THORNTOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – OCTOBER 5, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Thorntown Town Hall, 101 W. Main St., Thorntown, IN 46071

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Thorntown Town Council meeting. The full video archive of the meeting is available on the Town's YouTube Channel for viewing, so long as this media is supported.

VIDEO LINK: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qErsWeaui-o

CALL TO ORDER

The October 5, 2026, meeting of the Council of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Council President, Dave Williams, at 7:00 PM. The meeting was held at the Thorntown Town Hall, 101 W. Main St., Thorntown, IN. The Council and citizens joined together in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were in attendance:

Dave Williams, Council President	Aly Hickman, Clerk-Treasurer	JT Whitaker, Fire Chief
Bruce Burtner, Town Council	Jeff Wolfe, Municipal Consultant	2 Citizens
Randy Bruder, Town Council	Jarrod Hall, Krohn & Associates	
Jon Riggen, Town Council	Erick Smith, Utility Service Board	
Gary Coffman, Town Council	Frank Clark, Town Marshal	

PUBLIC COMMENTS OR CONCERNS

Lynn Chambers, Thorntown Resident, thanked the Town Council for addressing the parking concerns and the Utilities/Street Department for creating the new handicapped accessible parking spots. She asked the Council to continue to pursue additional handicapped parking for Main Street with INDOT as well as keeping in mind previous discussions concerning potential signage for parking timeframes in front of/around businesses on Main Street.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2027 BUDGET

Jarrod Hall of Krohn & Associates was in attendance to discuss the work on and current status of the 2027 Budget. Jarrod mentioned that the town has turned the budget in the right direction and thanked the Council for their support.

At the next Town Council meeting, a Resolution to transfer funds from the General Fund to the MVH Fund will be presented to the Council due to a current shortfall of an estimated $23,000 in the MVH Fund. This Resolution will allow for the Fund to be set back to a level that is sustainable. Jarrod discussed and reviewed the MVH line, Fund 2201, on the handouts (*DRAFT-Ordinance or Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates/State Form 55865 and Town of Thorntown Actual and Projected Disbursement Detail – Form 1*) with the Council. Jarrod noted this is the only difference from previous discussions at the Budget Workshop. Work has been completed to clean up the Public Safety Fund, so the books properly display the amounts for Public Safety – Fire, Public Safety – Police, and Public Safety – Town Savings. Aly Hickman is working with Amy Nooning to prepare an Ordinance establishing these separate funds for the Town Council to review and sign.

The floor was opened for Public Comments or Concerns regarding the 2027 Budget.

A draft of Ordinance 2026-10: An Ordinance Establishing the Compensation to be Paid to Officials and Employees of the Town of Thorntown, Indiana, for the Calendar Year 2027 was presented for review and its first reading. The updated Salary Ordinance includes a 3% raise in 2027 for the Clerk/Treasurer, Police Department, and Town Council members. The role of Part-Time Police was to be removed from Section 2, and the pay for Part-Time Police (Other Agencies) was to be updated to $50.00/hour.

With no additional comments or concerns regarding the 2027 budget, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:12 PM.

FIRST READING: ORDINANCE 2026-10 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION TO BE PAID TO OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWN OF THORNTOWN, INDIANA, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2027

Bruce Burtner completed the first reading of the Ordinance.

SECOND READING: ORDINANCE 2026-09 – AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE COMPOSITION OF THE AREA PLAN COMMISSION

The timeline regarding Thorntown joining the Boone County APC was discussed. Both Thorntown and Advance will still need to adopt the Ordinance to Change the Composition of the Area Plan Commission. Advance has not yet had the first reading, which will take place at their upcoming October meeting, October 13. The Town will also need to adopt Boone County's Drainage Ordinances.

Bruce read the summary of Ordinance 2026-09 and made a motion to adopt. Randy Bruder seconded. The motion passed, with all Council Members in favor of adoption.

STATUS OF THORNTOWN'S REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF A RESIDENTIAL TIF DISTRICT AT WESTFALL PLACE

Jarrod discussed what a Residential TIF District is, how money from this District is captured, and how the Town can utilize those funds. He reviewed the importance of establishing the District at Westfall Place prior to year-end. Jeff Wolfe noted the town has discussed this a handful of times in the past, but Council had trouble finding individuals willing to serve on the Redevelopment Commission (RDC). The Town will need to appoint 5 Commissioners: 3 appointed by the Town Council President and 2 appointed by the Town Council. The RDC will also need a non-voting advisor from the School Board or recommended by the school board.

Jeff discussed projects that can be funded by captured TIF funds, including Public Safety. Jarrod further discussed how the fixed levy limits the town's ability to bring in more money from new homes, but a TIF District is a mechanism that would allow the Town to capture additional funds from the growth to fund projects and services.

Next steps include finding appointments for the RDC with plans to further discuss at the next Council meeting.

DOCUMENTS FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY COUNCIL

Aly presented a Corrected APV Register from 9/14/2026. APV# 26294 was updated following the 9/14/2026 Town Council meeting, resulting in a $105.07 difference in the Register total. The corrected APV Register was presented to the Council. Dave made a motion to accept the Corrected Register. Randy seconded. The motion passed with all Council members in favor.

Aly presented the new APV Register for the October 5, 2026, meeting, totaling $76,104.21.

Aly presented the Allowance Docket for the Pay File ending on 9/18/2026, totaling $34,136.97.

Grumpy makes a motion to accept the APV Register and Allowance Docket. Bruce seconds. The motion passes with all Council members in favor.

FURTHER DISCUSSION AROUND THE RDC TIMELINE AND MEETING SCHEDULE

Randy asked Jeff when the RDC would be looking to meet. Jarrod mentioned if the TIF District is to be established by the year-end, the RDC would need to meet multiple times this year. Specific dates and times can be determined once established. Following these initial meetings, the RDC would meet less frequently; once a month, but possibly even less.

ESTABLISHING A FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

Jeff Wolfe discussed the Township recently approved to establish a Fire Advisory Board. The Board would consist of a member from the Sugar Creek Township Board, one member from the Thorntown Town Council, and one public member. The Fire Department would discuss requests with the Advisory Board, and the Board would then send recommendations to the Township Board and Town Council. Jeff asked the Council if he could add the discussion regarding this appointment to the next Council meeting agenda. The Council was in favor to further discuss this topic at the October 19 meeting.

MUST (MUNICIPAL UNIT STRATEGIC TASKFORCE) MEETING UPDATE

Jeff Wolfe updated the Town Council on the current result status of the MUST meetings. A report is being prepared, which will be presented for review. Both Aly and Jeff will be at the next MUST meeting where this report will be further discussed before being presented to the state.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Grumpy opened the floor for any updates or discussions from Department heads. No updates at this time from the Fire Department, Police Department, or Utilities.

DOCUMENTS FOR VIEW

Randy asked if there is a way to display documents being discussed to those in attendance at the meeting. Aly noted we can do that moving forward. Viewers at home will not see the documents, but they will be available to view online with either the Meeting Agenda or Meeting Minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional items to discuss, Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon Riggen seconded. With all Council members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

_____ _____

Dave Williams
Council President

Aly Hickman
Clerk/Treasurer

Date: _____

Pursuit to IC 5-14-9 section 6; following is a roster of the current Thorntown Town Council Members' names, appointing authority, and their appointment terms:

***Dave Williams**, Council President*	*Appointed*	*To Fulfill Term Until December 31, 2026*
***Bruce Burtner**, Council Vice President*	*Elected*	*To Fulfill Term Until December 31, 2026*
***Randy Bruder**, Council Member*	*Appointed*	*To Fulfill Term Until December 31, 2028*
***Gary Coffman**, Council Member*	*Appointed*	*To Fulfill Term Until December 31, 2028*
***Jon Riggen**, Council Member*	*Appointed*	*To Fulfill Term Until December 31, 2026*
***Aly Hickman**, Clerk-Treasurer*	*Appointed*	*To Fulfill Term Until December 31, 2026*

10/12/2026