

Town of Thorntown
Town Council Meeting
October 5, 2020
7:00 pm

The October 5, 2020, meeting of the Council of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Council President, Bruce Burtner, at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held at the Sugar Creek Art Center, 127 S. Pearl St., Thorntown, IN. The Council and citizens joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were in attendance:

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|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Bruce Burtner - Council | Amy Nooning | |
| Sara Fairfield - Council | Angie Moody – Parks/ Comm. Dev. Dir. | Elise Neishalla – County Council |
| Carol Keith - Council | Frank Clark - Marshal | |
| Dave Williams - Council | | |
| Mark Garing – Council | | |
| Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer | | |

Guests:

Elise Neishalla – Boone County Council – Shared the plans for upgrades and repairs to several bridges and culverts in the County. This is a 7-8 year process. This project will be funded with a Debt Service Levy. Elise reported that Boone County has the lowest tax rate in the state of Indiana.

Midwestern Engineering: Contract tabled until October 19. Mark Sullivan was called during the meeting to be included on some discussion. We were discussing language regarding how payment would be made to Midwestern Engineering; the Option to Purchase Document has received by the landowners, and the possibility of annexing the wastewater lagoon property.

Approval of Minutes:

Carol made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 17, 2020, Town Council meeting. Mark made a second. Motion passed 4-0. Sara Fairfield abstained as she was absent August 17.

Sara made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2020, Town Council meeting. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Comments/Concerns:

Angie brought up discussion regarding Halloween Trick or Treat hours. Sara made a motion that trick or treating would be Saturday, October 31, from 5:00-8:00 pm. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Reports:

Utility (Gary Moody) 3rd Monday) -

In Gary's absence, Angie reported the utilities are planning to flush hydrants the week of October 19th.

Park and Community Development (Angie Moody) –

-Park: The Park Board received a grant from B. C. MIBOR for the Born Learning Trail. The Boone EDC and MIBOR Realtors will be installing as part of the Boone EDC Day of Service, October 8.

- Community Development:

-Angie is working with Calumet on the extra plans with the extra funds from the Plum St. Project

-We have issued ROW permit to Comcast

-The American Legion would like to hang their sign over the stairway door, flush with the building. It previously hung on the front of the building facing Main St. The Council did not have an issue with re-hanging the sign on the east side of the building.

-Angie mentioned she has received 3 complaints regarding a trailer in the trailer park on Church St. Frank will speak with the owner of the property.

WASTEWATER PROJECT

Nothing additional to report.

WAVE - We All Value Each-other (Glen Jewell, Lisa Mohler) – not in attendance

Planning Commission (Shawn McClintock)

Shawn absent. Nothing to report.

Storm Water Board (Bruce Burtner, Ben Strong, Sara Fairfield)

Nothing new to report.

Police Department (Frank Clark) –

-Report sent via email

- Nothing additional to report

Fire Department (Mike Martin – Fire Chief) – not in attendance

Clerk/Treasurer (Koren Gray)

- Financial reports were included in the Council packet.

- Resolution 2020-7, to Abolish Dormant Fund was presented. This Resolution allowed movement of monies in the Excess Levy Fund from 2014 and 2015 to be moved into the General Fund. Mark made a motion to adopt the Resolution 2020-7. Sara made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

- JJ Keller is the company we used in 2020 to provide our Employment posters that are required to be hung in the workplace. Our renewal will be coming up soon. Koren proposed we renew for a longer period than one year. This company was very good in 2020 keeping me updated and provided updated posters during the COVID-19 adjustments. We do get a break in price for renewing for 3 or 5 years. Mark made a motion to renew for a 3 year term at a cost of \$147.30. Sara made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

-Koren did call Jim Smith Electrical and needed to leave a message. Jim left a return message he will get in contact with Gary Moody.

-The garage door is ordered and possible install will be the week of October 19.

- Amy Noonning, our Town Attorney, advised that a new government program has been introduced. We can now submit and be reimbursed for the payroll from March 1 – September 30.

Unfinished Business:

Employee Handbook – Koren and Dennis spoke October 5, regarding the final misc. spellings, etc. Koren can fix those now. Handbook is ready to send to Sara Blevins, the HR Attorney.

IMPA - Bruce read the second reading of Ordinance 2020-9, regarding the IMPA contract extension until 2050. Bruce made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Carol made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Annexation of property S. SR 75 – Angie reported that Gary contacted REMC and they are to get back with Gary.

Questions/Comments regarding the 2021 Budget – Bruce stated he wanted the Professional Fees to be increased to \$22,000 to accommodate the CPA and Town Attorney. He also wanted the budget appropriation for the Comm. Dev. Dir. to be lowered to \$26,500 rather than \$28,000 as he believes her pay will not extend the \$26,500. The Budget adoption is scheduled for October 19. The Budget must be adopted by November 2.

Health Insurance renewal – Sara made a motion to continue with the same coverage as we did in 2020, and the Town will pay 90% and employee 10%. Motion seconded by Carol. Motion passed 5-0. We may look into additional policies next renewal.

Regarding stop sign on Bow Street around Powell or Elm – Frank reported he is not sure a stop sign is needed according to the research the Police Dept. with the portable speed sign. The Council decided to go with Frank's recommendation.

Handicap parking in front of Cynthia's Salon – Dave advised that the handicap spot is closer to Cynthia's front door than he originally believed.

New Business:

Bids for the LPR and Dodge Charger – no bids received at this time. Notice to bidders was published in the Lebanon Reporter September 17 and September 24. A copy of the notice is attached.

Ordinance 2020-10 – Amend Salary Ordinance, was read. This ordinance will allow spouses the opportunity to have Town health insurance regardless if they can obtain health insurance from their own employer. Sara made a motion to include spouses on health insurance coverage. Dave made a second. Motion passed 3-2 with Carol Keith and Mark Garing voting nay. Sara made a motion to suspend the rules for a second reading. Mark made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Sara made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-10, Amending the Salary Ordinance to allow spouses health insurance coverage. Dave made a second. Motion passed 4-1 with Mark Garing voting nay.

The snow removal contract was signed by Council President, Bruce Burtner.

TABLED ITEMS FOR THE FUTURE

Comp Time Ordinance needs amended to Police Comp Time – Amy will prepare an updated ordinance to be in line with our employee handbook once the handbook is adopted.

Establish a Board of Zoning Appeals – The Planning Advisory Board needs to set up a Public Hearing.

Claims were signed.

Adjournment:

Mark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:31pm. Carol made a second to the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Bruce Burtner
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk-Treasurer