Discover PENTWATER
STAY FOR A DAY, A WEEK, A LIFE

VILLAGE OF PENTWATER
COUNCIL
AGENDA PACKET
JULY 28, 2025 @ 6 P.M.

Park Place Meeting Center

310 North Rush Street

AGENDA

VILLAGE COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

JULY 28, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

PARK PLACE MEETING CENTER

ZOOM LINK

https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/edl?muid=8d8d42e3-904e-4bec-92fe-0292ea3b767a

Meeting ID: 828 9421 0890

Passcode: 174768

1. **CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

2. **COUNCIL ROLL CALL**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (Items on the Agenda)**

4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence addressed to the Village Clerk will be received, filed, and forwarded to the Village Council.

1. Ted Cuchna. 2. Valerie Church-McHugh.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING**

A. None.

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. None.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Joint meeting with the Steering Committee and the Village Council regarding the Strategic Plan.

9. **DISCUSSION**

10. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments will only be taken when the Village President opens the meeting for comment. Please state your name and address before speaking. All comments should be directed to the Village President; each speaker will have one opportunity at the microphone for a maximum of 3 minutes.

11. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

12. **MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

13. **CLOSED SESSION**

A. None.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Theodore J. Cuchna
529 S. Clymer
P. O. Box 192
Pentwater, Michigan 49449
231-869-4003
jecuchna@gmail.com

July 9, 2025

Pentwater Village Board
Pentwater Village President
65 South Hancock
Box 622
Pentwater, MI 49449

RE: Police Therapy Dog Program

Board President and Members:

For numerous reasons the Village Board must reject outright the (PPD) Police department's proposal for a therapy canine program. It appears that the PPD is stepping into areas better addressed by existing county services such as Child Protective Services and County Health services as well as County & State police responsibilities.

The PPD budget, now over $400,000 a year including the yearly interest and principal for the police building, is already disproportionate for the small village community it serves, even considering the summer additional manpower. The additional costs projected for this Canine Program at $11,300 acquisition, $1,400 annual costs plus $4,590 personnel costs would add $17,250 to an already elevated budget.

The PPD's proposal states the Township's "school would have the most use for the dog." If there is actually a need for such a service the school already contracts a support counselor at $78,347 a year (2024) who is trained in animal related psychotherapy and the school has maintained a comfort dog in the past. Since the school's General Fund balance is projected at $1,834,501 as of June 30th the added cost to their budget would be insignificant. (The school's fund balance is up from $414,997 in 2021 to $1,834,501 in 2025. Their fund balance is 4-1/2 times the police budget.)

Another option is to propose the Township sponsor the proposal and fund the PPD. (Probably less than 15 village students are enrolled in the schools 222 enrollees, a figure the school refuses to declare in deference to two FOIA requests.) The township collects the 1% tax administration fee on the $5,000,000 education and bond taxes and the SET tax. A $17,000 program cost could certainly be absorbed in those fees.

I am a dog lover. With the water and sewer rate increases and additional personnel costs coming up I'll probably be hugging my dog too.

A Concerned Tax Paying Citizen

Ted J Cucena

cc: J. O'Gara, Esq.

Attachments

Pentwater Public Schools
General Fund Budget 2021 & 2022

2025
W/O BOND $

PENTWATER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GENERAL FUND BUDGET

	2025 ADOPTED FINAL BUDGET 6/16/25	2026 PROPOSED ORIGINAL BUDGET 6/16/25	Difference	
GENERAL FUND REVENUES				
Local Sources	3,813,190	4,036,221	223,031	
State Sources	1,010,204	385,000	(625,204)	Conservative State Aid Categoricals
Federal Sources	128,388	95,399	(32,989)	
Other	83,210	80,000	(3,210)	
TOTAL REVENUES	5,034,992	4,596,620	(438,372)	
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES				
111 - Elementary Instruction	1,099,028	1,128,435	29,407	
112 - Middle School Instruction	352,441	374,576	22,135	
113 - Secondary Instruction	666,215	704,351	38,136	
119 - Summer School	4,400	0	(4,400)	
122 - Special Education	217,087	234,493	17,406	
125 - Title I, II, IV & At Risk	240,257	237,738	(2,519)	
210 - Pupil Services	198,351	131,095	(67,256)	
221 - Improvement of Instruction	134,721	137,612	2,891	
222 - Library & Audio Visual	29,219	31,420	2,201	
231 - Board of Education	75,582	74,582	(1,000)	
232 - General Administration	198,842	202,699	3,857	
241 - School Admin/Principal	133,772	136,100	2,328	
250 - Business Services	46,682	60,238	13,556	
261 - Operation & Maintenance	577,777	663,209	85,432	
266 - Security Services	65,912	0	(65,912)	
271 - Transportation	185,218	231,687	46,469	
280 - Support Services-Central	284,478	165,523	(118,955)	
293 - Athletics	145,461	157,746	12,285	
361 - Student Welfare	500	500	0	
490 - Prior Year Adjustments	28,000	28,000	0	
600 - Other Financing Uses	43,800	43,800	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS	4,727,743	4,743,804	16,061	
REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	307,249	(147,184)	(393,763)	
			0	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE July 1	1,527,252	1,834,501	(46,319)	
PROJECTED FUND BALANCE June 30	1,834,501	1,687,317	224,423	
FUND BALANCE AS A % OF EXPENDITURES	38.80%	35.57%		

CARA KUIPERS (11/25/24)

CK#	DATE	$
36861	9/14/23	900.00
36910	10/2/23	8,055.00
36973	11/2	8,752.50
37046	12/18	13,590.00
37115	2/19/24	6,345.00
37130	3/01/24	9,180.00
37187	4/04	7,560.00
37237	5/09	9,045.00
37290	6/11	11,070.00
37309	6/20/24	3,850.00
		78,347.50

SCHOOL COUNSELOR — SUPPORT STAFF

ANIMAL RELATED PSYCHOTHERAPY

SOURCE
PENTWATER PUBLIC SCHOOLS A/P 2024

PENTWATER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GENERAL FUND BUDGET

2021

	2021 ADOPTED BUDGET 6/15/2020	2021 PROPOSED BUDGET 6/21/2021	Difference
GENERAL FUND REVENUES			
Local Sources	3,030,868	2,972,492	(58,376)
State Sources	353,244	467,238	113,994
Federal Sources	75,244	256,878	181,634
Other	0	0	0
TOTAL REVENUES	3,459,356	3,696,608	237,252
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES			
111 - Elementary Instruction	903,802	908,099	4,297
112 - Middle School Instruction	289,732	287,602	(2,130)
113 - Secondary Instruction	618,626	607,753	(10,873)
119 - Summer School	0	2,935	2,935
122 - Special Education	256,906	263,809	6,903
125 - Title I, II, IV & At Risk	108,094	109,083	989
210 - Pupil Services	90,640	98,434	7,794
221 - Improvement of Instruction	135,308	134,553	(755)
222 - Library & Audio Visual	25,547	22,735	(2,812)
231 - Board of Education	44,219	48,219	4,000
232 - General Administration	181,586	187,006	5,420
241 - School Admin/Principal	132,435	122,982	(9,453)
250 - Business Services	45,780	43,530	(2,250)
261 - Operation & Maintenance	305,653	301,065	(4,588)
271 - Transportation	94,622	90,050	(4,572)
284 - Technology	149,713	255,980	106,267
293 - Athletics	105,003	119,638	14,635
361 - Student Welfare	250	250	0
490 - Prior Year Adjustments	28,000	28,000	0
600 - Other Financing Uses	38,159	47,254	9,095
TOTAL EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS	3,554,075	3,678,977	124,902
REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(94,719)	17,631	112,350
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE 7/1/2020	509,696	541,297	31,601
PROJECTED FUND BALANCE 6/30/2021	414,977	558,928	143,951
FUND BALANCE AS A % OF EXPENDITURES	11.68%	15.19%	

Rande Listerman

From: Valerie Church-McHugh <churchmchughv@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 19, 2025 1:57 PM
To: Rande Listerman
Subject: Village Charm, Trees, and Strategic Planning

Dear Pentwater Village Council,

After attending one of the community sessions to give input to the strategic planning process, I noted that one of the strengths listed for the village was its small town charm. In my view, one of the attributes that contributes to its charm is the number of mature, established trees that line the streets of the village including the one where I reside (Green Street). Last year, we became aware of an insect that was endangering one of our almost 100 year old silver maple trees, Cottony Maple Scale. We have had our tree treated both last year and this year and the treatment may need to continue indefinitely into the future. As a result of our experience, I have now become a "tree watcher" on my daily morning walks and have noticed this same infestation on many of the mature Silver Maple trees in the village. I'm sure that most village residents are not aware of the health of the trees that grow in their yards. Our county is currently experiencing many diseases that are impacting our older trees, eg. Wooly Adelgid on our Hemlocks, Oak Wilt on our Oak trees, Needlecast on our Spruce trees, etc., and could change the face and the experience of living in or visiting our village.

As you continue to clarify and define the goals and strategies of the Strategic Plan that will guide you in the next three to five years <u>and</u> if one of your goals is to maintain, sustain, and promote Village Charm, you may need to address the health of the mature trees in the village. Your plan may include: assessing the health of the trees that grow in the village; educating residents about how to maintain the health of their trees; instituting a program of insect control; and planning for the removal and replacement of trees that are at the end of their lifespan.

Your job is not an easy one and accounting for the needs of everyone's enjoyment of our community has its complexities. So, I offer this request with a love of my community and my regard for the trees that make our life a pleasant one while we are here.

Thank you,
Valerie Church-McHugh
Full Time Resident
163 Green Street
Pentwater, MI
(231) 8969-5832