

Town of Thorntown
Town Council Meeting
October 19 2020
7:00 pm

The October 19, 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 | Mark Sullivan –Midwestern Engineering |
| Sara Fairfield - Council –via phone | Angie Moody – Parks/ Comm. Dev. Dir. | Mike Kleinpeter – Kleinpeter Consulting |
| Carol Keith - Council – via phone | Frank Clark - Marshal | Harold Cox – Utility Board |
| Dave Williams - Council | Shawn McClintock – Planning Comm. | |
| Mark Garing – Council | Gary Moody – Utility Supt. | |
| Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer - absent | Derek Babcock – Dep. Chief | |

Approval of Minutes:

Mark Garing made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 5, 2020 meeting. Sara made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Sara and Carol both were on vacation and participated via telephone through most of the meeting. Later in the meeting they needed to disconnect due to poor service.

Guests:

Mike Kleinpeter – Kleinpeter Consulting was present to lead in discussion regarding the Wastewater Project. Bruce opened the Wastewater Hearing at this time. This Hearing was published in The Lebanon Reporter October 3, 2020. Mike explained the purpose of the Wastewater Project and the financial needs for the project. Mike is our Grant Writer and helping us to procure proper documentation for submitting an OCRA Grant. The deadline for submission is November 20, 2020. Mike read Resolution 2020-9, Resolution Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment. The local funds needed for this project are \$1,371,485. \$66,000 from the Sewage Utility Operating Funds and \$1,305,485 from the State Revolving Loan Funds as matching funds for said program, all to be contingent upon receipt of WDW funding from the Indiana Office of Community Rural Affairs. Mark made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-9. Sara made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Mike advised that there are 5 things that must be received to apply for the OCRA grant: 1) Local match, 2) Environmental Review, 3) Survey, 4) Land Acquisition (Option to Purchase), 5) Preliminary Engineering Report. At this time all are completed except #4. The Town is still in negotiation with the land owners. Angie shared a draft proposal from Gary and Jackie Lanpher regarding the land purchase. Mark made a motion to draft a letter of intent to be given to the Lanpher’s making a commitment to purchase an additional approximate 6 acres adjacent to the approximate 9 acres needed for the wastewater project. Purchase of the additional acreage is a requisite from the landowner. Dave made a second to draft the letter of intent. Motion passed 5-0. Attorney Amy Nooning will work with the Lanpher’s to draft the letter of intent. Sara made a motion to allow Town Council President, Bruce Burtner, to sign the letter of intent once it is completed. Mark made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Mark Sullivan, Midwestern Engineering was present as a representative of the engineering firm. Mark read Resolution 2020-8, SRF Loan Program Preliminary Engineering Report (PER). Sara made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-8. Mark made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Mark and Mike both interjected timeline dates. If the Town signs the engineering contract with Midwestern Engineering in November, bidding should

be ready to go in February. The Council agrees with the engineering contract but would like to wait to sign after the Option to Purchase is signed. Mark advised soil borings would need to be completed and is hoping the ground does not freeze before this step can be completed. Mark mentioned SRF sent out questions to Bruce and himself. Mark will take care of those questions.

The Public Hearing was closed.

Harold Cox, President of the Utility Board, announced that Mike Hankins has submitted his resignation from the Utility Board effective October 16, 2020. Harold would like to recommend Max Allen to take Mike's seat on the Board. Dave made a motion to accept the nomination of Max Allen. Mark made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Harold advised that Koren could swear in Max.

Comments/Concerns:

Mark Garing spoke about the upcoming election and that the Town Council has 2 seats open as of January 1. He mentioned each candidate that is on the ballot.

Dave made a comment that the research he has done regarding a Solar Park or Solar Field generates approximately 3% of emergency used in the country. Dave is not in favor of soliciting for a Solar Park/Field.

Reports:

Utility (Gary Moody) 3rd Monday) Thorntown Utility can provide service to the property south of the current Fire Department building for Dickerson Custom Trucking. Gary advised the electric service is estimated at \$26,000, 2 grinding pumps at \$25,000-30,000, and water feed at \$65.00. He also mentioned a possible renovation of Thorntown Elementary. This reno could be involved with the water update. Dave asked if 10" piping would be enough for both, Dickerson and Thorntown Elementary. Gary said yes it should be plenty. The electric would be installed over SR 75.

- Leaf pick up will begin October 20 and continue through November.

Park and Community Development (Angie Moody) –

-Park: The Born Learning Trail is complete. The ribbon cutting ceremony will be held October 26th. The Tom Johnson Memorial park in Thorntown is the only park in the state of Indiana to have such a trail.

- Products purchased from the Grants awarded are now being received.

- Tables at the park have been painted

- Some vandalism has occurred at the Park therefor the restrooms are being closed a little earlier now

- Community Development:

- The Plum Street punch list is almost completed

- Michael Wines has obtained his building permit for the addition to garage

- KPW had decided to continue with the Halloween Parade/contest. They will make proper arrangements

- WAVE – the plumbing on the second story has started

WASTEWATER PROJECT

Nothing additional to report here.

Planning Commission (Shawn McClintock) Shawn, on behalf of the Commission, requested that the Town waive permit fees for the WAV as they are a non-profit. The Town would end up paying the Building Inspector since there would not be any previous fees collected. Mark made a motion to waive the permit fees for WAVE. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

The Commission has discussed Air BNB's. Shawn advised in his research that the law allows anyone to operate an Air BNB. Some towns require a permit to operate the Air BNB.

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

Nothing new to report.

Police Department (Frank Clark) – Frank reported that he is working with the Boone County Health Department regarding a trailer located at 401 W. Church St. He has also addressed a couple of cars parked along Market St.

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

Clerk/Treasurer (Koren Gray) not in attendance

- Financial reports were included in the Council packet via email

Unfinished Business:

Bids for the LPR and Dodge Charger – Bruce did receive a bid for the 2010 Charger. It was received on time. The bid was for \$1031.00, however, the minimum bid was set at \$2000.00. The Council rejected the bid as it did not meet the minimum requirements. Mark made a motion to reject the bid. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 3-0. Sara and Carol disconnected at this time.

- Bids were not received for the LPR, however, the Boone County Sheriff's Department is interested and are working with Marshal Clark.

Employee Handbook – nothing new at this time

Annexation of property S. SR 75 –nothing new to address at this time

Handicap parking in front of Cynthia's Salon – nothing new to address at this time

New Business:

Budget Adoption – The Professional Services appropriation was increased from \$20,000 to \$22,000 and the Community Director appropriation was changed from \$28,000 to \$26,500. Sara made a motion to accept the 2021 Budget, Ordinance 2020-11. Carol made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

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 8:35pm. Dave made a second to the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Bruce Burtner
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk-Treasurer