

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting
September 20, 2011

Present: Trustees: Dave Hopkins, Tom Jones, Bill Lewis, Norm Lyons, Jason Slann, Terry Strong,
President – Kyle Smith and Treasurer – Deb Wyant.

Absent – None.

Guests: Casey Bennett-Holbrook, John Cook and Ralph Weessies.

Agenda: **(Lewis/Lyons)** Motion to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimously approved.

Minutes:

- 1) **(Jones/Lewis)** Motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of September 6, 2011 as presented. Unanimously approved.
- 2) **(Lyons/Slann)** Motion to approve the Special Meeting minutes of August 23, 2011 as presented. Unanimously approved.

(Lyons/Strong) Motion to approve the September 2011 Bill Package totaling \$11,812.54. Roll call vote: Ayes – Lewis, Strong, Slann, Lyons, Hopkins, Smith; Nays - Jones. Motion carried 6 to 1.

(Lyons/Jones) Motion to approve the August 2011 Treasurer's Report as presented. Total of all funds is 411,632.00. Roll Call Vote: Unanimously approved.

Guests:

- 1) Casey Bennett presented to Council members information on Aflac.
- 2) Ralph Weessies, President of the Library Board, discussed the contribution the Village makes to the Library. The current amount is \$8500. The State of Michigan requires additional funds to qualify for grant funding. Mr. Weessies is asking that the amount be increased to \$10,000 per year. This money is returned to the Village in form of maintenance and professional services expenses. The Village maintains the facility.
 - a. **(Lyons/Slann)** Motion to adjust the 2011-12 Village contribution to the Lawrence Memorial Library by an increase of \$1500 (from \$8500 to \$10,000). Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

Communications: Noted.

Public Works:

- 1) Water meters have been read and ready for the Clerk to make up bills.
- 2) The Kalamazoo Road Commission has painted the lines on the streets and the railroad markings.
- 3) Signs have been ordered for those that have been stolen: 2-fire hydrant, 4-street signs, 1-no outlet and 3-fire hydrant signs which were faded. All signs purchased for \$375.
- 4) Some signs at the entrance of the village have been vandalized – the UMC and Football signs in particular. Due to the cost and tight budget, these signs will not be replaced by the village. The organizations will be responsible to replace the signs.
- 5) The chlorine unit pump is in need of maintenance. With a slightly higher cost to purchase a new one over a refurbished one, the Council opted for a new chlorine pump. **(Lewis/Strong)** Motion to purchase a new chlorine pump from Chemical Pump Company at a cost not to exceed \$700. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

Streets / Census:

- 1) A tree on Cherry Street is rotten and needs to be removed. Cost to remove tree and stump is \$850 by Martin's Tree Service. **(Hopkins/Lyons)** Approve Martin's Tree Service to remove the tree and stump located at 134 Cherry Street at a cost not to exceed \$850 and to be paid upon completion and approval by the DPW. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.
- 2) Estimating that 40-42 sections of sidewalk will be replaced. Mr. Hopkins will meet with Mr. Gibson to review the sections.
- 3) The light, located at Cherry and Sheldon streets, that keep going out has been repair.

Parks/Library: No report.

Water: No report.

Administration/Employee Relations:

- 1) Will be reviewing the updated budget and current expenses to determine any needed amendments.
- 2) Treasurer Selection: Interviews of 3 individuals were held on 9/14/11. The Committee's recommendation was submitted to the council members along with each individuals resume. President Smith accepts the Administration Committee's recommendation to appoint Brenda Borden.
 - a. **(Strong/Lewis)** Motion to appoint Brenda Borden as the Village Treasurer as of October 1, 2011. Roll call vote: Ayes – Jones, Lewis, Strong, Slann, Hopkins and Smith; Nays – None, Abstaining – Lyons. Motion carried 6 to 0, with one abstention.
- 3) **(Lewis/Jones)** Appoint Brenda Borden as a Deputy Treasurer until October 1. Unanimously approved.
- 4) **(Slann/Jones)** Motion to pay a salary rate of \$200 to Brenda Borden as Deputy Treasurer until October 1st and authorize Deb Wyant a retainer fee of \$200 for the training of Brenda Borden with final compensation to be reviewed at the end of October. Roll call vote – Unanimously approved.

Public Safety:

- 1) The village had the use of the Speed Cart for a period of time. It was placed on East Maple.

Ordinance:

- 1) No response to violation letters sent to 144 and 145 N. Church street addresses. The DPW will bid out and hire the lowest bid to have the lawn cut and place the expense on the property taxes of those properties.
- 2) President Smith pulled out the stakes at the property on East Maple directly across from the Boersen Farm entrance. Need to notify Boersen Farms to adjust their driveway entrance to allow the semi trucks to turn onto East Maple Street without going onto the opposite shoulder and without tearing up the section of the road.
- 3) Mr. Lyons talked with Grand Rapids, Portage, and Kalamazoo about natural gardens. Those residents have to petition the municipalities to have a garden. He printed out a sample ordinance on natural gardens for review.

Old Business: The trash pickup will be on September 24th.

New Business: Halloween – The Council does not have a set time for Trick or Treating on Halloween, Monday the 31st of October.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m. (Hopkins/Jones)
Scott Torrance – Village Clerk