

Town of Thorntown  
Town Council Meeting  
December 16, 2019  
7:00 pm

The December 16, 2019, meeting of the Council of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Council President, Mark Garing, at 7:00 pm. The attendees joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were in attendance: Mark Garing, Bruce Burtner, Carol Keith, Sara Fairfield, Dave Williams, Attorney Amy Noonong, Clerk/Treasurer Koren Gray, Community Development Director Angie Moody, Planning Commission President Shawn McClintock, Officers Babcock and Viergutz, Utility Superintendent Gary Moody, 5 community members. We also had representatives from three engineering firms.

Carol Keith made a motion to accept the December 2, 2019, minutes. A second was made by Sara Fairfield. Motion passed 5-0.

Guests:

RQAW; Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc.; and Ladd Engineering presented bids regarding the engineering services for the 2019 Community Crossings Grant Project. RQAW presented \$17,000 plus expenses not to exceed \$10,000 and would have an inspector on site daily. Butler, Furman presented \$9,910 plus expenses not to exceed \$15,000 also with an inspector on site daily. Ladd Engineering presented \$6350 plus expenses not to exceed \$5250 with 8 visits to the site. Bruce and Dave both agreed that they like the idea of having an inspector on site daily. Dave made a motion to accept the bid from Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc. Mark requested to abstain from the vote as he has a personal friend employed with one of these firms. A second was made by Bruce. Motion passed 4-0. The project will need to be advertised before our January 20 meeting and we need to authorize the engineer to advertise for construction bids. We also will need a certificate of insurance from the engineer.

**Reports:**

**Utility** (Gary Moody) 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday) - Nothing to report at this time.

**Park and Community Development** (Angie Moody)

-IMPA is sponsoring the Legislative Dinner January 13. All Council members are invited to attend.

-Rural Alliance conference is coming up in March. Angie is requesting to attend. The cost is \$150 plus one night of lodging.

-The State Park Conference is also coming up. Angie will attend. The cost comes from the Park Maintenance Fund.

-Angie has had conversations with Mike Kleinpeter, Mark Sullivan and Steve Brock about meeting with IDEM and possibly re-directing our plan and get exact specifications as to what gets us in good graces with IDEM.

**Planning Commission** (Shawn McClintock)

- The Commission approved their minutes from the previous meeting
- They are working on updating the permit fees
- They are working on signage guidelines

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

- Nothing new to report

**Police Department** (Frank Clark)

-Derek reported the Christmas Event was successful and we had about 300 participants. The parade was nice and the carriage rides was a nice event as well. The Department spent less than \$300 from their Police Donation Fund.

**Fire Department** (Mike Martin)

No representative in attendance.

**Clerk/Treasurer** (Koren Gray)

-Incorrect Appropriation and Fund Reports have been presented as requested by the Council. Please keep in mind as long as the bank statements are not balanced there are errors in these figures.

-We have received candy from Ladd Engineering, The Home National Bank, and Parr, Richey, Frandsen, Patterson & Kruse attorney office. Please help yourself.

-The Payroll account is balanced through November

-Sara, Carol, Bruce and I are register for the AIM Boot Camp Conference

-We do have the proof of the postings for the November 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Storm Water User Fee meetings

-Operation Pullover is now cleared. I still have some research to do on MVH and MVH Restricted. The Appropriation Report is looking cleaner.

-I have asked Ben Roeger our CPA to see if we can appeal any of the penalties, we have accrued in 2019

-Sara, Carol and I have met with Dennis Dunlap to get started on the Employee Handbook

-Our copier is on its way out. ICC Business has looked at it. The fuser is about shot. The machine is 12 years old and in the copier word this is really old. They will have a quote for a new machine for us for the January meeting.

-Our Attorney recommended that we look into Cyber Security insurance coverage. Kevin Hill from NFP will be here January 20 to present a quote. I will be checking with Doug Wilhoite from Letsdonet, current IT, and I am checking in with Corey Caylor who does IT for the Town of Danville.

-Derek has gotten shelving for the basement for record storage but we need a dehumidifier before moving paper down there. Dave made a motion to allow Derek to get us a dehumidifier with the cost not to exceed \$550. Carol made a second to the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

-New information effective July 1, 2019, Clerk/Treasurers are now required to obtain 14 hours of training each year, 36 hours within 3 years.

-We still need to determine a threshold amount for the asset inventory for year end

-Koren mentioned that she really recommends hiring MS Consultants. Their cost would be divided between General-Sewer-Electric-Water, 25% each. There are so many things they can help us with including the asset information. They could help bridge the gap between the Engineers and Council, bring our ordinances up to date as many are from the mid 90's, they would do all of our social media and website, help the Planning Commission with their guidelines, help in setting up the Board of Zoning Appeals, and can help with finding grants. They can help with a 5, 10 year plan for the future. They are willing to come and have a meeting with the Council.

At this time Mark shared he was only interested in the asset inventory issue for year end reporting and asked if we could just get a quote for that portion. Koren will check with Huck Lewis. Angie will also check with Steve Brock.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Town Logo – nothing new to share

Approval of the November 18, 2019, minutes are still needed. There was conversation concerning the wording Mike Martin used regarding medic coverage 24/7. The minutes stated Mike said there was not a “need” at this time. That wording has been replaced with “money wise we don’t have the business to pay a medic 24/7”. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Carol Keith and a second by Bruce Burtner. The motion passed 5-0.

The WAM lease was presented for WAM to lease the second story of the Town Hall. The WAM representative has already reviewed the lease. Glen Jewell was present. Carol made a motion to approve the lease with a second by Bruce. Motion passed 5-0. Everyone necessary signed the lease.

### **New Business:**

A verbal complaint was received in the Clerk’s Office regarding the condition of the property at 211 E. Bow St. It was advised the issue has been taken care of.

A verbal complaint was received in the Clerk’s Office regarding the leaves in the street along Main St. After some discussion, Gary Moody advised the utility workers will keep an eye on the accumulating leaves.

A request was also made to put a light in the alley between Shives Antiques and the Dollar General Store. During this time of the year the alley way is very dark. Gary Moody will check into this. Dave made a motion to install a light if at all possible, with a second from Bruce. Motion passed 5-0.

The Town Attorney presented her contract for the 2020 year. Bruce made a motion to accept the contract with a second from Carol. The motion passed 5-0.

The Nepotism Forms were presented to the Council to sign and be filed. All forms were signed and received.

The Council needed to elect President and Vice President of the Council for the 2020 year. Mark nominated Bruce as President. A second was made by Carol. The motion passed 5-0. Carol made a motion for Sara to be the Vice President with a second by Bruce. The motion passed 5-0.

The Council agreed the meetings for 2020 would remain the same as 2019, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month and the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the even numbered months. The motion to keep this schedule was made by Dave and seconded by Carol. Motion passed 5-0. Shawn advised the Planning Commission meetings would remain as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month.

The holiday schedule for 2020 was presented. The holiday observed by the Town of Thorntown will be as follows:

New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day of Thanksgiving, ½ day Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, ½ day New Year's Eve. These are paid holidays. Holidays falling on a Saturday shall be observed on Friday, holidays falling on a Sunday shall be observed on Monday. Carol made a motion to accept the holidays for 2020 with a second by Sara. Motion passed 5-0.

**Comments/Concerns:**

Gary Coffman discussed a wrecker from Bob's Towing is running into residential properties in the area of Powell, Grant and Franklin streets. He also has a concern with the heaviness of the truck on our town streets. Mark asked if we have a weight limit for our streets. Angie will do some research on the weight limit.

Ryan Chastain introduced himself. He is the owner of our local car sales lot, Zoom Auto. He also had some paperwork to share with the Council.

Joe Alexander made mention of some of the vacant homes in town. He particularly mentioned the vacant property on Bow St. across from the dentist office and how unsightly it is.

Claims were signed.

A motion was made by Carol with a second by Sara to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

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Bruce Burtner  
Council President

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Koren Gray  
Clerk-Treasurer