

Village of Climax  
Regular Meeting  
February 4, 2003

Present: S. Blayden, B. Rogers, T. Strong, S. Thompson, B. Twiss, Tricia Willis, D. Stevenson.  
Absent: None

Also Present: Larry Leach, Bill Sackrider, Deb Wyant

(Willis/Rogers) Motion to approve the minutes of January 21, 2003 without exception.  
Unanimously approved.

Guests/Communications: Climax Fire Chief, Larry Leach, reviewed the year-to-date fire report with the Council. Discussed items associated with the fire department's budget, such as: the various classes that firefighters are required to attend, vehicle maintenance, number of fires and firefighting equipment. Chief Leach reminds residents to call for Burning Permits prior to any burning. He is happy to see that most residents are complying with the burning ordinance and rarely needs to send a vehicle out to investigate a fire.

The Household Hazardous Waste year-end report was received and reviewed. Another good year (best year ever) for recycling and computer pick up.

(Strong/Blayden) Motion to adopt Resolution 2003-1 in support of the 10<sup>th</sup> Kalamazoo County Walk For Warmth. Unanimously approved.

(Rogers/Blayden) Motion to adopt Resolution 2003-2 to request that the state Representative and Senator initiate statutory changes to eliminate the railroad property tax offset and direct that tax payment to be set aside in a fund specifically for railroad track / road interface improvements on the statewide basis. Unanimously approved.

Public works:

1. Snow removal is continuing. This year is mild, but cold temperatures allow the small amount of snow to accumulate. High winds cause drifting at the usual places on Main Street at the north end of the village. Not much can be done to eliminate this problem. Snow fences have been used in the past without good results.
2. Water sample collection for February is complete
3. Year-end equipment reports are being completed.

Administration: (Blayden/Twiss) Motion to give holiday gift certificate to Mike Gibson and Bill Sackrider for a combined total of \$150. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved.

Discussed a reimbursement amount for employee cell phone usage for village operation. Each employee will be given \$6.00 each month. A lump sum of \$72.00 for each employee will be paid at the beginning of each fiscal year.

A 4% pay increase will be given to Mr. Gibson and Mr. Sackrider for the new fiscal year.

Park/Library: 2 Library Board member positions will be up for election on the Village Election on March 10, 2003. Those running for the Library Board will run as write-in candidates and voters will need to write the candidate names on the ballot. Those individuals considering the Library Board positions will need to contact the Clerk to obtain a "Declaration of Intent" and submit it by 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 7, 2003. Without this form, votes cannot be tallied for them.

Ms. Thompson submitted specifications on a new drinking fountain for the park to Mr. Gibson for his review and approval.

Public Safety/Fire: Keep the Law Enforcement budget at \$13600.00 for next budget year. Fire budget set at \$19,000 for next budget year.

(Blayden/Strong) Motion to set budget hearing for March 4, 2003 at 8:00 p.m. to approve the 2003-2004 budget.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m. (Blayden/Twiss)  
Scott A. Torrance – Village Clerk