged cabinets. This is in prep for setting up evidence storage for the Police Dept.

- All approve. Stroud can approach Committees.
- Removal of old equipment. Sale of scrap and old equipment is proceeding. Village has several old outdated computer equipment. Can we recycle?
  - Lorenzo-could it be donated? Perhaps the school could use?
  - Stroud-will follow up with Gretchen to see if they can use any of it.
  - County is holding a recycle day and any unwanted items could be recycled.
- Blight-Chief Bianco has been talking to residents on the Blight list. Some residents don't have a way to haul items. How does the Council feel about offering drop off at the Village Hall for these residents and offering the DPW take to the recycling point? They will take tires but you must register prior to the event and once the limit has been reached they will not take them.
  - Quick-how do we manage it?
  - DeLoach-Waverly Township did this in the past and it was a disaster.
- Also working with the Conservation Club for a possible collection at the Village Hall. Will keep everyone informed.
- Quick-request motion to approve the budget amendment for \$25,000.00 to Police Dept.

Motion by Webster

2<sup>nd</sup> by DeLoach

All Aye

Motion Carried.

Roll: Quick, Glennie, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Webster.

Lorenzo, Gritter

Further discussion:

- Lorenzo-before all the extra money is spent can we think about giving some of the funds from Marijuana funds toward development of possible kyack dock on the river?
  - Stroud-funds can not be used for this purpose.

No further discussion.

- Requesting approval of \$5,000.00 not put in budget for State mandate on bridges.

Motion by DeLoach

2<sup>nd</sup> by Gritter

All Aye

Motion Carried.

Roll: Quick, Glennie, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Webster.

Lorenzo, Gritter

- Quick-request motion to approve Budget Ammendment for \$25,000.00 for Village Hall projects.

Motion by Lorenzo

2<sup>nd</sup> by Ouzts

All Aye

Motion Carried.

Roll: Quick, Glennie, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Webster.

Lorenzo, Gritter

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Further discussion:

- Glennie-Is it possible to get camera installed at intersection?
  - Bianco-we can look at cost but would have to be a high quality camera to capture license plates.

No further discussion.

- Spoke with Paw Paw about milage. Can only do 2 mills in the Summer.
  - Provided tax capture report in shared folder.
  - Can only be applied to Real Property.
  - Requires a 10 day notice for Public Hearing.
- Quick-when do we need to have this for Summer Milage?
  - Stroud-by June so would need to be approved in May Council.
- Webster-So we would need to propose a next Council?
  - Stroud-yes.
- Ouzts-do you have any updates on LTW?
  - Stroud-No; they are still looking.

No further discussion.

## Chief of Police-Presented by Bianco

- Officers went live this week with patrol.
  - 4 shifts by Chief
  - 6 shifts by Greg
  - 5 Blight contacts

**Administration-no meeting**

## Community Development: presented by Glennie.

- No meeting.
- Open mic night at the park.
  - Everhart-when will this start? Have had questions at Village.
    - Glennie-in June possible May if budget allows.

**DDA-presented by Quick**

- Have entered into agreement with Village to pay back payments on water tower loan for LDFA.
- Joslin to review and create agreement.

## Parks & Rec-presented by Lorenzo

- Working with Rick vendor out of Watervliet/Coloma. Has a kyack launch and would like to expand into the Lawrence/Paw Paw area.
- Wood chips needed for the Park. Can anyone provide how much would be needed?
  - Stroud-would need to contact Brain with DPW.
- Question to Spenner; do you still have the Palace sign?
  - Spenner-no; it was destroyed. Did purchase materials to do new sign but was not completed. Still has materials stored in her garage.
- Lorenzo-if we could put together a team to work on this could we use your garage?
  - Spenner-no room but could set up saw horeses.
- Would like to hang Volleyball net. Can DPW assist?

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- Stroud-would need to check with Brain or do a work order.

## **LDFA-Presented by Quick**

- Payment arrangements of water tower loan.
- Broadband at Business Park completed.
- Light Poles.

**Personnel-no report.**

**Planning-No meeting.**

## **PSC-No meeting.**

- Quick-where are we at the with research for the water ordinance?
  - Johnson-fee has been approved but need to research the Trailer Park and reformat of the ordinance.

## **DPW-Presented by Johnson**

- Doing Spring clean up.
- New Zero Turn mower out back for viewing.

**Redevelopment: -No meeting.**

**ZBA-no meeting.**

## **New Business:**

- Sale of lot 10 in the Industrial Park to MindSet
- Approached by a Micro Grower.

Old Business. No old business.

No Further Discussion.

Public Comment: No Comments.

Council Comments: No Comments.

Motion by Glennie to adjourn meeting.  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Webster

All Aye-motion approved

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Attest:

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Becky Everhart

Becky Everhart, Clerk

David Quick

David Quick, President