

TOWN OF THORNTOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
May 1, 2023  
7:00 PM

The May 1, 2023, meeting of the Council of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Council President, Sara Fairfield, 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, Council	Dax Norton, Consultant
Dave Williams, Council	Frank Clark, Marshal
Bruce Burtner, Council	Robby Viergutz, Deputy
Shawn McClintock, Council	MJ Fairfield, Park
Larry Truitt, Council	1 citizen
Koren Gray, Clerk/Treasurer	

**Presentations/Guests:**

None

**Public Comments/Concerns:**

None

**Consent Agenda:**

None

**Public Hearing:**

None

**Department/Board and Commissions Reports:**  
(NO REPORTS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH MEETING)

**Advisory Plan Commission:**

**Police:** (Report previously submitted to Council)

**Fire:**

**Utilities:**

**Park Board:**

**Storm Water Board:**

**Sanitary Sewer:**

**Clerk/Treasurer:**

Nothing to report

**Consultant Report:**

Nothing at this time.

**Unfinished Business:**

It was reported that the Sugar Creek Township Fire Department has been reinstated since the last meeting of April 17. Sugar Creek Trustee, Lynn Davis, handled this paperwork situation. The government is still working to clear the Thorntown Fire Department.

John Merson, Witham Memorial Hospital EMS, is working with Steve Whittinghill to file the appropriate paperwork for our fire department responders and medical runs.

Clerk/Treasurer, Koren Gray, was asked to reach out to Smith Trash Service regarding Town Clean-up Day.

Sara made a motion to provide a counter offer to nominee, Drew Guenther, for the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement/Facility Maintenance Operator, of \$54,000 with a \$3000 increase after obtaining certifications. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

**New Business:**

None

**Strategic Thoughts:**

The meeting continued with discussion over some of the Council's strategic thoughts including reorganization with townships stating the #1 priority is speaking with the Township Trustee and Township Boards. The system process: Resolution of Intent to Reorganize must be created by Town, Sugar Creek Township and Washington Township. A plan would then be drafted followed with a referendum. Larry will discuss with townships and provide an update May 15.

Kevin Smith has signed a contract to sell his building located on Main St. to the Town for \$19,500. The attorneys are negotiating a closing date. The Town agreed to waive all building code fees previously incurred.

There are no definitive plans for dispersing the READI funds. It is a match of equal sums from the grant, the Town, and a third-party investor. The question of "Can the waived building code fines be considered as a part of the Town match?" This will need to be researched.

The Rental Registration Program will keep a holding place on the agenda for future reference. A couple of things that would need to be done are locate all rental properties, and the owner must register all rental properties with the Town. Inspection would be between tenants.

The Park Improvement Plan was discussed. MJ advised roofing and bathroom repair were completed last fall. The tennis court is in poor shape, the mower needs work, and the basketball courts need resurfacing/sealed. It would cost \$600,000-\$700,000 to totally modernize and be ADA compliant. LWCF does offer a grant we could apply for. The Town could apply for a General Obligation bond to pay the Town match to the grant.

A Park Impact fee ordinance is needed for new home build.

A building/facilities assessment is needed to show ways we can utilize the space we have to its best potential.

The Council also needs to consider getting started on the EDUs for water, wastewater, new build.

**Other Business:**

None

**Adjournment:**

With no other business to be presented, Dave Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm. Bruce Burtner made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

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Sara Fairfield  
Council President

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Koren Gray  
Clerk/Treasurer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_