

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting

May 6, 2014

Present: Pat Clark, Jim Cummings, Norm Lyons, Bruce Rolfe, Terry Strong, Kyle Smith-President with Mark Gay, DPW

Absent: Brenda Borden-Treasurer, Scott Torrance-Clerk and Tom Jones

Guests: Carrie King, Scott Smith-Fire Chief, John Sauntry.

(Cummings/Lyons) Motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Part time DPW position under administration. Unanimously approved.

(Clark/Strong) Motion to approve the minutes from April 15, 2014 as presented. Unanimously approved.

Guests:

- 1) Carrie King was there to presumably discuss the property lines of the Billie King residence but said the issue was hopefully resolved as neighbor Dave Hamilton told her realtor he consented to tear down the shed which was partially on the King property.
- 2) Scott Smith reported on the siren and said after speaking with a representative of West Shore Fire Equipment, the service manager would like to send a Whalen guy to make repairs by swapping out various parts as they believe the circuit board may still be functional. He conceded it may not fix it but it was better than going out to buy a new box. Service manager won't warranty the charger. Smith also reported the 2nd charger was bad and believed it may have been a power surge or lightening strike. There was also mention of a tone generator. Smith said they had "pulled the guts out" and service manager had said they were "willing to eat some of this" in reference to the cost. He reports it already has new batteries in it. Smith was frustrated by the lack of communication from the rep. There is also a possibility of removing the Whelan box and replacing with Federal box. The rep who will be making the repairs usually charges \$85/hour but is willing to reduce this to \$65/hour.
 - a. **(Cummings/Strong)** Motion to approve spending of up to \$520 for repairs unanimously approved. Smith said he would contact them and give them this information. Unanimously approved.

Communications:

- 1) Bill Lewis contacted President Kyle Smith to report he believed the Township had showed up at the Village Meeting of April 15th in a quorum as there were 3 Township members in attendance although only President Don Schultz spoke.
- 2) Local resident Steve Davis called to report he believes a resident is living in a commercially zoned structure at 102/104 S Main. Bruce Rolfe confirmed he also received a separate call from a resident with this same concern. Terry Strong (Ordinances) agreed to draft a letter.
- 3) Greg Murphy spoke to President Smith and said he is going to send a letter to Village as believes the Village should purchase his building at 105 S Main.

Public Works:

- 1) Mark Gay reports water samples and pumpage reports are completed.
- 2) Mike Gibson would like the Village to extend a thank you to Scotts Busy Bee Youth for planting the flowers. **(Strong/Lyons)** Motion to allow Climax Crescent to publish Village's thanks. Unanimously approved.

- 3) Pat Clark requested permission to do some planting/landscaping of the grassy area in front of the Village Hall. **(Strong/Rolfe)** Motion for Pat Clark to independently perform work to landscape/plant flowers in front of Village Hall. Unanimously approved.

Water:

- 1) Norm Lyons reports 110 S Main has not been released for occupancy in the upper level.
- 2) Lyons also said he has a call into the local CERT program but has not received a callback.
- 3) Lyons asked DPW worker if there has been any response from additional companies regarding power washing the lower portion of the water tower. Mark Gay said other than the company who said they could schedule us for next year there has been no response.

Parks, Cemetery, Library:

- 1) Jim Cummings reports there is a committee formed by the Library Board consisting of Ralph Weessies, David Knapp and Carol Lyons to jointly address the Village's and Library Board's concerns.
- 2) There was also mention of some pressure being placed on the Prairie Historical Society to move from their existing room within the Library to allow the expansion of Library.

Streets: Bruce Rolfe passed out a detailed roads report he compiled after meeting and assessing the Village's Roads with Mark Worden, Kalamazoo County Road Commission. It outlined the top 3 highest priority repairs needed in opinion of Worden and then also addressed the 11 remaining roads.

Administration:

- 1) Terry Strong informed the Council he believed there needed to be a formal motion made to release Dave Lodes from employment. **(Lyons/Strong)** Motion to discharge Dave Lodes from employment effective May 6, 2014 approved. Ayes: Cummings, Rolfe, Clark, Strong, Lyons, Nays: President Smith. Motion carried 5 to 1.
- 2) Pat Clark reported there were 4 applications received for the position of part time DPW staffer. Two were singled out by the Council to be interviewed. **(Lyons/Strong)** Motion to authorize the Administration Committee to interview and hire by May 16, 2014. Unanimously approved.

Public Safety: Jim Cummings reports the law enforcement data reports have not come yet. Suspected drug houses have been reported to officials. Kyle Smith is going to talk to landlord Ron Bailey regarding his rental property at East Maple St. Several people, including guest Carrie King addressed the heavy drinking occurring at the house directly south of the Billie King property.

Fire:

- 1) **(Strong/Lyons)** Motion that upon passage of Township Fire Resolution the Village would roll back 1.5 mils from General Tax rate to offset the 1.5 mil increase by the Township. Unanimously approved.
- 2) **(Lyons/Cummings)** Motion to adopt Resolution 2014-03 which formally supports the Township's bid to pass resolution to establish and fund the Fire Department. Unanimously approved.

Ordinances:

- 1) Terry Strong reported on a quote he commissioned for work to stabilize the old lumberyard building. A partial accounting detailed \$5000 for dumpster rental, \$5,000 for commercial rental permit, \$5-10,000 stamped architect plans and \$8,000 for roofing not to mention labor costs for a 4-5man crew for at least a week. He also discussed regulations surrounding the

DEQ's contaminated soil rules. Further discussion regarding different options the Village may explore ended with Strong agreeing to check with Mary Balkema on a couple of questions.

- 2) Blight conditions at 345 W Maple were brought up and Strong will write a letter to the owner regarding this.

Old Business:

- 1) Jim Cummings produced a letter dated 1997 about acquisition of MARLENE Harrison's property. Village agreed to let Mike Gibson discuss this with her as he has made previous contact. **(Cummings/Lyons)** Motion to agree to spend up to \$500 for this property. Unanimously approved.
- 2) Cummings also inquired as to intent for property south of fire station and it was mentioned that at one time Village had thought to donate to the Township to develop/use for parking. Jim agreed to ask Don Schultz if this may be something the Township may want.
- 3) Village Trash pickup is May 17th.
- 4) **(Strong/Clark)** Motion to authorize Space Mountain racers to start within the Village as we now have proof of insurance from them. Unanimously approved.
- 5) Annual village-wide yard sale is June 28th.

(Lyons/Strong) The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.
Pat Clark – Trustee taking minutes for the Clerk