

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting

October 2, 2007

Present: David Dell, Lisa Strong, Terry Strong, Bill Twiss, President – Bill Rogers and Treasurer – Deb Wyant. Absent: Thomas Jones and Bill Lewis.

Also Present: Bruce Rolfe and Bill Sackrider – DPW.

(Dell/T.Strong) Motion to approve the agenda as amended. Unanimously approved.

(L.Strong/Dell) Motion to approve the minutes of September 18, 2007 as written. Unanimously approved.

Guests: None

Communications: MML seminars and MTA government official recognition dinner.

Public Works:

- 1) Water sample and pump reports are done.
- 2) The tree has been taken down at Main and Cherry Street. The tree had a solid trunk, but rotted out about 10' high and posed a danger.
- 3) Replaced 45 sections of sidewalks
- 4) We have 2 different companies looking into water system control upgrades. Bids will be coming soon. Current system is antiquated and tied in with phone system. The new system being investigated will be radio controlled with the capability to be monitored and controlled off-site. Mr. Sackrider noted that due to the storm damage, the current water control system has trouble monitoring water levels in the tower and over 100,000 gallons of water overflowed the water tower.
- 5) DPW will be attending a semi-annual water system training conference.

Parks: (Twiss/L.Strong) Motion to keep the light on at the back of the library. Unanimously approved. Keeping the area lit behind the library will hopefully discourage gathering areas and reduce potential vandalism.

Water:

- 1) Bill Lewis was absent and Lisa Strong reported on a meeting with school officials regarding the connection of the middle school to the water system. No commitments have been made by the water committee. There seems to be questions on, number of fire hydrants needed, location/direction of water main, cost to run the water main and who will cover the cost; once the water main is installed, will the village DPW have access in order to perform hydrant maintenance. To help answer some of these questions the following motion was offered. **(L.Strong/T.Strong)** Motion to contact the engineering company (Fleis – VandenBrink, formerly Gove Associates) who designed the village water system to review the process and requirements associated with hooking up the school to the village water system. Unanimously approved.

Administration:

- 1) With the past storm taking down a couple trees and causing property damage and power outage, the DPW asked several tree service companies to look at the condition of trees in the village. Bids were submitted which identified 5 trees, in the village right-of-way, as dead or

dying and which pose a safety hazard. **(Dell/T.Strong)** Motion to authorize Martin's Tree & Stump Removal, to cut down 5 trees, including stump removal at a cost of \$3350, per quote and contingent on proof of complete insurance coverage. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

- 142 Cherry Street (Dead maple tree)
- 121 N. Main Street (Dying maple tree)
- 200 W. Maple (Maple tree)
- 210 W. Maple (Maple tree)
- Watson Street (Oak tree)

Public Safety/Fire:

- 1) A question was asked on the continuation of paying the fire fee. With the City incorporation issue and the lawsuit issue over, Terry Strong will go to the Township Board and ask to have them work up ballot language.
- 2) There is still a problem with dogs running loose and barking dogs. More and more complaints are coming in. Letters have been sent to various owners, but yet the problems still exist. The county Animal Control will be contacted to resolve the issues and enforce the ordinances.

Old Business:

- 1) Tabled the UMC variance request until the following meeting.
- 2) Township closed meeting lawsuit: **(T.Strong/Dell)** Motion to accept the settlement as written. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.
- 3) City incorporation issue: The Boundary Commission, by a vote of 4 to 1, denied the village's request to become a city. The Boundary Commission's recommendation goes to the State of Michigan to be finalized.
- 4) Water billing software update: The update is complete and the water bills were mailed out on time. The new software will ensure better accuracy, inquiry and reporting capabilities. Due to the software change, water bills are on a different format and will take some time to become familiar with. They are still being printed on post cards to save on postage, envelope expense and processing time. The bills will also be monitored to insure good print quality and to insure the bills do not separate during mailing.
- 5) Trash pickup update: Best Way Disposal collected 57 yards (22,840 lbs) of trash. A total of 2.5 hours to perform the service. Per contract, they only picked up trash from those who have service with them. This important fact was not communicated very well by the clerk and resulted in a few residents having to remove their trash from the side of the road. Next trash pick up will be Saturday, May 17, 2008.
- 6) Ordinance update: Just received from MCC, a finalized copy for review and will forward the copy to council members.
- 7) Sergeant Ester, Sheriff Department, updated the council on the recent vandalism. The department is still investigating the incidents.

New Business:

- 1) A resident questioned the accuracy of their water meter. Their reading was thought to be higher than normal. However, comparing this 3rd quarter reading with their past history, the reading is not out of line. The Council recommended not to replace the meter, but continue to monitor future quarter meter readings.
- 2) A garage on W. Maple Street appears to be at a point of collapse. Because of safety concerns and potential danger to the homeowner, the clerk was directed to have the village building inspector (MTS) look at the structure.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Scott Torrance - Village Clerk