

TOWN OF THORNTOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
August 19, 2019  
7:00 PM

The August 19, 2019, Town Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, by Council President, Mark Garing, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following council members and committee chairs were present: Mark Garing, Carol Keith, Dave Williams, Bruce Burtner, Sara Fairfield, Town Attorney Amy Noonning, Clerk-Treasurer Koren Gray, Utility Superintendent Gary Moody, Planning Commission President Shawn McClintock, Community Development Director/Park Angie Moody, Marshal Frank Clark, Chief Deputy Derek Babcock, and Deputy Robby Viergutz were also present. Various community members were also present.

Mark entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the August 5, 2019, meeting. Carol Keith made the motion with a second from Sara Fairfield. The motion passed 5-0.

**Reports:**

**Utility** (Gary Moody) Gary presented a possible solution to the drainage problem at the Cole property at the corner of West Bow and Powell Streets. A solution offered by Midwest Engineers. The solution is projected to cost \$73,550, excluding engineering. Infiltrators could be an option as well. Thorntown Utilities can install the infiltrators but may need some engineering advice. Research should be done to determine how to fund this project. Gary advised the sinking areas of West Bow St. have not had any further sinking. He would like to wait a year before having the areas patched. Mark Garing asked why Sewer was Town controlled and not Utility Board controlled. The only response “this is how it has always been set up”.

**Community Development/Park Dept.** (Angie Moody) Angie reported they had a great movie night. They did move to the library due to rain during the day.

Angie requested the \$3075.00 that was requested in December 2018. Due to lack of a permanent Clerk-Treasurer the proper paperwork did not get processed to encumber the funds for expenditure in 2019. Mark asked Amy to check on the December encumbering situation and report back at our next meeting.

The Planning Grant needs a signature from the Council President to close the grant.

Angie advised there would be expenses including an environmental review that is estimated at \$5000.00 and possibly an archeological review regarding the sewer project. She requested approval for the funds. She is just trying to plan to keep everything moving forward. We are still working on obtaining the property needed for the sewer location. Since we don't have the property purchased yet the decision was made to not approve funds to be spent.

The Grant Administrator is providing the process guidelines for land acquisition for the sewer project. Angie will organize a meeting with the Grant Administrator, Engineer and the Town Council.

The 2018 Community Crossing project at Pearl and Franklin has begun! There is some discussion with Calumet regarding inlets and manholes. The CPA has recommended getting an additional appropriation for this project. All monies have already been approved except \$3644

for an inlet. A motion was made by Dave to allow the \$3644, with a second by Bruce. Motion passed 5-0

**Planning Commission** (Shawn McClintock) At the August 12 meeting the Planning Commission had an inquiry regarding a new home possibly on N. Franklin St. He also discussed census mailings they have been receiving. Ben Strong is interested in filling the Planning Commission vacancy of Eric Smith if he is permitted to remain on the Storm Water Board. The Town Attorney will check into that situation. Mark was more than happy to appoint Ben to the Planning Commission.

**Storm Water Board** (Bruce Burtner, Tyler Davis, Ben Strong) Planning to have Steve Brock present September 16 to present his preliminary report.

**Police Department** (Marshal Frank Clark) Marshal Clark announced that the new 2019 Tahoe went into service today! He emailed his run report to the council.

**Fire Department** (Chief Mike Martin)  
No report. No representative present.

**Clerk-Treasurer** (Koren Gray) Koren does not have a definitive deadline on when the books will be clean. Retha Hicks will not be here for corrections/training August 20 & 21 as previously scheduled. A new date will be planned. A Keystone representative will be here August 22, to train the CT on the bookkeeping software program. We do need to advertise our snow bids for 2019-2020. We just need 3 quotes. We do have a form for bidders to complete and a contract to sign. The quotes will be due Friday, September 13, by the end of the day. Koren also brought up the poor repair step at the post office. Representatives from Colonial Life are requesting to present their programs to the town employees. All programs are employee paid, no cost to the town. Koren also presented her bond to the Council. The corrected Permit for Solicitation was presented. We are not requiring solicitors to present a bond. Since criminal history needs to be processed on solicitor individuals, the Marshal will handle the criminal history and make the final approval. Bruce made a motion to accept the permit. A second was made by Carol. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Unfinished Business**

Town Logo – Angie reported Niki had a different project come up and does not have logo information for us yet. We will continue to table.

Animal Ordinance #8 – The Council decided 10 would be a sufficient number of chickens for one household on the revised Animal Ordinance. It is recommended no roosters in town limits. Obnoxious odors (90.04) could be the issue with pigeons. Those with current animals will be grandfathered in and will not need to remove any of their animals. The ordinance will be revised and presented September 16.

Employee Handbook – continue to table.

WAM – no new news to report

## **New Business**

IDEM

Koren advised we need a second signer at the bank in case of emergency. Bruce made a motion for Dave Williams to be the emergency signer as he is in town a large percentage of time. Sara made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

September 16, will be the budget hearing. Ben Roeger will be here. Ben has already prepared some figures for us based on previous appropriations.

Koren and Angie requested hiring Derek Babcock as a part-time handy man. We currently are in need of repairing our public restrooms. It would be nice to have the lady's restroom in working order for the festival. Dave made a motion to hire Derek as our handy man. Sara made the second. Motion passed 5-0.

## **Comments/Concerns**

No further comments/concerns

Claims were signed

Dave made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 which was seconded by Sara.

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President, Mark Garing

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Clerk-Treasurer, Koren Gray