

Town of Thorntown
Town Council Meeting
December 21, 2020
7:00 pm

The December 21, 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:

Bruce Burtner - Council	Amy Nooning – via phone/Zoom	Mike McKenzie – Utility Board
Sara Fairfield - Council	Angie Moody – Parks/ Comm. Dev. Dir.	
Carol Keith - Council	Frank Clark - Marshal	
Dave Williams – Council	Gary Moody – Utility Supt.	
Mark Garing – Council	Max Allen – Utility Board	
Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer	George Gideon – Utility Board	

Approval of Minutes:

Sara Fairfield made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 7, 2020 meeting. Carol made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Guests:

Anita Gordon, Town Logo artist, was present. Anita was thanked for creating our logo. Bruce read the Memorandum of Understanding. This memorandum resolves that Anita is the talented artist who designed our logo. The Town may use the logo however they wish in promoting the town. Anita donated this artwork to the Town of Thorntown. The memorandum was signed by Council President, Bruce Burtner, and Artist, Anita Gordon.

The newest Utility Board member, Mike McKenzie, was present to be sworn in by Clerk/Treasurer, Koren Gray. Shawn McClintock and Larry Truitt will be the newest Council members as of January 1, 2021. They were also sworn in by the Clerk/Treasurer.

Comments/Concerns: None

Reports:

Utility (Gary Moody) 3rd Monday) -While doing the Christmas lights it was discovered that approximately 6 bricks were loose atop the Smith building. Gary advised that perhaps if those bricks were removed maybe we could remove the barricades on Main St. Would we need the building inspected to be able to provide a safe atmosphere and remove the barricades? Angie will contact Kevin Smith first about the bricks. We will discuss further January 18.

Community Development (Angie Moody) – Angie made note the Town received the OCRA grant for the wastewater project. She thanked everyone who was involved in making this happen. Mark Sullivan, Midwestern Engineering is already working on the design.

- BFS and the Community Crossing Grant 2019 have been closed and all paperwork filed.

-A Road Inventory map has been submitted to INDOT

- It has been announced that to be eligible for a Community Crossing Grant in the future the Town needs to be ADA and Title VI compliant. We have received some information to join Indiana ADA and Title VI. Angie will check with BFS to see if this organization would be helpful. Angie will participate in a virtual workshop at a registration of \$25.00.

-Angie has been in contact with INDOT regarding some ramps they installed this past summer. We feel some of these ramps could be a trip hazard.

Park Board (Natalie Faudree, Ali Keith, Angie Bascom)

-Angie Moody announced they would be tabling the Dog Park for a little while. We did check, and our liability insurance would cover a Dog Park at an extra premium.

- Angie M. has spoken with Apex regarding a new camera service for the Park. The Park Board will be moving forward and use the balance of their 2020 appropriation for part of the cost.

At this time Sara Fairfield discussed a grant opportunity of \$250,000. It is an OCRA grant, COVID Response Program Phase 3. If awarded we can give eligible local businesses up to \$10,000 each to help with loss of income during the pandemic. Kleinpeter Consulting would help in applying for the Grant at a fee of \$2000. The due date is January 29. Kleinpeter would receive a percentage of the Grant. We will need a hearing in February. Carol doesn't think we can pass up an opportunity to help our businesses. Sara made a motion to proceed with the application. Carol made a second. Motion passed 4-0. Dave Williams abstained from the vote as he is a local businessman.

WASTEWATER PROJECT

Nothing to report

Planning Commission (Don Gray) - Angie spoke on behalf of the Planning Commission advising Eric Smith will be joining the Planning Advisory Commission.

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

Gary mentioned Sam Pursel has a low spot that holds water. He would like for us to look into it. Mr. Pursel would like to build a garage in this respective area in the future.

Police Department (Frank Clark) -Nothing new to report

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

Clerk/Treasurer (Koren Gray) - Financial reports were included in the Council packet

-We have Resolution 2020-15, A Resolution Encumbering Funds, to encumber \$29,683.42, of LIT Police Public Safety funds for the purchase of the 2021 Tahoe. The Resolution was read by Bruce. Carol made a motion to encumber the funds. Sara made a second to the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

- We have received our \$50,000 for reimbursement of Police salaries March 1 – September 30, 2020. We will need to do an additional appropriation for the expenditure of it. We need to create a line to pay out our police comp time. We could apply some to the 2021 salaries. Appropriating some to the 2021 salaries would free up some General Fund money. We need to think about how we would like to appropriate the funds.

- State Board of Accounts has contacted me regarding our audit for 2018-2019. We will be having a virtual meeting December 22. I have asked Dave to join as a Council Rep since he is here in town.

- We are still waiting on the second half of the Property Tax disbursement.
- Suzy will be helping me December 30, with some of the year end duties.

Unfinished Business:

Building Inspector contract tabled for January 21st.

We had the second reading of Ordinance 2020-13, Salary Ordinance. Carol made a motion to accept the Salary Ordinance as written. Sara made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business:

A Special meeting will be needed to elect new officers for 2021. New Council officers must be elected by January 15. The Council will meet January 4, 2021, 6:00 pm, at the Town Hall. Meeting notice will be posted on the website and in town.

Acknowledgements:

Mark Garing remarked it has been an honor and privilege for 5 years to serve on this Council. Carol agrees. Both believe everyone should try being on the Town Council.

Mark and Carol were thanked for their service. Also, Mike Hankins and Harold were thanked for their service on the Utility Board.

Claims were signed.

TABLED ITEMS FOR THE FUTURE

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

Comp Time Ordinance needs amended to Police Comp Time – Amy and Koren will work on this update and present in January.

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

Adjournment: Sara made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm. Carol made a second to the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Bruce Burtner
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk-Treasurer