Town of Thorntown Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Monday, July 7, 2025

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Sarabi Wallace, Board President, at 3:34 PM. The meeting was held at the Thorntown Town Hall, 101 W. Main St., Thorntown, IN.

The following were in attendance:

Sarabi Wallace, Parks and Recreation Board President Haley Husk, Parks and Recreation Board Secretary Lindsey DeMass, Parks and Recreation Board Member Monica Hale Emma Moore

Ellilla Moore

Adam Hale

Aiden Hale

Officer Babcock

Business:

- Sarabi Wallace motioned to elect Lindsey DeMass as Parks and Recreation
 Board President and Haley Husk seconded the motion. Both Sarabi Wallace and
 Haley Husk voted in the affirmative. After Lindsey DeMass was voted in as
 President, Sarabi Wallace resigned from the Parks and Recreation Board.
- Lindsey DeMass opened the meeting for community comments:
 - Monica Hale, speaking on behalf of herself and Emma Moore, informed the board that she believes that she and Emma were unfairly terminated from their jobs as gardeners for the Parks and Recreation Board.
 - Monica Hale alleged that on April 30, 2025, Sarabi Wallace moved her belongings into the park garage that she and Emma Hale stored their tools in. This situation made Monica and Emma uncomfortable and unable to work. They went to Dave Williams,

Thorntown Town Council President, to tell him about the situation. Dave Williams informed the women that they could have their job back once Sarabi had left the garage.

- Monica Hale provided the board with printouts of text conversations between her and Sarabi Wallace.
- Additionally, Monica Hale alleged that Sarabi Wallace fired them in retaliation for discussing matters with Dave Williams.
- Monica Hale further alleged that Sarabi Wallace's justification for terminating her employment, which was supposedly drinking on the job, amounted to defamation.
- In response to these allegations, Sarabi Wallace read off a text transcript that she believes shows that Monica Hale and Emma Watson voluntarily "Took time off work for personal reasons until further notice." Due to this, Sarabi Wallace then hired 2 new gardeners for the park.
- At this point in the meeting, Lindsey DeMass apologized to Monica Hale and Emma Watson about the confusion, but assured them that as far as she knew, they were never fired, and were only replaced after voluntarily leaving. She further added that Monica Hale and Emma Watson could not have their jobs back because new people had already been hired to replace them.
- Monica Hale threatened to press charges against the town and then the group left.
- With no more community comments to be made, Sarabi Wallace informed the remaining board members about unfinished projects that would need to be completed.
 - Christian Smith from Central Indiana Plumbing and Well is waiting for replacement parts on backorder to become available before he is able to fix the mens' room sink at the park.
 - The actuator in the park drinking fountain is no longer manufactured, rendering the drinking fountain unfixable. Sarabi Wallace recommended

- contacting Jennifer Lawrence from Boone County Waste Management about a grant for a new drinking fountain.
- The Lily Global Day of Service will be September 25th from 9 am to 12 pm. About 100 volunteers will be coming to help Boone County Invasive Cooperative and the Park Board cut down invasive species on the trails.
- There are community concerns about the trail being overgrown.
- A metal pipe has been exposed in front of the rock climbing wall in the park. Earl Parsons from utilities might be able to fix or cover the pipe.
- Officer Derek Babcock suggested merging the August Farmer's Market date with the Fire Department fish fry event. Lindsay Demass said she would talk to Koren about the feasibility of changing the contract dates.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, Lindsey DeMass called the meeting to adjournment at 4:24 PM.

Lindsey DeMass

Haley Husk

Parks and Recreation Board President

Parks and Recreation Board Secretary