

157 N. Paw Paw  
Lawrence, MI 49064  
269-674-8161 PH  
269-674-3004 FX  
[www.laawrencemi.org](http://www.laawrencemi.org)



David Quick, President  
David Deloach, Trustee  
Phil Glennie, Trustee  
John Gritter, Trustee  
Alicia Lorenzo, Trustee  
Mary Webster, Trustee  
Klass Maring, Trustee

### **Village of Lawrence Regular Common Council Meeting**

**157 N. Paw Paw, Lawrence, MI 49064**

**November 8, 2022**

**Call to Order:** The Regular Common Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Lead by President Quick

**Roll Call:**

- **Present:** David Quick, President; John Gritter, Trustee; Phil Glennie, Trustee; David Deloach, Trustee; Alicia Lorenzo, Trustee; Klass Maring, Trustee
- **Absent:**
- **Also Present:** Theresa Stroud, Village Manager; Brian Johnson, DPW Supervisor, Paul Bianco, Police Chief; Don Hanson, County Commissioner; Chuck Williams, Resident; Donna Spenner, Township Supervisor; Mike Anchor, Fire Chief,

**Additions to Agenda:**

Request for Smokin' D's to be allowed to setup in the park for the Christmas Celebrations

**Conflicts of Interest:**

None

**Approval of Consent Agenda and Bills**

Motion by Glennie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gritter

All Aye. Motions Carried.

**Presentations:**

**Van Buren County Commissioner: Don Hanson**

- The County had been planning to move the Friend of the Court department to the third floor of the current building to get them out of the basement but because this would add an extra flight of stairs for people to have to navigate the County has decided to move the department to another building
- The new Police radio's purchased by the County have trouble inside the building near concrete walls so boosters have been installed to remediate the situation
- Southwest Michigan Planning Commission has released their report on road quality reviews in three (3) Counties, Van Buren, Berrien and Cass Counties. It was determined that 61% of Cass

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County roads are in poor condition, 49% of Berrien County roads are in poor condition, and that only 27% of Van Buren County roads are in poor condition.

**Lawrence Township: Donna Spenner**

- Elections took place today. The Election team reports that the flow of voters remained steady all day
- Winter taxes are being prepared. There will be inserts in the bills with information on changes to blight as well as an informational insert from Van Buren County Conservation.
- Donna and Dave had a meeting and came up with ideas on how to work together on projects in the future.

**Lawrence Township Emergency Services: Mike Anchor**

- Chief Anchor presented information about a new battery powered ram that he would like to purchase for the department. This is the last tool needed to complete the set of tools used for rescue. Chief Anchor has received donations for area businesses to purchase this piece of equipment and is asking the Village if they would like to donate. Stroud will look into whether or not the Village can make donations with taxpayer monies.
- The lighted sign out front is installed and almost complete. Waiting for the back piece to be installed
- 3 members of the Fire Department will be attending fire fighter training in January
- 4 members of the Department will be attending medical training at the Tech in January

**Reports:**

**President's Report:**

No Report Given

**Clerk's Report:**

No Clerk's report submitted.

**Village Manager:**

- Beginning to get quotes on replacing the interior doors on the Police Department to further secure the area. The first quote is in, but others will be coming in the future.
- Smokin' D's has been approached by the Community Development Committee with regard to setting up in the park during the Christmas in the Park celebration.

Motion by Deloach, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gritter to allow Smokin' D's to set up for the celebration at Christmas

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All Aye, Motion Carried.

- New Office Manager seems to be working out well
- Manager Stroud has been in contact with Consumer's Energy to discuss possible lighting solutions in front of the School to increase visibility of pedestrians.
- Attorney Manning has submitted the Order to the Judge regarding the blight at 301 Main Street. Once the Order is signed, arrangements will be made to remove the blight conditions at that address.

**Police Department:**

Report Attached

**Community Development:**

- Planning for Christmas in the Village
- Have talked to the Health Inspector about the Chili Cookoff and the requirements

**DDA:**

- Report Submitted

**Joint Parks & Recreation:**

- No meeting held

**LDFA:**

No meeting held.

**Personnel:**

- Brian Johnson is putting out feelers for a third full time DPW crew member
- Reviewed the Police Chief's contract
- Discussed the new Office Manager and her performance to date

**Planning Commission:**

- No meeting held.
- Workshop scheduled for Saturday, November 12, 2022 from 8am – 1pm

**Public Services/DPW:**

- Things are going well
- Researching putting up a building at the waste site
- Will approach DDA Committee about painting in the Village as well as repaving projects

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- Funds have been approved for upgrading the electrical panel at the park
- The booster station repairs are almost complete. Now that it has been reprogramed and fired up a couple of small items have come up that need to be repaired

**ZBA:**

- ZBA approved a variance application for the resident at 322 James st. She has remodeled the home there and is planning to replace the porch. Due to the property being non-conforming she need a variance to replace the porch. The variance was granted.

**New Business:**

None

**Old Business:**

None

**Public Comment:**

None

**Council Comment:**

- John Gritter, Klass Maring and Phil Glennie gave kudos to the DPW team for the work that they did on the water leak on South Paw Paw
- Klass also commented that the Village is starting to look decent with all of the work that has been done to the sidewalks, paving E. St. Joe and other projects completed.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Motion by Gritter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deloach  
All Aye, Motion Carried.  
Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted:**

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Theresa Stroud  
Acting Village Clerk

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David Quick, President

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