

Town of Thorntown
Town Council Meeting
January 18, 2021
7:00 pm

The January 18, 2021, 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 – absent	
Sara Fairfield - Council	Angie Moody – Comm. Dev. Dir.	Lisa Vitaniemi – Park Board Appointee Mr. Vitaniemi
Dave Williams - Council	Frank Clark – Marshal – Via Zoom	Jerry Seymour – Building Inspector
Shawn McClintock – Council	Gary Moody – Utility Supt.	Sam Gideon
Larry Truitt - Council		
Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer	George Gideon – Utility Board	

Approval of Minutes:

Sara Fairfield made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 21, 2020 meeting. Shawn McClintock made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Sara made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2021, Special Meeting. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Guests:

Lisa Vitaniemi was present with an interest to become a member of the Park Board. Sara made a motion to appoint Lisa to the Park Board. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Kevin Hill and Tim McCormack from NFP, the Town liability insurance carrier, were present to discuss liability insurance regarding our Town Building Inspector. An Independent Contractor, hired by the Town, is protected from a General Liability standpoint. E & O (Errors and Omissions) is not covered by the Town. As an employee of the Town, The Building Inspector is covered by Town Workers Compensation. Kevin also noted that as a sub-contractor we will still cover the Building Inspector for Workers Compensation. We would pay an additional premium for WC upon the annual audit. Kevin added in his opinion it would be good business to make the Building Inspector position a part-time employee position.

Comments/Concerns: None

Reports:

Utility (Gary Moody) 3rd Monday) - Gary reported that Brian Vaughn has submitted his resignation effective January 26, 2021. Gary already has some interested candidates to fulfill the position.

Community Development (Angie Moody) - Angie presented the contract for the Boone County Economic Development with a renewal fee of \$1,000. The Boone EDC has helped procure \$7200.00 in grant monies for the Park Board the past 2 years; Dave made a motion to accept the renewal. Sara made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

-Lynn Douglas is doing samplings (borings).

-Ray's Trash Service is asking about the Town Clean-up Day. We will advise them we will plan for the first Saturday in May, May 1, 2021.

-BFS will gladly help with the 2021 Spring CCG application. Their fee would be \$5,000. Larry made a motion to accept BFS for the application process not to exceed \$5,000. Dave made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

-New for Community Crossings grants, applicants must be ADA and Title VI compliant. We will need coordinators for these positions. We need to prepare our plans for becoming compliant. Anyone interested should email Bruce Burtner or Angie Moody.

-COVID-19 Phase 3 Grant – Angie has been working on a list of local businesses. We are still waiting to hear more about the criteria for businesses to apply for a portion of this grant. Mike Kleinpeter sent a list of things that we need completed by January 22. Koren, Sara and Shawn are interested in being on the committee to evaluate the process. If we receive the grant, we will pay Kleinpeter Consulting \$2,000. Sara made a motion to adopt the committee. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

- Angie spoke with Kevin Smith regarding the loose bricks on top of his building. He was in favor; however, a bucket truck is needed. He agreed the Utility Department could use the bucket truck to remove the bricks. The bricks will be left on the roof. We do need to have the original Building Inspector re-inspect the building to determine if the building is safe for habitat and safe for the community so we can remove the barriers along Main St. Angie will check with GRW regarding doing the inspection and the cost.

-Angie has requested to attend a Purdue Class at a registration cost of \$200. This class is geared for planning and zoning. Eric Smith of the Planning Advisory Commission may also attend at his own cost. Sara made a motion to allow the expense for Angie to register. Dave made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

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

Angie noted the Park Board will be meeting January 25 and will select officers.

WASTEWATER PROJECT

Nothing to report

Planning Commission (Don Gray) - nothing to report

Storm Water Board (Bruce Burtner, Ben Strong, Sara Fairfield) – nothing to report

Police Department (Frank Clark) – Call report sent via email. 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

-The CT provided a Fund Report with balances as of January 18, 2021

-Bookkeeping cannot be rolled over into 2021 until the yearly Annual Financial Report is completed

- A copy of the year end Appropriation Report was included in the packet. There were a few areas where we overspent our intended budget. The Keystone software system has the capabilities to transfer funds from other line items to bring the negative line items to zero. This is done to make the report look more attractive. The purpose of the year end Appropriation Report is to show areas where we may need to appropriate more funds the next budget cycle. The Utilities are not under the guidelines of the DLGF,

therefore, those negative balances show the Utility Department where they are spending beyond their projected budget.

-Koren presented Resolution 2021-1, Year End Appropriations Transfer. The CT is not required to do a Resolution but wanted the Council to see what was being done. Sara made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-1. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

-We are still undergoing SBOA audit for 2018-2019. The auditor is permitted to come into the Town Hall one time per week. The rest of the time Sandy and I upload documents into Gateway.

Unfinished Business:

Building Inspector contract continues to be tabled. We need a couple of Council members, the Building Inspector and the Clerk/Treasurer to meet and discuss options for our Building Inspector position. Dave and Bruce both would like to be involved. Koren will email everyone with available options.

Bricks on the Smith building – refer to earlier discussion.

Update COVID-19 Response Program – refer to earlier discussion.

Appropriation for the \$50,385 Police salary reimbursement – a couple of options are creating a comp time pay out fund, apply some to 2021 salary and free up some of our General Fund monies. Bruce likes the idea of being able to create a comp time fund. The Council will think on this and will re-visit February 1.

New Business:

Boone County EDC membership renewal – refer to earlier discussion.

Would we consider hiring a part-time maintenance person? This person could do repairs, odd jobs, mowing, and maybe help with some of the Utility Department projects. Currently the Utility Department handles snow removal in front of the municipal offices. Perhaps a part-time person could do this and free up the utility employees. Perhaps the part-time maintenance person could do the mowing at the fire department property, help with the mowing of the town owned properties and mow the park. If the Town paid for the mowing of the Park the Park Budget would not need to use that from their budget. This would be set up as no more than 29.75 hours per week. Some weeks there may not be anything to be done. This matter will be tabled.

Bruce mentioned the Bond Ordinance, Ordinance 2021-1. This is required for our wastewater project. The Bond Ordinance will officially be introduced February 1.

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 8:59pm. Shawn made a second to the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Bruce Burtner
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk-Treasurer