

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting

August 17, 2021

Call to Order 7:30pm

Present: Joline Chaney, Carolyn Kelly, Nick Ludwig, David Miller, Janet Sutherland, Jim Cummings– President, Linda Coburn – Clerk **Absent:** Denise Kenney, Brenda Borden – Treasurer **Guests:** Anthony Bates, Sean Perrin, TJ Gibson, James Pechumer

(Ludwig/Sutherland) Motion to approve the agenda with deletion. Unanimously approved.

(Ludwig/Sutherland) Motion to approve August 3, 2021 minutes. Unanimously approved.

(Ludwig/Sutherland) Motion to approve bill package for a total of \$12,254.38. Unanimously approved – roll call vote.

(Ludwig/Chaney) Motion to approve July Treasurer’s Report of \$769,852.38 Unanimously approved – roll call vote.

Guests: *Anthony Bates* – Gave some general information regarding the use of the ARPA money.

James Pechumer – Requested a variance for his fence at 326 N. Main St. He would like to fence around his entire yard to be 6 feet tall due to dogs, children, pool (future), safety, privacy. James indicated that neighbors north & south of his residence have given verbal approval. Discussion followed. **(Ludwig/Sutherland)** Motion to grant the variance for 326 N. Main Street to build a 6 foot fence around property as illustrated. Unanimously approved – roll call vote. Clerk will contact Safebuilt.

Sean Perrin – Updated council – July 17 runs, 5 in village (2 fire alarms @ school). They are at a total of 130 runs for the year – the average is 140-160. The recent incident on August 14 was a 12 hour night for the department. Their trucks were on scene for the duration of the investigation.

Communications: None

Public Works:

- 1) Doing lots of mowing
- 2) Water Tower project is on track.
- 3) Had 2 water shut offs this quarter
- 4) We do need to trim some trees that hang into the park. The trees are hitting the water tower. They estimate the job can be done for about \$1000. **(Sutherland/Chaney)** Motion to allow DPW to spend up to \$1000 for trimming trees near the water tower in the park. Unanimously approved – roll call vote.
- 5) Snapdragon has been chip sealed.
- 6) There was also another incident on Wednesday night in the park. Glass bottles were broken on the basketball court and the basketball hoop was torn down. Keep eyes and ears open.

Streets/Sidewalks/Census:

- 1) Joline has been out checking out the roads & sidewalks in the village.
- 2) She attended a meeting at KCRC to establish a relationship and better understand roads, funding, etc. Discussion followed which included applying for grants consistently, having KCRC come out and assess our roads and give some input.
- 3) David Miller did speak with a road engineer & an attorney regarding the village’s option to deal with the truck traffic and speeding within the village. One possible solution is to create a truck route which would keep the trucks outside of the village. He will continue to investigate this option. Another suggestion was to put in speed bumps especially near the village limits. It was also suggested that painting the parking spot lines could also be helpful.

Parks/Library/Cemetery:

- 1) Continuing to work on grant through Kaboom.
- 2) Library – the board has had several challenges: 2 board members resigned which left the board without a quorum. The township was able to accept one resignation from the township resident and appoint a new member thus allowing the board to have a quorum and be able to function. They are in the process of regrouping, appointing/electing officers, etc.

Water:

- 1) Observing Mike & TJ and Continuing to learn about the water system.
- 2) Will begin researching grants/funding opportunities for the water system.

Administration/Employee Relations: No Report

Public Safety:

- 1) Nick sent an email to Captain Christianson on behalf of the village expressing both our condolences for the department's recent loss of Deputy Proxmire and also our appreciation for all that the department does to protect the safety of our citizens.
- 2) Follow up on tornado siren inquiry – after assessing information gathered from several phone calls it was made clear that the current siren is unfixable. The cost of a new siren would be \$24,200. The current siren does not belong to the village – the inquiry prompted the village to investigate the costs.
- 3) Kalamazoo Sheriffs met with a homeowner in the village in regards to marijuana growing. Their office will now be handling the situation.
- 4) Council members did note that there has been more police presence in the village.

Ordinance:

- 1) Met with Roxanne in regards to code enforcement & ordinance changes. These changes were based on the discussions/meetings of the ordinance committee. They include simplified grass ordinance, cell towers in back yards, care of animals, truck traffic, fines international property code, burn barrels, driveways, shipping containers/storage units, etc. It was a good meeting. They will research and work on proposals for changes that will be submitted to the committee and the council. Discussion followed
- 2) Requested a copy of Ordinance 50 regarding marijuana be sent to him. Much discussion followed.
- 3) Reminded the council that all changes need to be done on a rational basis, they cannot be arbitrary or capricious. What is the goal – what do we want the community to be?

Old Business:

- 1) Requested the clerk to follow up with the new post commander regarding attending a meeting.
- 2) Regarding the cemetery – will invite company to attend a meeting and present information to do with cremation vaults. Also, does the village want to consider purchasing more property to expand the cemetery?
- 3) Movie Night in the Park – this was previously discussed. A date will be chosen and the village agreed to make the event a benefit for Officer Proxmire.

New Business: None

(Sutherland/Chaney) The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Linda Coburn - Clerk