

# *Village of Climax*

Regular Meeting

April 19, 2011

Present: Trustees: Dave Hopkins, Tom Jones, Bill Lewis, Norm Lyons, Terry Strong, President – Kyle Smith and Treasurer – Deb Wyant.

Absent – Jason Slann

Guests: Jeff Brown, Tom Doan, Meryl Hitchins, Bob Dirks, Kary Christiansen and Bruce Rolfe.

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

Minutes: **(Jones/Lewis)** Motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of April 5, 2011 as presented. Unanimously approved.

**(Jones/Lyons)** Motion to approve the April 2011 Bill Package totaling \$42,591.24. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

**(Lyons/Strong)** Motion to approve the bills for Climax Township fire protection fee \$3,324.25 and Sheriff Department \$136.95. Ayes: Hopkins, Lewis, Lyons, Strong, Smith; Nays: Jones; Absent: Slann. Motion carried 5 to 1.

**(Lewis/Strong)** Motion to table the March 2011 Treasurer's Report until May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Unanimously approved.

Guests:

- 1) Tom Doan, representing the Climax-Scott School Board discussed the school's budget deficit of approximate \$600,000. With student decline, it is estimated for 2012-13 a deficit could be as high as \$850,000. Working on ideas from the various municipalities on how to increase student population and is seeking input from the Council. A meeting at the school will take place on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm to discuss the issue.
  - Due to school of choice program, cannot advertise in Kalamazoo County, but can advertise in Calhoun County.
  - Adult Education is doing well – 40 to 50 students enrolled.
  - Larger number of families are home schooling.
  - Revenue per student has decreased.
  - Discussion has not taken place on consolidation of schools. Consolidation of services has taken place.
- 2) American Legion. Members of the American Legion discussed the Memorial Day activities. The Legion will handle the park and cemetery services, but due to changes in leadership, they are not sure what the Legion has done in the past or what they are responsible for. The Village Council grants permission to use the streets for the parade and request Sheriff escort, The fire Department helps out in traffic and crowd control, the Rotary Club helps out with activities, the Library works with book activities and the school helps and allows use of building.
  - **(Lewis/Lyons)** Motion to allow the parade to take place on village streets for Memorial Day, Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Unanimously approved.
- 3) Jeff Brown, representing the Southwest Michigan Tea Party Patriots, passed information to the Council regarding the organization. Their mission is to communicate to elected officials the message that they must return to the principles upon which our nation was founded:

Individual liberty, limited government, and a respect for the Constitution. Website:  
www.swmipats.org.

Communications:

- 1) Mr. Lewis presented information on the Space Mountain 7K run – Annual Memorial Day run. **(Strong/Lewis)** Motion to grant permission for the Space Mountain organization to use village streets to hold their annual 7K run. Unanimously approved.
- 2) Crystal Rolfe offered to plant flowers in boxes at entrances of the village. The Council would like to see other offer to help or to water the flowers throughout the summer.

Public Works:

- 1) Mike Gibson, John Cook and Bill Sackrider will be attending a Water System meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) Don Cochran will be installing a new traffic light box. The plastic box plus labor will be \$380.
- 3) The JD4115 is repaired.
- 4) The Clerk contacted CN railroad to have them look at the W. Maple tracks. Waiting to receive a report from them.
- 5) The Kalamazoo County Road Commission will come out and measure the amount of road in need of chip sealing and give a quote.

Streets / Census:

- 1) Mr. Hopkins met with a representative from Lumicon Light Company. LED lighting is the way to go. Solar lighting is too expensive and High Sodium lighting is being phased out. Counted 62 street lights in village. Roughly \$37,000 to install new lighting. Financing may be available. Units are made in Michigan.

Parks/Library: Library appreciation day is Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm

Water: No report.

Administration/Employee Relations:

- 1) There are changes to the State Revenue Statutory payments. There will be stipulations to become eligible in receiving the funds.

Public Safety:

- 1) Fire Department: 8 runs in February, 1 run in March and 1 run so far in April.
- 2) Warning siren is up and will be tested soon.

Ordinance:

- 1) Reviewed sample ordinances for Peddlers, solicitors and street vendors.
- 2) Canvassed the village for violations.

President's time: No report.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. (Lyons/Strong)  
Scott Torrance – Village Clerk