

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting

April 2, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30p

Swearing in of new council trustee – Alyssa Schwili

Present: Chaney, Kenney, Ludwig, Miller, Alyssa Schwili, Sutherland, Coburn

Absent: Kelly, Borden **Guests:** Larry Bowron, OHM, Roger Smith, Chuck Osborn, Bill Lewis

(Kenney/Sutherland) Motion to approve agenda. CARRIED

(Sutherland/Kenney) Motion to approve minutes from March 19, 2024. CARRIED

(Ludwig/Sutherland) Motion to approve bill package for a total of \$83,803.19 CARRIED – Roll Call – 6-0

Guests: *Larry Bowron, OHM* – presented information on the Quiet Zone railroad project. Discussion/questions followed.

Cost to hire OHM to do an initial analysis is \$4,238.

Roger Smith – presented information regarding requirements for variances. Discussion followed

Chuck Osborn – made comments & stated opposition to the railroad quiet zone

Bill Lewis – Reminded council that the library will be closed April 10-14 for new carpet installation; questioned if the cost of the quiet zone is the best bang for the buck for our citizens.

Communications: None.

Public Works:

- 1) Water samples/pumpage reports are done for the month
- 2) New truck picked up
- 3) Sign on E. Maple is fixed. Would like to redo other village signs.
- 4) Working on N. Main tree. Will have to use a crane to bring it down.
- 5) Sweeping the streets next week
- 6) Working on 10 foundations in the cemetery
- 7) Lyster's fixed gutters on library & hall barn
- 8) Forrest is continuing to study for his water test in May.

Streets/Sidewalks/Census: N. Church Street may need to be paved.

Parks/Cemetery/Library: Presented information and details on cost of WWII memorial. (Sutherland/Kenney) Motion to accept the quote for \$3,815.93 for all items listed for the WWII Memorial. CARRIED – roll call – 6-0; Noted that the Climax Rotary is interested in improving the old Harvester lot. It would be a long term project.

Water: No Report

Administration/Employee Relations: (Kenney/Chaney) Motion to accept Resolution 2024-01 regarding cost of living increase for treasurer & clerk. CARRIED – roll call – 6-0; interviewed Sydney Cope for treasurer's position – tabled until next meeting; informed the council that Kevin Leach resigned from his position.

Public Safety/Fire:

- 1) Homicides have increased over the past 3 years
- 2) Variety of openings for Corrections officers – sheriff's office
- 3) Aug. 19 will be the 2nd annual golf outing honoring Officer Proxmire.

Ordinances/Zoning:

- 1) 329 W. maple – demolition update – owner obtained a demo permit
- 2) Smith – no response in terms of medical evidence regarding special use for driveway
- 3) Ticket issued on Prairie Dr. - parking

Old Business: none

New Business: (Kenney/Sutherland) Motion to allow Run to Climax to use the village streets on May 27, 2024. CARRIED

(Sutherland/Chaney) Motion to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Linda Coburn, Clerk

Village of Climax

Regular Meeting

April 16, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30p

Present: Chaney, Kelly, Kenney, Ludwig, Miller, Schwili, Sutherland, Coburn, Borden

Absent: None **Guests:** Sean Perrin, Bill Lewis

(Sutherland/Kenney) Motion to approve agenda. CARRIED

(Sutherland/Schwili) Motion to approve minutes from April 2, 2024. CARRIED

(Kenney/Ludwig) Motion to approve bill package for a total of \$12,894.81 CARRIED – Roll Call – 7-0

(Kenney/Sutherland) Motion to approve treasurer's report \$921,920.41 CARRIED – Roll Call – 7-0

Guests: *Sean Perrin* – 18 calls in March, 5 medical in the village; expecting grass fires to pick up; had several questions regarding 329 W. Maple St.

Bill Lewis – seeking permission for the library to use the park for up to 6 movies this summer; movies shown will have a PG or lower rating; also inquired about installing a locked receptacle for more convenience/safety. Council agreed this would be reasonable-Bill will work with TJ on details. (Sutherland/Kelly) Motion to allow the library to show up to 6 movies in the park with a rating of PG or lower over summer of 2024. CARRIED

Communications: None.

Public Works:

- 1) Streets got cleaned last week
- 2) Tree/stump removed from 150 N. Main
- 3) Mowing/weed-whipping is in full swing
- 4) Cemetery foundations are going in – have 10 total
- 5) New truck is ready to drive
- 6) Old truck got lettering off and detailed and it looks amazing.
- 7) Park project – I will be getting on right when I get back to work!!! It will look great you guys!
- 8) Tennis net will be going up next week.
- 9) Porta-john was delivered to the park.

Streets/Sidewalks/Census:

- 1) Spoke to Mark Worden at RCKC regarding curve on MN regarding changes/construction, concern with safety. There is a project meeting at Charleston Township Hall on May 7 at 6:00pm.
- 2) Railroad Quiet Zone project – discussion – resident Cheryl Jaworski expressed her opposition. Concerns stated by trustees include emergency vehicle access, general traffic pattern, cost of the project. (Chaney/Ludwig) Motion to hire OHM Advisors for initial analysis for the Quiet Zone at a cost of \$4,238, 50% up front with 50% due at completion. CARRIED – Roll call – 5-2 (Ayes – Chaney, Ludwig, Kenney, Sutherland, Schwili; Nays – Kelly, Miller). Depending on the analysis results, the council may consider a millage to cover the cost so that this matter could be decided by a vote of the village residents.

Parks/Cemetery/Library:

- 1) Cornhole addition to the park – discussion. (Sutherland/Kenney) Motion to purchase concrete cornhole from Doty & Sons at a cost of \$1,228. CARRIED – Roll call – 4-3 (Ayes – Sutherland, Kenney, Ludwig, Schwili; Nays – Kelly, Chaney, Miller)
- 2) Short discussion regarding old Harvester lot improvement.

Water: No Report

Administration/Employee Relations:

- 1) (Kenney/Chaney) Motion to accept resolution creating a temporary deputy treasurer position. CARRIED – Roll call – 6-1 (Ayes – Kenney, Chaney, Ludwig, Sutherland, Schwili, Miller; Nays – Kelly)
- 2) Miller nominated Sydney Cope for deputy treasurer. (Kenney/Chaney) Motion to hire Sydney Cope as the deputy treasurer beginning April 15, 2024 to become treasurer as of June 1, 2024. CARRIED – Roll call – 7-0
- 3) (Kenney/Chaney) Motion to add Sydney Cope as a signer to the bank accounts and online banking access. CARRIED – Roll call – 7-0
- 4) (Kenney/Chaney) Motion to pay Sydney Cope the current treasurer wage for ½ of April and the full month of May. CARRIED – Roll call – 7-0

Public Safety/Fire:

- 1) Kalamazoo County Sheriff personnel will be on site for the demo at 329 W. Maple St.
- 2) Lt. VanZile will be attending one of our meetings in May.
- 3) This is National Call Center Week
- 4) MSP & MDHHS partnered to purchase 75,000 cable style gun locks. Ref. PA17 of 2023 These locks are available free of charge. Visit projectchildsafes.org for more information.
- 5) April is Distracted Driving Awareness month.

Ordinances/Zoning:

- 1) 329 W. Maple St. – Miller read a statement (see attached). Demo company will complete demolition and the cost of these services will be paid by the village and recorded as a lien on the property.
- 2) Ashlee Smith filed a discrimination complaint, the village attorney prepared and sent a response as requested.
- 3) Kenney commented as a citizen that the work of enforcing ordinances and encouraging the residents of the village to maintain property does not go unnoticed and is appreciated.

Old Business: Trustees were reminded to review the information regarding a new website provider.

New Business:

- 1) Sealed bids for the 2013 Ford F150 were opened. Three bids were received, one via USPS and two via village drop box. (Ludwig/Chaney) Motion to accept the bid from Butler Bilt Farms – Patrick Butler – for the 2013 Ford F150 in the amount of \$5,001.49. CARRIED – Roll call – 7-0.
- 2) Arlene Vonhout submitted a letter of interest to fill any vacant trustee positions.

(Sutherland/Chaney) Motion to adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

Linda Coburn, Clerk