

TOWN OF THORNTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 5, 2024
7:00 PM

The February 5, 2024, meeting of the Council of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Council Vice President, Dave Williams, at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held at the Thorntown Town Hall, 101 W. Main St., Thorntown, IN. The Council and citizens joined together in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were in attendance:

Sara Fairfield, absent	Dax Norton, Consultant
Dave Williams, Council	Frank Clark, Marshal
Bruce Burtner, Council	Max Allen, USB
Shawn McClintock, Council	Gary Moody, Utility Supt.
Larry Truitt, Council	Don Gray, APC
Koren Gray, Clerk/Treasurer	Drew Guenther, Bldg. Inspector
Amy Nooning, Attorney -Zoom	Peter DeMass - RDC
	2 citizens

Presentations/Guests:

Mark Sullivan, Midwestern Engineering, presented the invoice for Striegel Construction and Design for the lagoon site trenching. The invoice totals \$110,000.00. Mark also presented the final invoice for the original wastewater lagoon project for Midwestern Engineering. Midwestern Engineering will not have additional invoicing for the liner project. Mark also shared a little about how the new lagoon operates.

Public Comments/Concerns:

None

Department/Board and Commissions Reports:

(NO REPORTS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH MEETING)

Advisory Plan Commission:

Don Gray reported that Braden Nicholson, owner of 2 properties in the downtown area, would like to relist as 111 East Main St., and 113 East Main St.

Police: (Report previously submitted to Council)

Frank reported the tenants of a Vine St. property have vacated the property. The new owners have taken possession. Frank also reported that he and Building Inspector, Drew Guenther, have been working on a couple of code violations.

Fire:

No representative present

Utilities:

Max, USB, reported they have started a water study for rates. He also advised the utilities are still trying to obtain a generator for the water plant.

Building Inspector:

Not present but is asking Council about an extension on a permit. The Sugar Creek Art Center obtained a permit for a building sign. The permit has now expired. The Art Center has asked if they need to apply for another permit or could they get an extension. Dave made a motion to allow one additional year on the existing permit. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Park Board:

No representative present

Storm Water Board:

Clerk/Treasurer, Koren Gray, reported on the alley between Thorntown Pizza King and Salon on 47. This alley is holding water when we have rains. BFS Engineering is working on the situation to determine a solution for draining this water.

Sanitary Sewer:

Dax reported that another MS Consultants colleague is reviewing the camera footage. AccuDig also provided a report.

Clerk/Treasurer:

Nothing to report

Consultant Report:

Dax advised we are in need of a Widi adapter for our Owl as well as a laptop for the Town Hall meeting room. Shawn made a motion to allow the purchase of needed technology equipment not to exceed \$2000. Larry made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Consent Agenda:

Listed on the Consent Agenda were minutes from December 18, 2023, December 26, 2023, and January 8, 2024. The APV register of claims and payroll dockets were also on the agenda. Bruce made a motion to approve the minutes from all 3 meetings. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 4-0. Shawn made a motion to approve the APV Register and the Payroll Docket. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Unfinished Business:

In regard to the discussion of reorganizing the governments of the Town of Thorntown and Sugar Creek Township, Larry made a motion to reply to Sugar Creek Township Trustee, Lynn Davis, that yes, Thorntown is interested in discussing this issue further. Dave made a second. Motion passed 4-0. Dave will contact Lynn.

The Clerk/Treasurer reviewed some of the language updates to the Employee Handbook. Some updates include the method of pay for Town employees will be Direct Deposit. The Town and Utility

Department pay 90% of the employees' health insurance premium. It will be added to the handbook that if a covered spouse is eligible for Medicare, the Town and Utility Department will also pay 90% of that premium. Shawn made a motion to accept the updates/changes to the Employee Handbook. Larry made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

The Council had previously approved Krohn & Associates to conduct a utility study for an impact fee, however, the paperwork had not been signed. Bruce made a motion for Dave, as Vice President, to sign the document. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Shawn asked if we had any further information on plans for April 8, the eclipse day. No one has heard of any plans.

New Business:

Ordinance 2024-1, Establishing Late Fees in regard to the Sewer Utility was presented for the first read. The second reading will be February 19, 2024.

Ordinance 2024-2, Establishing Late Fees in regard to the StormWater Utility was presented for the first read. The second reading will be February 19, 2024.

Ordinance 2024-3, Establishing Late Fes in regard to the Electric Utility was presented for the first read. The second reading will be February 19, 2024.

Ordinance 2024-4, Amending the Town Holiday Schedule was presented for the first read. The second reading will be February 19, 2024.

Ordinance 2024-5, amending the Blanket Bond and Crime Insurance Policy was presented for the first read. The second reading will be February 19, 2024.

The contract from Boone County Economic Development Corporation was presented. Bruce made a motion to continue this contract with the BCEDC with a \$1000 service fee. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-1 with Dave voting nay.

Resolution 2024-1, A Resolution Approving the Transfer of Funds Between Funds, in regard to utilities transferring funds from operating to depreciation was read. Dave made a motion to allow the transfer of funds. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Resolution 2024-2, A Resolution for Transfer of Funds for Year End was read. Council decided to table until February 19, 2024.

Public Hearing:

Vice President, Dave Williams, opened a Public Hearing at 7:56. This Public Hearing was in regard to Ordinances, 2024-1, 2024-2, 2024-3, which puts into print the utility late fees calculations. With no comments from the public, Dave closed the Public Hearing at 7:59.

Other Business:

Dave asked the Council and public, "What do we want Thorntown to look like in 10-20-40-50 years. Something to ponder.

Max, USB, mentioned we have been borrowing the leaf vac for several years. The Utilities would be willing to help pay for a leaf vac for the Town to own.

Adjournment:

With no other business to be presented, Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Sara Fairfield
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk/Treasurer

Date _____