

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

The December 7, 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 Noonung – via phone/Zoom	
Sara Fairfield - Council	Angie Moody – Parks/ Comm. Dev. Dir.	
Carol Keith - Council	Frank Clark - Marshal	
Dave Williams – Council – absent (was able to listen via Zoom)	Robby Viergutz - Deputy	
Mark Garing – Council		
Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer		

**Approval of Minutes:**

Sara Fairfield made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 16, 2020 meeting. Carol made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

**Guests:**

George Gideon – Utility Board –Brought the Street Department quarterly stipend to the attention of the Council. Currently the Street Department stipend is being paid from electric, water and sewer utilities. The Utility Department believes this payment should be made from the Town not the utilities. The Clerk/Treasurer advised that the MVH (Motor Vehicle Highway Fund) could pay the Street Department stipend. Sara made a motion to pay the Street Department stipend for 2021 from the MVH Fund. Mark made a second. Motion passed 4-0. Since the Town will take responsibility for the Street Department stipend they will also receive a 5% raise effective January 1. The new rate will be \$811.12 and will be reflected in the Salary Ordinance for 2021.

George also advised the Utility Board would like to recommend Mike McKenzie as the replacement for Harold Cox who will resign effective December 31, 2020. Mark made a motion to accept the recommendation of Mike McKenzie. Sara made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

**Comments/Concerns:**

None

**Reports:**

Utility (Gary Moody) 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)

**Park and Community Development** (Angie Moody, Natalie Faudree) –

-Park:

- The Park Board reviewed the many things they have accomplished this year including but not limited to the Born Learning Trail, the drive to the small shelter house, and painting the picnic tables. Some of the updates to the park were accomplished due to grants the Park Department received.

-The Park Board also presented a drawing of a parcel adjacent to the Big 4 Trail along N. Pearl St. The Park Board is requesting the Town Council allow the Park Board to make a dog park in this area. It is Town owned property and is 1.64 acres. Sara thought we should check on the Town's liability of such a park. Angie said signage "Use at Your Own Risk" would be present. Sara also is concerned about the homeowners in the neighborhood. She recommends a letter be sent to them regarding the dog park. The letter should be certified.

- Community Development:

-Angie has the info for the Road inventory. BFS will help us with the Road Inventory at a cost of \$500. This Road Inventory will update the North Market Streets issue. The post office said changing to suffix to Lane rather than Street would not be an issue. Carol made a motion to pay BFS \$500 for updating the Road Inventory. Mark made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

- BFS updated PASER ratings and has helped submit information to LTAP prior to December 1, annual deadline.

- Angie presented a response letter for our non-compliance violation from IDEM explaining our wastewater plans. This letter was signed by Bruce as the Council President.

-Emily from IMPA would like to come in February to discuss a Solar Park. The Utility Board will be included in this meeting.

- The appraisal/survey for the additional 6 acres is still in process.

## **WASTEWATER PROJECT**

December 17, 2020, is the award day for the OCRA Grant.

### **Planning Commission (Don Gray)**

Nothing reported

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

Nothing new to report

### **Police Department (Frank Clark)**

-Frank advised the new Tahoe will be here after the first of the year

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

### **Clerk/Treasurer (Koren Gray)**

-Financial reports were included in the Council packet

- We have received the \$50,000 Police Salary reimbursement offered by the Indiana Finance Authority. It is not reflected in the current financial reports.

-Midwestern Engineering normally hosts a client appreciation dinner but is not holding the dinner this year due to the COVID. However, they have made a donation to the Boone County Community Foundation in honor of the Town of Thorntown.

-The printed and bound Employee Handbook was shown to the Council. The handbook will be dispersed at a later date.

## **Unfinished Business:**

Ordinance 2020-12 – Amend Park Board –The second reading took place at the December 7, Council meeting. The meetings will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday and has been updated in the second reading. Sara made a motion to accept Ordinance 2020-12. Carol made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Building Inspector contract – An Agreement for Permitting and Building Inspections Services was approved by the Council. Amy discovered where she would like to add a word and make a couple of spelling corrections. Mark made a motion to accept the changes and the Building Inspector agreement. Carol made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

### **New Business:**

Resolution 2020-14, Police Car Usage was presented and read by Bruce and Sara. Sara made a motion to accept the Resolution 2020-14. Carol made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Salary Ordinance 2020-13 was presented and the first reading was read by Bruce. The second reading will be read December 21.

The Holiday Schedule for 2021 was presented. The schedule is the same as 2020. It is also listed in the 2021 Employee Handbook. Mark made a motion to accept the Holiday Schedule. Carol made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

The 2021 meeting schedule was set. The Town Council will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the even numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, December). Sara made a motion to accept the 2021 meeting schedule. Mark made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

A Letter of Engagement from Ice Miller regarding the Sewage Works Revenue Bonds was reviewed by the Council. Heather James will be our representative. Heather has worked with Amy Nooning and Steve Brock on prior projects. Sara made a motion to accept the Letter of Engagement. Carol made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Nepotism forms are in the Council packets. Each Council member should sign both forms and return to the Clerk.

CARES ACT Funding, Resolution 2020-13, was read by Sara. This Resolution explains how the reimbursement funds are to be handled. Sara made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-13. Mark made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

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 8:52pm. Carol made a second to the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

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Bruce Burtner  
Council President

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Koren Gray  
Clerk-Treasurer

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