

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting

March 18, 2008

Present: Trustees: David Dell, Thomas Jones, Bill Lewis, Lisa Strong, Terry Strong; President: Bill Rogers, Treasurer: Deb Wyant.

Absent: Bill Twiss.

Guests: Bruce Rolfe, Mike Gibson, Ralph Weessies, and Bill Sackrider.

Agenda: **(Jones/Dell)** Motion to approve the agenda with changes. Unanimously approved.

(Dell/L.Strong) Motion to approve the minutes of March 4, 2008. Unanimously approved.

(Lewis/T.Strong) Motion to approve the March 2008 Bill Package totaling \$11,420.30. Roll call vote: Unanimously approved

(Lewis/Jones) Motion to approve the February 2008 Treasurer's Report as presented: Major Streets = \$147,522.55; Local Streets = \$46,549.29; General Fund = \$124,708.35; Water Fund = \$87,718.46, Perpetual Care Fund = \$11,406.63; Totals = \$417,905.28. Roll Call Vote: Unanimously approved.

Communications: Letter from Consumers Energy regarding new poles and decorative lighting.

Guests: Mr. Weessies updated the council on the library's remodeling project.

Public Works:

- 1) Mr. Gibson had a meeting with the water representative from the state. The inspection went well.
- 2) Potholes have been patched and gravel spread along the shoulders. Construction on Main Street is scheduled to start in April 2008.
- 3) B&M farms will haul compost as soon as the ground hardens.
- 4) Water meters have been read.
- 5) Mr. Gibson will forward water system control bid to Trustee, Bill Lewis.

Administration:

- 1) **(L.Strong/Lewis)** Motion to have 15 copies made of the code book in accordance with the original contract with MCC and to choose the dark green binder covers. Unanimously approved.
- 2) Water ordinance change tabled until the April 1st meeting.
- 3) **(Lewis/L.Strong)** Motion to renew the website domain at a cost not to exceed \$100. Roll call vote – Unanimously approved. This amount should reserve the domain name for another 5 years.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Council meeting was suspended at 8:00 p.m. to hold the **Public Hearing** on the 2008-09 Budget. The major changes in the 2008-09 budget are:

- Lowering the millage rate from 9 mills to 8 mills – a reduction of \$13,000 to \$14,000.
- Eliminating the fire protection fee from the budget – a reduction of approximately \$27,000.

- A 1% raise for the Public Works employees.
- Discussed the consideration for a 10%, 20-year increment for employee longevity. Currently the longevity increments are: 2.5% for 5 to 9 years and 5% for 10 to 20 years. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

(Jones/L.Strong) Motion to approve the 2008-09 Village Budget as presented.

- Total General Fund revenues / expenses: \$207,336.00
- Total Major Street revenues / expenses: \$96,792.00
- Total Local Street revenues / expenses: \$26,506.00
- Total Water Fund revenues / expenses: \$90,249.00
- Grand Total all revenues / expenses: \$421,183.00

Roll call vote: Ayes – Jones, Dell, L.Strong, Rogers; Nays – Lewis and T.Strong. The 2008-09 Budget was approved 4 to 2. (Twiss – Absent)

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:30 p.m. and the Council meeting was resumed.

Public Safety/Fire:

- 1) Mr. Strong reported on the fire protection issue with the township. There may be a question of the 30-day notice of discontinuing resolution 89-4. The motion carried on January 2, 2007 reinstated the resolution until March 31, 2008 and letters to the Township Board conveyed this deadline. The Township representatives were invited to the Council meeting to discuss the progress and declined to attend.
- 2) Options:
 - Fund fire protection for one quarter. But without funds budgeted for fire protection, this option is not possible.
 - Work with Charleston Township which will work with the Village on an on-call basis.

Ordinance: Ordinance violation letters will be sent out. There have been many complaints of dogs barking and dogs without leashes.

President's time: President Rogers wants the disabled vehicle at 370 E. Maple resolved according to ordinance.

Old Business:

- 1) Complaints of children on bikes riding in streets in such a way that they pose a danger to themselves and car traffic.
- 2) Mr. Strong directed to contact the Sheriff Department and have them enforce the speed limits in the village.

New Business: There was a question directed to a councilmember regarding the demolition of a home in the commercial district. If the home was demolished, can it be rebuilt? The question will be researched further. A problem also might exist if the frontage does not meet State code.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.
Scott Torrance - Clerk