

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting
February 19, 2013

Present: Pat Clark, Tom Jones, Norm Lyons, Terry Strong, Kyle Smith – President

Absent: Bill Twiss and Brenda Borden – Treasurer. One vacant Trustee seat.

Guests: Zach, Marty and Janet Reschner, Bruce Rolfe and Mark Gay - DPW

(Lyons/Jones) Motion to approve the agenda. Unanimously approved.

(Lyons/Strong) Motion to approve the minutes of February 5, 2013 as presented. Unanimously approved.

(Lyons/Clark) Motion to approve the February 2013 Bill Package totaling \$7802.80. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

(Lyons/Strong) Motion to approve the January 2013 Treasurer's report – total fund balance is 458,598.92. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

Guests: Marty and Zach Reschner – Purchased building on SW corner of Main and Maple Streets. Claim has a septic system. Building has a toilet and sink. President Smith remembers only a holding tank and no septic system was installed. Looking to confirm what type of system it has. The Reschners are seeking a zoning variance to change from C-1 to C-2 to allow a single family to reside in the building in the future. Zach Reschner would like to have car sales business operate on the site. There has been a lot of car traffic, parking of vehicles all over the property and on sidewalks, what appears to be parties. Mr. Reschner wants to keep a good image in town, apply for a business license and insurance, adjusting the parking at the building, etc.

Communications:

- 1) Letter from Library Board expressing gratitude for the help of the village council.
- 2) President Smith met with Township Supervisor, Don Schultz regarding ordinance enforcement in village. Offered suggestions, but not able to help. If any resident has a complaint, they should send a signed letter to the Council and then the Council can follow through. A resident offered to enforce ordinances at \$75/week. Council members thought that was quite high and no further discussion.
- 3) The emergency siren belongs to the village. The fire department is asking permission to upgrade the radio frequency to “narrow banding” in activating the siren. The Council gives unanimous approval to perform the frequency upgrade.
- 4) Township residents are encouraged to use the Library. The Township contributes \$1000 toward the operation of the library.
- 5) Mailboxes are being placed between the street and sidewalk in the vicinity of the center of town. For many years these addresses were required by the post office to have post office boxes. It is believed the post office is directing the residents to install mailboxes – and also believed carriers receive more compensation for each mailbox. This is creating a parking and mail delivery problem.
 - a. Does an ordinance need to be created to regulate these mailboxes
 - b. Do mailboxes between the street and sidewalk create a hazard?
 - c. How to resolve the parking / mail delivery problem?
 - d. Ms. Clark will contact the post office.

- 6) Owner of old lumber building (N. Main) has been working on the roof. President Smith was allowed inside and noted it was very clean – no tires, cars, barrels, junk or presence of animals. The main structure looked sound.
- 7) The Rotary Club will be holding a fund raising meeting for the Memorial Day.
- 8) Petty cash needs to be locked up in the village hall.

Public Works:

- 1) Water Monitoring Samples were collected. Five samples were taken and the cost for the analysis is \$501 plus shipping. The DEQ appeared to be pushing for 10 samples, but a notice Mr. Gibson received from the DEQ confirmed five are sufficient.
- 2) The company, Peerless Midwest, performed the yearly pump and well test. We will know the conditions of the pumps in a couple months.
- 3) Wood Choy of the DEQ did his 6 month evaluation of the water system. All is well.
- 4) The F-350 axle has been repaired at a cost of \$1800.
- 5) Received 2 more bids for the library siding repair.
- 6) **(Strong/Lyons)** Motion to approve Martins Tree Service to immediately take down a tree on the NE corner of W. Maple and N. Lovell at a cost of \$1500. Roll call vote – Unanimously approved.

Streets/Census:

- 1) Would like to seek a bid from KCRC for Local Street maintenance. President Smith asked Mike to get their bid. One bid was received from a different company, but would like to see what the KCRC can offer.
- 2) Cracks have been seen on Main Street. The road was resurfaced in 2008. DPW directed to see what can be done to maintain the street.

Parks/Cemetery/Library: No report

Water: High delinquency rate has been noted for the past several quarters. Some residents wait until the last day to pay – as the DPW is preparing to shut off water. Reviewed another community's utility rate resolution. Referred to the water committee to consider increase the delinquent rate charge and to look into raising water rates to cover rising costs.

Administration:

- 1) Reviewed the 2013-14 budget.
 - In 2008 the water fund borrowed \$100,000 from the GF. A schedule has been set up to pay back the GF at a rate of \$10,000 for the next 10 years.
 - Revenue is decreasing and expenses are increasing. It is increasing harder to balance the budget without drawing from the fund balance. The fund balance has been drawn from for the past several years.
 - An employee raise of 1.5% has been included in the 2013-14 budget. No increase in medical reimbursement and will remain at \$200/month.
 - Equipment is getting older and maintenance cost is increasing.
 - Sheriff patrol is \$0.00, down from \$13,000 in past years.
 - The 2012-13 fire department exceeded its budget of \$75,000 and is projected to be \$130,000. Our 1/3 of township fire budget will increase from \$25,000 to \$44,000 – an unexpected increase of \$20,000 for the 2012-13 budget year.

- The 2013-14 fire department budget is \$103,000. Our portion of budget will be \$34,000 – approximately the sum of 3 mills of village revenue. (Township resident cost is .8 mills to receive same fire coverage)
- Discussed additional millage to meet the ever-increasing expenses.
 - Currently, each ½ mill draws \$6000 in revenue.
 - For the past 20 or 30 years, the millage rate has been 11 mills (9 mills for general operating and 2 mills for water operations.)
 - A few years ago, the council did drop the general operating millage to 8 mills, but then raised it back to 9 mills the following year.
 - The council could raise millage to 14 without a vote of the citizens – this gives approximately 3 mills or an additional \$36,000. (The ceiling was 17 mills, but has been decreased over the years through the Headley Amendment)
 - Should we have a special millage designated for fire protection expenses?
- The proposed 2013-14 budget for review will be changed to reflect an increase of 1 mill in General Fund operation revenue (approximately \$12,000). (9 mills to 10 mills) The Clerk will make the proposed change and have the budget ready for the budget hearing on March 5th.
- The budget hearing will be set for March 5, 2013 – the Clerk will post the necessary notices and have copies of the proposed 2013-14 budget prepared.

Public Safety: No report

Ordinance: No report

Old Business: None.

New Business: None

(Lyons/Strong) The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.
Scott Torrance - Village Clerk