

Town of Thorntown
Town Council Meeting
March 16, 2020
7:00 pm

The March 16, 2020, meeting of the Council of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Council President, Bruce Burtner, at 7:00 pm. The Council and citizens joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were in attendance:

Bruce Burtner - Council	Amy Nooning – Town Att./via phone	Mike Martin – Fire Dept.
Sara Fairfield - Council	Angie Moody – Parks/ Comm. Dev. Dir.	Shawn McClintock – Pres. Planning Comm.
Carol Keith - Council	Gary Moody – Utility Supt.	3 Community members
Dave Williams - Council	Frank Clark - Marshal	
Mark Garing - Council	Derek Babcock – Chief Marshal	
Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer - AB		

The Council President entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the February 17, 2020, meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes as recorded by Sara. A second was made by Carol. Motion passed 5-0.

At this time Carol made a motion to open the Public Hearing regarding vacating the alley way between 208 and 214 W. Main St. A second was made by Mark. Mr. Riggins and Mr. Atkins, both property owners of 208 and 214 were present. Mr. Riggins advised the Council there is not adequate drainage in the area and water is seeping into his basement. He and Mr. Atkins would like the alley vacated and they will install a drainage pipe to run the water toward the street. Bruce asked if anyone opposes the closing of said alley. There was no response. Carol made a motion to close the alley between 208 and 214 W. Main St., with a second by Mark. Motion passed 4-1. Dave does not think we should close an alley in town. Amy will need to prepare an Ordinance reflecting the closure of the alley.

Comments/Concerns:

Mona Neese, a community member, asked the status of the Smith Building up town and is concerned about puddling in the elevator parking lot. Wouldn't this be a mosquito attraction in the summer?

Dave reported he has received information regarding the Smith Building. He also reported that fines are continuing and not been resented per Judge Vaughn. Can we place a lien on the property? Per Amy, yes this is an option. Bruce suggested that we leave this discussion for a future time.

Guests:

No guest speakers present

Reports:

Utility (Gary Moody) 3rd Monday) - IMPA would like to extend our service contract to a 30 year contract to 2050 which is an additional 8 years. The Utility Board feels this will be okay but would like a representative from IMPA to make a presentation to the Town Council. Gary will set up a meeting with the IMPA and the Town Council prior to April 20.

- Stalcop is okay
- The truck will be here next week.

Park and Community Development (Angie Moody) – Park – still working on previous plans.

-Community Development: the 2019 CCG funds should be deposited into our account within 4 weeks.

- Trees have been taken down in Plum St. in preparation of the CCG project.
- Angie submitted a bill for \$250 for topping of some of the Plum St. trees
- Angie is still working on road inventory updates.
- Census reports have been completed
- INDOT has advised that SR 75 from SR 47 to the school will be repaved in the future
- Monitoring Wells – they want to put an additional 3 wells along Front St. The approval needs to be signed by Gary Moody as Superintendent of Utilities. Angie has not received any official reports regarding the existing monitoring wells.

After school program (Glen Jewell, Lisa Mohler) – Glen or Lisa was not present.

Planning Commission (Shawn McClintock) – The Planning Commission has completed the updates to the permits and fees

- Permits were issued for a trailer demolition and replace with a new home on South B Street, construction permits on South Pearl and West Main Streets.
- The Building Inspector is in need of a computer. There was discussion regarding pros and cons of desktop vs laptop. After discussion the purchase of some type of computer will be tabled so we can gather more information.
- We are lax on our code books for the inspector. Our books are dated 2015. New books come out every 3 years. A new updated set is approximately \$750. The inspector needs an Electric Code book. It is \$110.00. Sara made a motion to purchase the needed Electric Code book. Mark entered a second. Motion passed 5-0.
- Shawn advised that the yellow house property on Bow St. is probably not feasible for 3 homes.
- Shawn presented, on behalf of the Planning Commission, updated fees.

Storm Water Board (Bruce Burtner, Ben Strong, Sara Fairfield)

- Bruce asked Amy if a Public Hearing needs to be held regarding the changing of language in the Ordinance. Amy is working with Jeremy Fetty on the matter.

Police Department (Frank Clark) – Presented quotes for the body cams. Frank is requesting the Axom cameras. The Axom cameras are the most durable and has a longer battery life than some of the others on the market. The Police Dept. would like to purchase 7 cameras. The cost is \$7970.80/ 5 yearly payments.

The total cost is \$39,854.00. Axom will provide the set-up and training. Frank is working on a policy in regard to record keeping, usage, etc. Mark made a motion to purchase the cameras and technology insurance plan and pay for them from the Town LIT share. The motion was seconded by Sara. Motion passed 5-0.

- Marshal Clark is writing a policy for the Covid-19 Crisis, basing it upon the Policy from the Boone County Sheriff's office. Limited exposure for non-emergency calls.

Fire Department (Mike Martin – Fire Chief) – not in attendance

Clerk/Treasurer (Koren Gray) – Bruce read notes that Koren left during her absence. She noted that all bank accounts except Sewer are now balanced. Koren did receive one of the scholarships of \$450 for the IMLCT conference in Muncie. The conference was great and more information was learned to help settle in the CT position.

Unfinished Business:

Comp Time Ordinance needs amended to Police Comp Time. We will table until after further discussion regarding the Employee Handbook - TABLED

Security/Fire system for Town Hall – A quote from B & R Fire Protection was added to the Council packet. B & R recommends commercial products. Pat Risner (B & R), is concerned if wireless will be satisfied with our building structure. TABLED

Establish a Board of Zoning Appeals - TABLE

New Business:

Wastewater Project: Angie advised the Lanpher's are willing to sell land and work with the Town for OCRA Grant monies. We need approval for Environmental Review (\$5,000) and Uniform Relocation Act Professional Services contract from Kleinpeter Consulting. The Grant deadline is November 2020, Grant award is April 2021, and funds would be available August 2021. We must use Grant funds to purchase the land. Mark made a motion to proceed, with a second from Carol. Motion passed 5-0. Sara made a motion for appraisals to be done as soon as possible, with a second from Mark. Motion passed 5-0. Bruce advised that we need to have two appraisals.

Procedure possibilities for Covid-19 – Amy shared updates with the possibility of closing the Town buildings. We should document when the buildings are cleaned. Sara made a motion to close to the public the Town Hall, Planning Commission & Community Development office, the Utility lobby (pending approval of the Utility Board), no non-essential meetings will be held. Carol made a second to the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

After much discussion, Sara made a motion to suspend building permits unless causing undue hardship. A second was made by Carol. Motion passed 5-0.

Claims were signed.

Adjournment:

Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. Carol made a second to the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Bruce Burtner
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk-Treasurer