

TOWN OF THORNTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2022
7:00 PM

The January 17, 2022, meeting of the Council of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Council President, Sara Fairfield, at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held at the 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:

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sara Fairfield – Council | Amy Noonung, Attorney | Gary Moody - Utility |
| Bruce Burtner - Council | Dax Norton – MS Consultants | Monty Striegel |
| Dave Williams - Council | Jerry Seymour – Bldg. Inspt. | Mark Sullivan |
| Shawn McClintock – Council | Frank Clark – Marshal | Max Allen – Utility Board |
| Larry Truitt – Council | Robby Viergutz - Deputy | George Gideon – Utility Board |
| Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer | | Lisa Vitaniemi – Park Board |
| | | 2 citizens |

Presentations/Guests:

Eddie Smith (Smith Trash Service) presented a quote for solid waste removal for Town Clean-up Day. This would be curbside pickup on an agreed designated day beginning at 8:00 am. The fee would be \$1,800 for the first 10 tons. Thereafter the Town shall pay \$60/ton. The Council will take this under consideration and revisit at the February 7 meeting.

Mark Sullivan, Midwestern Engineering, presented the monthly updates and invoices for the wastewater project. A claim for Striegel Design and Construction for \$190,000, and \$12,268 for Midwestern Engineering. Bruce made a motion to allow payment of these invoices. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Monty Striegel made notation of updates on the wastewater project. Striegel Design and Construction has a request for a change order. A lot of sand had to be moved to get to the clay needed for the lagoon. Monty needed to rent a special vehicle to move the sand and also had to pay additional insurance. We did receive a refund of \$2200 for bedding stone that was not needed. Larry made a motion to allow the change order. Dave made a second. Motion passed 5-0. The change order will be presented to the state also for approval.

Public Comments/Concerns:

711 W. Plum St., had a complaint about the property across the street being in shambles. The resident has also been burning on the property. What can be done about the situation? The complainant also had a complaint regarding suspicious behavior of neighbors. Another resident in the same neighborhood had a complaint regarding trash piling up in a yard. The trash is also being blown around to other properties. Marshal, Frank Clark, advised both trash situations are being handled according to ordinance and law.

Another complaint was made regarding a resident putting rocks around the property near an alley. If the rocks are on that particular resident's property, then he/she has a right to put them there. A survey of the property would need to be conducted to determine if the rocks are located in an inappropriate area.

Department/Board and Commissions Reports:

Utilities: Gary submitted a quote from IXOM Watercare for the maintenance on the Solar Bees for the wastewater lagoon. The cost is \$8,320.00. Gary asked the Council to consider the maintenance. IMPA will also provide a quote for the 3phase needed at the lagoon. We should have the quote by February 7.

Community Development: nothing to report at this time

Park Board: Shawn nominated Lisa Vitaniemi, Derek Babcock and MJ Fairfield as members of the Park Board. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Sara officially made the appointment of these 3 citizens to be members of the Thorntown Park Board. They will each have a term of one year. Lisa advised the repair of the fence is still on the schedule.

Advisory Plan Commission: Shawn reported on behalf of the APC that Don Gray will continue to be the Commission President with Ben Strong being the Vice President for the 2022 term. Dax attended the January meeting of the APC and will be advising the APC on some upcoming matters.

Storm Water Board: nothing to report at this time.

Police Department: Frank advised there were 2,547 calls in 2020, and 3,013 calls in 2021. In 2020 the Department made 34 arrests, with 75 arrests in 2021.

Fire Department: nothing to report at this time.

Clerk/Treasurer: The Clerk/Treasurer reported that the Indiana Department of Revenue completed their audit. All records for the utility tax (completed by the Utility Clerk, Sandy Gates), and the payroll tax (completed by the CT) are all good. There were no issues to report. Koren asked if Dave was willing to continue to be the additional authorized signatory at the bank. He advised yes. The Town received the fall tax distribution of \$141,618.94. Our Indiana State Board of Account audit cost was \$8,044.00, which was deducted from our fall distribution. The Year End financial reports were included in the Council packet. The CT will also begin including the Utility Service Board minutes and any other Board minutes received in the Council packet.

Consent Agenda: Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes of December 20, 2021, and to allow the approval of claims. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Unfinished Business:

The Council needs to review Ordinance 2012-1A (Purchasing Policy) and Ordinance 2018-9 (Credit Policy) to possibly establish a new ordinance that will combine both ordinances and amend some language. Each Council member has copies to review and will revisit February 7.

The Council received the Professional Services contract for Building Inspections not performed by staff due to conflicts. Shawn made a motion to approve the usage of the contract. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business:

Shawn read Ordinance 2022-1, Amending the Schedule of Fees and Fines. This Ordinance amends the cost of prefab sheds delivered to a residence. Bruce made a motion to suspend the rules for a second reading. Shawn made a second. Motion to suspend rules passed 5-0. Bruce made a motion to approve the Ordinance 2022-1. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Sara read the following ordinances: 2022-2 Ordinance to Establish Wastewater Construction Fund; 2022-3 Ordinance to Establish Wastewater Bond and Interest Fund; and 2022-4 Ordinance to Establish Wastewater Debt Fund. These Funds are required by the SRF for the wastewater loan. Larry made a motion to suspend the rules for a second reading. Dave made a second. Motion passed 5-0 to suspend a second reading. Bruce made a motion to allow the establishment of the Wastewater Construction Fund, the Bond and Interest Fund and the Wastewater Debt Fund. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Other Business:

In other business Larry asked what needs to be done to be able to annex the wastewater lagoons into the town limits. This will be researched. We will also check the survey.

Larry also asked where we are in the process of the Solar Park. Koren explained that we need to complete the wastewater project first then we can contact IMPA.

Adjournment:

Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46pm. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Sara Fairfield
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk/Treasurer

Date: _____