

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting
February 17, 2009

Present: Trustees: Thomas Jones, Bill Lewis, Norm Lyons, Lisa Strong, Terry Strong, Salli Thompson, President – Kyle Smith and Treasurer – Deb Wyant.

Absent: None

Guests: Harvey & Mary Cousins, Greg & Sandy Harrison, Boy Scout Troop, John Cook - DPW.

Agenda: **(Lewis/L.Strong)** Motion to approve the agenda. Unanimously approved.

Minutes: **(Jones/Lewis)** Motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of February 3 as presented. Unanimously approved.

(Jones/Lyons) Motion to approve the February 2009 Bill Package totaling \$19,063.53. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

(Thompson/Lyons) Motion to approve the January 2009 Treasurer's Report as presented: Major Streets = \$47,768.72; Local Streets = \$38,200.83; General Fund = \$73,569.69; Water Fund = \$65,998.22, Perpetual Care Fund = \$11,406.63; FNB Major Street CD = 21,072.57; FNB Local Street CD = 10,026.88; FNB General Fund CD = 60,207.05; and Water Fund 45,155.29; Totals = \$373,605.88. Roll Call Vote: Unanimously approved.

Guests: Mary Cousins of 313 E. Maple made a complaint of a dump truck and dumpster at the home next to hers. Mrs. Cousins showed pictures of the dumpster containing trash and garbage, which she stated as having a foul odor. Mr. Harrison owns the home and is in the process of renovating it and works at it when he has an opportunity. Mr. Harrison stated the truck will be moved and he will call the trash company to have the dumpster removed and replaced with a new dumpster. Trash, without Mr. Harrison's knowledge, is being dumped into the dumpster. Mr. Harrison stated that another dumpster will be brought in to handle the renovation material. There is no way to keep individuals from dumping trash into it. **(Jones/Lyons)** Motion to follow up the removal of the truck and dumpster at the next meeting. Unanimously approved.

Communications: Salli Thompson reported on the intergovernmental fire committee. The language of the initial motion to form the committee indicated one member from the village, township and fire department. If more than one person from any organization attend the meeting, is that breaking the spirit of the committee? The consensus of the council is that committee meetings are public meetings and can be attended by any interested party.

Public Works:

- 1) Water samples are being taken according to state requirements.
- 2) Water shut-offs for late payments will be done this weekend.
- 3) The library bathroom has been painted and railing has been repaired.
- 4) John is signed up for water system training. He is waiting for confirmation.
- 5) Compost pile has been removed.

Streets:

- 1) Drainage problem on North Main Street. When the road and gravel driveways were reconstructed, we are finding some of the driveway entrances sinking and collecting water.
- 2) Local streets are being reviewed to come up with an improvement plan.

- 3) Terry will contact CN railroad to ask them to put our railroad crossings on their maintenance schedule.
- 4) Terry visited a meeting with the Kalamazoo Area Transit Authority. KATS discussed the failed millage and its impact on the transportation services (Caravan service). They are completely supported by area taxes and services will be scaled back if no millage is achieved. They will attempt a two tiered tax – 1 mil for city and .4 mil for outlying areas. Expect to see this millage on a future ballot.

Parks/Library:

- 1) Restroom is painted and the railing is repaired.
- 2) DPW was directed to get a bid to replace the floor in the restroom.
- 3) Signs are being made for the cemetery and fences will be repaired.
- 4) Sexton building was broken into – nothing was taken.
- 5) Clubs and groups at the high school to work on beautification projects.
- 6) President Smith asked that the Library Board be involved in library projects. He also noted that requests for projects involving the DPW to pass through him.

Administration:

- 1) Reviewed the 2009-10 budget.
- 2) **(Jones/Lyons)** Motion to set the public Budget Hearing for March 3rd at 8 p.m. at the Lawrence Memorial Library. Unanimously approved.
- 3) Presented for review, a proposed resolution to set the millage rate at 11 mills (9 mills General operations and 2 mills Water system Operations) for the 2009-10 budget year.
- 4) The audit report ending March 31, 2008 was presented. The auditors proposed an off-year audit of financial records only. The purpose would be to produce financials and year-end balancing figures between audits. The clerk was directed to find out more of an exact amount the off-year audit will cost and if and how much the audits would reduce the normal audit.

Fire/Public Safety:

- 1) Discussed the funding of a surveillance camera system. The consensus of the council is that it is worth checking into. Surveillance cameras have been very effective in deterring and solving crimes. Where sheriff coverage is sporadic and far away, an investment in a camera system can help with vandalism in the Main street and park areas. Where to put them, how many to purchase, wireless or cable were some questions asked. Depending on the cost of the cameras, a few can be purchased each year to ease the burden on the budget. Salli Thompson will look into a system.

Ordinance:

- 1) The owners of the building north of the tracks has not responded to phone calls. MTS has been contacted to perform an inspection on the condition of the building.
- 2) Dogs on W. Maple are running loose again.
- 3) Trash build up is seen at 224 W. Maple.

Old Business:

- 1) An itemized fire run report to be requested.
- 2) Council member participation in the Founder's Day parade.

New Business:

- 1) Rotary club volunteered to build booths for venter participants.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. (Lyons/T.Strong)
Scott Torrance – Clerk