

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting

April 5, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:30p

Present: Joline Chaney, Carolyn Kelly, Denise Kenney, Nick Ludwig, David Miller, Janet Sutherland, Jim Cummings-President, Linda Coburn – Clerk **Absent:** Brenda Borden – Treasurer **Guests:** Bill Lewis, Anthony/Murat Bates

(Sutherland/Kelly) Motion to approve agenda. Unanimously approved

(Kenney/Sutherland) Motion to approve minutes from March 15, 2022. Unanimously approved

(Sutherland/Kelly) Motion to approve minutes from March 29, 2022. Unanimously approved

(Kenney/Ludwig) Motion to approve bill package for a total of \$28,672.85. Unanimously approved – roll call vote.

Guests: Anthony/Murat Bates – presented the council with a \$750 donation from New Earth Solar for the Memorial Day Event, announced that he will be running for Kalamazoo County Commissioner.

Communications: None

Public Works:

- 1) Water tests & pumpage reports are done for the month
- 2) Meters have been read and bills sent.
- 3) Requested official approval for roof & pump repair (Ludwig/Kelly) Motion to accept the bid from Lyster Contracting in the amount not to exceed \$6,800 for the roofing of the water building. Unanimously approved – roll call vote. (Ludwig/Chaney) Motion to accept the bid from Peerless not to exceed \$28,000 to repair pump #2. Unanimously approved – roll call vote.
- 4) Water books have been updated.
- 5) Some drains have been cleaned out and others are scheduled to be done in the next 2 weeks.
- 6) Balkema's is sending a couple estimates for repair on the water main on S. Main. Won't know the actual cost until they come uncover it. (Could be \$1,500-\$15,000)
- 7) Painted the garbage cans and ordered new lids.
- 8) Streets will be swept twice before the Memorial Day event.
- 9) Working with Joline on a grant for road work.

Streets/Sidewalks/Census:

- 1) Working with TJ on a road grant – deadline is June 15
- 2) Will start looking at sidewalks to determine which sections need to be replaced.

Parks/Cemetery/Library:

- 1) MOU was sent to the village attorney for review. He does not think it is a necessary document since it is not legally binding; council agreed to have him draw up a lease with the MOU as a template.
- 2) It was reiterated that if the millage does not pass that the lease becomes null and void and the relationship will revert back to the current status.
- 3) Bill Lewis gave the council a copy of the library budget for the record.

Water: No report beyond what was covered in Public Works.

Administration/Employee Relations: No Report

Public Safety/Fire:

- 1) Spoke with VanDyken on March 21, 2022 and he indicated that he was waiting for the legal department to give him a draft of the contract.
- 2) Pierce/Knowles situation – Nick was approached about the case; inquiries indicated that the case had been closed so Nick helped connected Pierce with the prosecuting attorney. Pierce will have to follow through as the village is not involved in the case.
- 3) AAA grant – sent an email & phone follow up – waiting to hear back.
- 4) Working on several other possible grants for the village that he found when he registered the village on grants.gov. The three most promising possibilities include:

- a. Resurface grant which is to aid rural villages that have goods transported on their roads between larger municipalities.
 - b. Rise grant which is to support jobs/small businesses, transportation needs in small municipalities
 - c. Tech grant – need to do more research but may help pay for new sign/communication for village.
- 5) This month is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month.
 - 6) Will continue to work on grants – many of the deadlines are approaching.

Ordinance/Zoning:

- 1) 140 N. Main St. (Rojas) was sent a letter regarding blight
- 2) Will follow up on Ebinger house – doesn't appear to be any progress
- 3) 329 W Maple (Selbee) was foreclosed on April 1; has until July 5 to redeem or it goes to auction in August. Had Safebuilt check condemned status as notice had been removed. New notice was placed.
- 4) 120 Cherry St. (Leggit) is in the same status as 329 W. Maple.
- 5) 375 E Maple St. (Linderman) – one renter has moved out. Owner is wanting to sell but is in the process of evicting remaining renter.
- 6) Concern regarding homes that were brought into compliance last year that are currently appearing to be unkept again.
- 7) Will be following up on gingerbread house again as there appears to be a new owner.
- 8) Encouraged all council members to be involved not only in the village but also in the township and the school district as concerned citizens.

Old Business: Village sign – Burkett Signs has given a quote that is \$24,000 and would like half before they begin the project with the other half due upon completion. (Miller/Ludwig) Motion to authorize the payment of \$12,000 to Burkett Sign as a down-payment on the electronic sign to be installed on the old Harvester lot next to the village hall. Unanimously approved – roll call vote.

Asked TJ to connect with the American Legion regarding placement of the flags in the cemetery before Memorial Day.

New Business: None

(Sutherland/Kenney) Motion to adjourn at 8:34 p.m.
Linda Coburn - Clerk