

TOWN OF THORNTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 21, 2016

The Thorntown Town Council met on March 21, 2016, at the Thorntown Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Don Johnson

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Town Council Members, Mark Garing, Koren Gray, Don Johnson and Mike Hight. Larry Acton was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer John Gillan, Town Attorney Dennis Williams, Utility Superintendent/ Street Department Gary Moody, Utility Board George Gideon, Marshal Russ Voiles, Deputy Marshal Frank Clark, and Park Board President Angie Moody

Two citizens of the Town were also present.

Mike moved to accept the February Minutes. His motion was seconded by Mark and passed 4-0.

REPORTS

Park Board: The Park Board met at the Park to inspect the condition of the Park. The fence at the tennis court has been damaged and will need to be repaired. The Board is considering doing a survey so that they can prepare a five year master plan. Little League opening day is April 23. Little League will be mowing all of the north part of the park all season. The Park Board will be holding their meetings prior to the Town Board meeting. Don reported that there is \$300+ still in the gazebo account to be used for landscaping. There is \$12,830.95 in the Park Donation Fund. No plans as yet for the Community Garden.

Utility Board: Smoke testing has been completed. Report will be forthcoming. Engineering plans for the west lift station should be complete by the April meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer: Most of the 2015 accounting has been finished and financial reports should be available in April.

Street Department: Estimated costs for repairing pot holes will be available in April. Gary reported that the cost for replacing faded street signs is \$1,300. Mike moved to approve replacing faded street signs at a cost of \$1,300. The motion was seconded by Koren and passed 4-0.

Mark moved to accept the Stalcorp report. Seconded by Mike. Passed 4-0

Police: Russ reported that He had not received a response from Estes on a bid for a new police vehicle. The quote from Lewis Ford was \$28,500. With equipment it would be \$30,000. Use of CCD money or financing will be investigated. Russ requested the addition of three (3) part time police officers. None would work more than 30 hours and total hours would not be more than 40. All of the officers are law enforcement academy graduates with varied experience. This plan would give the department more flexibility. Mike moved to allow Russ to hire the three officers. Mark seconded. Motion passed 4-0. The changes to the Marshal's contract were discussed and Mike move to approve the contract for 2016. Mark seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE CODEFICATION: Quote for \$6,650 plus \$490 for application to view CD. Question about if the CD information could be place on the web site. Tabled until next meeting.

EARLY PAYMENT ORDINANCE: Ordinance 2016-1 was presented for second reading. This ordinance allows the Clerk-Treasurer to pay certain types of claims prior Council allowance. This is allowed by Indiana Code 36-5-4-12. Payments are allowed for certain fees, insurance premiums, utility payments, payroll axes, and emergency circumstances. Mike moved to accept Ordinance 2016-1. Motion was seconded by Koren and passed 4-0.

EDC: Discussion on what the EDC could do for existing businesses, can the town attract industry or small business, or does the town wish to remain a bedroom community. Koren will talk with EDC further. Decision tabled.

PA SYSTEM: Consensus that it is not needed.

ADDITION OF ESTABLISHED IN 1830 TO ENTRANCE SIGNS: Consensus that it is not needed.

WEB SITE: Mark reported that the old web site has been re-opened, but as of now we don't have access to change any of the content.

MOWING BIDS: Tabled until next month.

NEW BUSINESS

OCCRA: Angie Moody gave a presentation on OCCRA concerning grant programs available especially the Main Street program. Angie will be going ahead with trying to establish a Main Street Committee.

SPRING CLEAN-UP: Spring Clean-Up was tentatively set for May 21, from 8am till 4 pm. Must show a utility bill to participate.

TOWN BIRTHDAY PARTY: Phylis Myers from the Thorntown Public Library invited the town to celebrate the founding of the Town at the Thorntown Heritage Museum on April 10, 2016, from 1 – 3 PM. Also the ribbon cutting for the new Thorntown Church History Room will happen.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

George Gideon asked parking at the Park east of the school drive. His concern was that we have angled parking from the drive east on Mill Street. Gary will check on this.

Review of claims.

Mike moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mark. Passed 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

ATTEST:

JOHN GILLAN, CLERK-TREASURER

Don Johnson, PRESIDENT