

TOWN OF THORNTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
August 15, 2022
7:00 PM

The August 15, 2022, 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	Amy Nooning, Town Attorney	Gary Moody, Utl. Supt.
Bruce Burtner - Council	Dax Norton – MS Consultants	Jerry Seymour, Bild. Inspt.
Dave Williams - Council	Oksana Polhuy – MS Consultants	George Gideon – Utility Board
Shawn McClintock – Council	Frank Clark – Marshal	Max Allen – Utility Board
Larry Truitt - Council	Robby Viertgutz - Deputy	Mike Martin – Fire Dept.
Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer	Don Gray - APC	2 citizens
Ben Roeger – CL Coonrod CPA		Angie Moody – Festival Committee

Presentations/Guests:

Angie Moody with the Turning of the Leaves Festival Committee, announced the festival will be September 23, 24, 25, 2022. They usually request from the State to close State Road 47 from State Road 75 to Pearl Street. The Committee is also requesting a portion of Market St. be closed, same as in the past. Plenty of activities are being planned. The 2023 festival will be the 50th anniversary of the Festival. Bruce made a motion to allow the closure of part of Market St. and to use the public restrooms at the Town Hall. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comments/Concerns:

No public comments

Shawn made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 1, meeting. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Department/Board and Commissions Reports:

(NO REPORTS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH MEETING)

Utilities:

Max discussed utility salaries and amending the salary ordinance to reflect a range of hourly rates rather than just one rate. He is planning to propose a raise for the utility laborers. An increase in the on-call rate is also being considered. The Utility Board has requested a quote from IMPA for them to handle our electric needs. The quote is \$120,750.00 annual fee. We will also be responsible to provide funding for materials and supplies.

Park Board:

Park Board Secretary, Lisa Vitaniemi, advised the summer programs have been completed. The Park Board would like to continue with a contract with the Little League for 2023. Lisa thanked Angie and the previous Park Board for making arrangement for mats and installations. She also thanked Jeremy Young for repairing the park restroom. The Park Board would like to hold a horseshoe tournament on Labor Day. Plans are still being made.

Advisory Plan Commission:

Oksana Polhuy spoke on behalf of the APC. Their August 8th, meeting was an educational session discussing items needing attention. There will be a hearing August 29, regarding amendments for planning and zoning. A special meeting of the Town Council will need to be planned to move forward with the APC and zoning amendments.

Storm Water Board:

Nothing to report

Police:

Marshal Clark discussed the quotes that were submitted for a new vehicle for the PD. At this time, he is looking to trade in a current older vehicle. Frank presented quotes for a Ford F150, a quote for a 2023 Chev Tahoe, and a quote for a Chev from Andy Mohr. Frank advised he would like to have the Ford F150 quoted at \$46,040.76. The vehicle will be paid for from the LIT Public Safety Fund. Shawn made a motion to allow the purchase of the Ford F150. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Frank also advised he has sent out a couple of abatement notices.

Fire:

Mike Martin, Fire Chief, reported there have been 335 runs to date. August 20, will be the annual Fish Fry. The departments has brought on 3 ladies and 3 men to the Fire Department. Chief Martin advised there is a crack in the drive and they would like to get that repaired before winter. The department is trying out some new extrication tools.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report:

The Clerk/Treasurer advised the \$500,000 received from the County has been moved into a Fund of its own. The second disbursement of the AARP funds will be coming soon. The CT reported she will be participating in a couple of webinar workshops this month.

Consent Agenda:**Unfinished Business:****New Business:**

Revisions need to be reviewed for the Employee Handbook for 2023. Sara asked if anyone would like to join the CT in this task. Shawn McClintock volunteered.

Sara announced she would like to start in September and have a Council meeting the first Monday and the third Monday each month going into 2023. Sara made a motion to hold 2 meetings per month. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Also, for new business Ben Roeger, the Town CPA, was present to hold a budget workshop. Ben explained the projected revenue for 2023. Sara also brought up using ARPA funds to pay premium pay for the Town employees. Larry made a motion that we pay premium pay to the Town employees (elected officials are excluded from premium pay). Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0. An additional appropriation will be needed as well as a salary ordinance amendment. The Clerk/Treasurer will have a draft budget report ready for the September 7, meeting.

It is that time of year to advertise for snow removal for the 2022-2023 winter season. The CT has the newspaper article ready to publish with a deadline of September 16. The bid form and information can be picked up at the Town Hall – Clerk/Treasurer’s Office. Council was okay with the advertisement.

Discussion ensued regarding the Town Court. Dave made a motion to abolish the Court. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Other Business:

Adjournment:

With no other business to be presented, Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Sara Fairfield
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk/Treasurer

Date: _____