

**VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 26, 2024**

**MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:00 PM
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ATTENDANCE *Begeman, Cole, Daniel, Hedgspeth, McLean, Smith, Stuit*  
OTHERS PRESENT: *Manager McLean, Administrative Assistant Storm-Artis*
4. WELCOME TO PUBLIC
5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING BEING RECORDED
6. DAN HUTCHINS – Executive Director Van Buren District Library  
*To present information regarding the VBDL Millage Proposal. . Dan Hutchins Presented his information. Council had no questions.*
7. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA  
*President Cole made corrections to the numbering on the agenda. Added to the bills for a new total of \$74,130.68*
8. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA  
*Motion by Smith, supported by Daniel to approve the agenda as amended. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.*
9. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12, 2024  
*Motion by McLean, supported to Daniel to approve the minutes of February 12, 2024. Roll call vote taken. Cole, Daniel, McLean, Smith and Stuit voted in favor. Begeman and Hedgspeth abstained. Motion carried.*
10. BILLS TO BE APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$74,130.68  
*Motion by Stuit, supported by Smith to approve the bills in the amount of \$74,130.68. Roll call vote taken. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.*
11. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA ITEM *None*
12. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
  - A. FINANCE COMMITTEE – CHAIR STUUT  
*No meeting, no report*
  - B. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – CHAIR COLE

- No meeting, no report*
  - C. DPW COMMITTEE – CHAIR SMITH  
*No meeting, no report*
  - D. LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE – CHAIR DANIEL  
*No meeting, no report*
  - E. PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE – CHAIR BEGEMAN  
*No meeting, no report*
  - F. POLICY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – CHAIR HEDGSPETH  
*No meeting, no report*
  - G. ZONING AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE – CHAIR MCLEAN  
*No meeting, no report*
  - H. PLANNING COMMISSION LIAISON REPORT – LIAISON STUUT  
*Meeting 2/21/2024 No Agenda Items, No Quorum for Approval of Minutes  
Member Stuut was not present at the meeting. Shared there was nothing on the  
agenda and no quorum for minutes approval.*
  - I. DDA COMMITTEE – CHAIR ROB BROOKS  
*Meeting 2/20/2024 – Park Sculpture and Park Bathroom Discussed  
Chair Brooks shared they had a meeting but there was nothing to report.*
  - J. KATS –  
*No meeting, no report*
13. STAFF REPORTS
- A. POLICE DEPARTMENT- *Chief Mansfield reported 118 complaints, 89 traffic stops, and 66 citations for the month of January 2024. He is working on the LEIN updated standards and policies, physical security and identification. He attended meetings with the DDA, Van Buren Chiefs Association, and the Mattawan School Safety Committee. Continuing review of departmental policies and procedures. Preparations for ERPO and the safe storage of gun laws went into effect, he is working to help educate the public on these programs. Chief Mansfield continuing to work on the 2024-2025 fiscal year budget. The recruit doing well academically and Chief Mansfield and Sgt. Cobb are keeping in communication with the recruit and academy leadership. Reported Use of Force statistics submitted to the FBI database for the previous month. Also included was a three-year comparison of Arrested Offences Counts.*
  - B. ENGINEER’S REPORT - *Engineer Woodhams – not in attendance*
  - C. ATTORNEY REPORT – *Attorney Graham spoke about council members not being present to approve minutes. Members, not present at the meeting for which a quorum to vote on the minutes could not be obtained, only need to believe the minutes as presented are accurate to be able to cast a vote to approve said minutes. Attorney Graham presented a draft of a trespassing ordinance for council to review, and asked that that this be added to the agenda for discussion and approval at the council meeting on 3/12/24.*

14. OLD BUSINESS None

15. NEW BUSINESS

A. EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER GUIDELINES/PRECAUTIONS – Chief Mansfield explained that the new ERPO was similar to a PPO (personal protection order) as someone submits a request to the circuit court of the residence of the extreme risk person to have the firearms removed from the individual. A judge then reviews the submission, the extreme risk individual is notified, and firearms are required to be turned over to a law enforcement or an arms dealer within 24 hours of this notice. The order is in place for one year, with multiple opportunities for the extreme risk individual to petition for a hearing with the court for termination of the order. Chief Mansfield put up “No Weapons Allowed” stickers on the doors and informed the village office staff of the procedure regarding weapon relinquishment. Individuals turning over weapons are to remain outside in their vehicle and an officer will take the weapons and enter the building through a non-public entrance to securely store these weapons.

B. REQUEST FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING – Chief Mansfield requested a law enforcement committee meeting.

**Motion by Daniel, supported by Hedgpeth to hold a law enforcement committee meeting. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

*Meeting set for Monday, March 4, 2024 at 3:30pm.*

C. PURCHASE OF NEW POLICE VEHICLE – Chief Mansfield included information regarding the request for a new police vehicle in the council packet. Attorney Graham spoke about the last action by council being the approval of \$62,500 for the purchase and upfitting of a new vehicle. Then during council on 2/12/24 there was further discussion where Chief Mansfield rescinded his request. Attorney Graham stated that the last decision from council was still in effect and there would need to be a motion to reconsider prior action to reopen discussion on the purchase of a new police vehicle. **Motion by Daniel to reconsider prior action in relation to this issue, motion died due to lack of support. No further motions were made.**

16. COMMUNICATIONS

A. DPW MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN JOB OPENING POSTING – Superintendent Anthony stated he had an employee retiring March 1, 2024 and wanted council to see the employment posting prior to it being public. There was some discussion regarding the employee CDL educational requirements, they must attend CDL classes and cannot simply apply for a license.

17. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Superintendent Anthony asked about getting a sign at the end of the walkway to inform individuals of the “no weapons allowed” in village office. Superintendent Anthony also wanted to speak with DDA Chair Brooks regarding the bathroom installation, location, and plan of maintenance. The village will need to replace a slide located in the

*playground area as no new parts are available to repair the existing and the same model cannot be reordered. Superintendent Anthony suggested the parks and rec committee and the DDA get together to discuss applying for a grant to assist with funding of all the park projects. Superintendent Anthony asked Attorney Graham if the Amtrak agreement was signed and if that could be sent to him. Superintendent Anthony also stated he was approached by Biggby Coffee regarding getting municipal sewer installed, and that he had reached out to Antwerp Township, whom stated the township did not have any issue with the village providing sewer to Biggby. Further discussion took place regarding the sewer lines needing to be installed deeper and who would pay for that, sale of property once sewer is installed, extending to neighborhoods in the area near intersection of Red Arrow and Main (CR652).*

18. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

***Motion by Daniel, supported by Smith to send the Biggby sewer installation to the DPW committee. All members voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting set for Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 3:30 PM.***

***Motion by Smith, supported by Daniel to hold a Parks and Rec. committee meeting. All members voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting set for Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 3:00 PM.***

*Member Stuut inquired about changing the Planning Commission meeting times and day to possibly increase interest in serving on the committee. Attorney Graham and Manager McLean stated they would look at the charter and Planning Commission ordinances to determine if this change were a possibility.*

19. ADJOURNMENT @ 7:50 PM

***Motion by Smith, supported by Daniel to adjourn. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.***