

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting

May 21, 2013

Present: Pat Clark, Jim Cummings, Tom Jones, Norm Lyons, Terry Strong, Kyle Smith – President, and Brenda Borden – Treasurer

Absent: Bill Twiss.

Guests: Jim Brodee – Fleis and Vandenbrink, Pat Crowley – Kal Co. Drain Commissioner, Ernest Bussell – American Legion, Bruce Rolfe, Scott Smith – Twp Fire Dept., Mark Gay - DPW.

(Lyons/Jones) Motion to approve the agenda. Unanimously approved.

(Lyons/Clark) Motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2013 as presented. Unanimously approved.

(Strong/Lyons) Motion to approve the May 2013 Bill Package totaling \$21,844.31. Roll call vote: Ayes – Clark, Cummings, Lyons, Strong and Smith; Nays - Jones. Motion carried 5 to 1.

(Strong/Jones) Motion to approve the April 2013 Treasurer's report – total fund balance is 406,051.42. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

Guests:

- 1) Ernie Bussell, representing the American Legion, seeking permission to hold the parade on May 25th. **(Strong/Jones)** Motion to grant permission to the American Legion to allow the Memorial parade on village streets. Unanimously approved.
- 2) Jim Brodee, representing Fleis and Vandenbrink, an engineering company, spoke on Well-head Protection. There is grant money available with a 50/50 match. Cost for the Well-head Protection is estimated at \$15,000 to \$25,000. The study will determine:
 - a. Where ground water comes from – which direction is it flowing.
 - b. Potential contamination sources.
 - c. Education potential within the program.

There are two segments to the study – 1) where the water comes from and 2) all other elements.

- What about agriculture around village? Farmers are in the community and want to protect the ground water. The program would help the relationship between the village and surrounding farms. Who monitors the water withdrawal or potential violations? Farmers need permits to put in wells and the wells are capped at certain withdrawal. However, reporting of withdrawal or violation is on the honor system.
 - Advantage – citizen personal awareness and education. We have little control over ground water protection outside our village. The program would help develop communication among surrounding communities and farms.
- 3) Scott Smith, representing the Fire Dept, told the Council that the Emergency Siren is down and has not worked since January 2013.
 - There is a problem with the batteries and the charging system. The charging system is defective and needs replacement. The cost to do this is \$1180.

- Also the radio frequency must be changed over to a narrow banding and will cost \$550 to change from the current wide band.
 - Will work with Prodigy electric to look at the system and get an opinion.
 - Motion was offered to pay for repairs – removed due to lack of support.
- 4) Pat Crowley, Kalamazoo County Drain Commissioner, spoke on ground water. The Drain Commissioners responsibility is to balance water, people and property values. Drainage prevents flooding. Pat Crowley was seeking support from the Council to adopt the Drain Commissioners Rules so developers would follow a plan to protect ground water. These rules are established to ensure communities will not have flooding problems
- The village does not have land to develop. All available land in the village is agriculture.

Communications:

- 1) Consumers Energy is switching street lights from Mercury to High Pressure vapor and should result in a 4.25 per light savings. The switch will take years and there will be no cost to the village.
- 2) Permission granted to allow the library to set up a table in the park for book sales.
- 3) Zack Reschner indicates that all paper work is finished and waiting on township to give permission to install a septic system.

Public Works:

- 1) Sidewalk project is completed. There was extra labor involved to repair the sections due to Josh Suedemeyer riding his bike through.
- 2) Weeds next to the Fire Department have been sprayed.
- 3) Library needs air conditioner repair.
- 4) There will be the possibility of a basketball competition in the park. More information to follow.
- 5) Directed to seek bids to repair the well houses.

Parks / Cemetery:

- 1) Flags for Memorial Day have been purchased and picked up.

Water/Sewer:

- 1) Information from County Health Department regarding combining the two lots at 102 S. Main. No permits have been issued yet.
- 2) All business and commercial property in Climax need to have the septic system checked.

Administration:

- 1) Will need to find a new intern to help with the Master Plan.
- 2) Need to work on the Personnel Manual update.
- 3) Will try to seek a grant for the camera system
- 4) Committee to review the Land Use Plan.

Public Safety:

- 1) Will work with the fire department to review the siren.
- 2) 5 public safety calls in April (3 EMS and 2 grass fires)
- 3) Surveillance cameras going in after Memorial Day. DVR will be placed in a secure location.
- 4) Reviewed complaints and actions of Josh Suedemeyer.

- 5) Owner of proposed business at 102 S. Main needs to follow business rules and ordinance rules.
 - a. **(Clark/Lyons)** Motion to draft a letter on behalf of the Village Council and send to the Michigan Department in charge of business regulation indicating there is business activity at 102 S. Main and to confirm the business is licensed. Unanimously approved.

(Lyons/Jones) The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Scott Torrance - Village Clerk