

TOWN OF THORNTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
December 19, 2022
7:00 PM

The December 19, 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 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:

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Sara Fairfield – Council | Dax Norton – MS Consulting | Mice McKenzie - USB |
| Bruce Burtner - Council | Jerry Seymour, Bldg. Inspct. | Mark Sullivan – Midwestern Engineering |
| | Frank Clark – Marshal | 5 citizens |
| Dave Williams - Council | Gary Moody – Utilities | |
| Shawn McClintock – Council | Don Gray – APC | |
| Larry Truitt - Council | Mas Allen – USB | |
| Koren Gray – Clerk/Treasurer | George Gideon – USB | |

After roll call, Dave Williams made a motion to elect Sara Fairfield as Council President for the 2023 year. A second was made by Shawn McClintock. Motion passed 5-0. Sara made a motion to elect Dave Williams as Vice President for the 2023 year. Larry Truitt made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Presentations/Guests:

Mark Sullivan, from Midwestern Engineering, was present to advise OCRA wants to close the wastewater project paperwork. The SRF side is not complete yet. The new lagoon is not ready for start-up. It seems to be taking awhile to fill. Mr. Sullivan advised it may be spring as the lagoon needs a warmer climate to do its job. 90% of the Asset Management Plan is complete. Midwestern did apply for a grant to help with the cost of the Asset Management Plan.

Public Comments/Concerns:

None

Consent Agenda:

Shawn made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 21, 2022, meeting. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Hearing:

No hearing

Department/Board and Commissions Reports:
(NO REPORTS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH MEETING)

Advisory Plan Commission:

Don Gray announced the Public Hearing for the Arbor Annexation will be postponed until January 9, 2023. This meeting will be held at the Thorntown Public Library.

Oksana presented regarding the Arbor project and planning items.

Shawn completed his last meeting as an APC member December, 12. This makes an opening for the APC for a town employee member.

Police:

Frank advised he is working on mobile phones for the police department and geotabs for the vehicles.

The new truck is almost ready. The dealership allotted \$6,000 trade in for the Dodge.

Fire:

No report

Utilities:

George Gideon submitted his resignation after almost 10 years serving on the Utility Board.

Harold Cox and Steve Schenck are both interested in being on the USB.

Gary noted that some damage was done at the post office due to cutting a limb.

Gary asked if a drain was needed in the alley between 116 and 118 W. Main.

Park Board:

Dax spoke on behalf of the Park Board. He advised a General Obligation Bond could be utilized to bring the park up to date and ADA compliant. Also, a LWCF grant is available for \$500,000. However, we would need a \$500,000 match. Sara asked what would be the impact on the community. Dax advised, without a study, he would estimate approximately \$20.00 per property.

Storm Water Board:

Nothing to report

Clerk/Treasurer:

The CT noted that the only revision that will be made to the employee handbook will be in regard to no tobacco in town owned vehicles.

The CT also noted all Council members had Conflict of Interest forms and Nepotism policy forms at their place at the table. The forms need to be signed and returned to the CT at the end of the meeting.

Consultant Report:

Dax discussed the rapid development of the surrounding area, grants & funding, and the Next Level Trail. There may be some trail funding coming from the government in the future.

Unfinished Business:

Sara discussed allowing a stipend for the Clerk/Treasurer for longevity and/or certifications earned. She noted the Clerk/Treasurer also attends all meetings which will now be 24 with the addition of 6 new meetings. Sara made a motion to add \$750 per year for full service years for longevity. The CT has been in this position for 3.5 years. This pay will be divided among 26 pays per year. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 4-1 with Councilman Truitt opposing.

The second reading of the 2023 Salary Ordinance #2022-20 following noting the addition of longevity stipend for the Clerk/Treasurer. Bruce made a motion to adopt the salary ordinance for 2023. Dave made a second. Motion passed 4-1 with Councilman Truitt opposing.

The renewal of the MS Consultants Professional contract was the next order of business. The Town will always have a MS Consultants representative at Council meetings. The consultant will be in the office 2 days per week. The consultant will continue with discussions of options for creating good policy in regard to town business. This contract is \$45,000 annual. Dave made a motion to renew the contract. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

The Council decided to move forward with the camera project into our wastewater mains (not laterals). Bruce made a motion to accept the bid from Accu-Dig at \$94,632.50 and not to exceed \$100,000, and to be payable from our ARPA Fund. Shawn made a second to the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business:

Sara discussed the Town Attorney contract for 2023. The amount is not changing. We will continue to pay \$18,000 annual paid quarterly, with \$300/hour for APC, BZA, and Park services. Sara tabled this contract until January 2.

The 2023 Town Holiday schedule was presented. Bruce made a motion to continue with the same holiday observances as in the past. Larry made a second. Motion passed 4-1 with Councilwoman Fairfield opposing.

The 2023 Town meetings schedule was presented. This schedule lists all meeting dates for Council, APC, and Park Board. Dave made a motion to approve the meeting schedule. Larry made a second. Motion passed 4-1.

Resolution #2022-96, Authorization for Signatory for INDOT Agreements, was presented. Sara made a motion to list Bruce Burtner as the signatory. This involves the Community Crossings projects. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance 2022-23, An Ordinance Establishing a Traffic Regulation was presented. This ordinance makes the alley between 116 & 118 W. Main St., Thorntown, a one-way alley from north to south from SR 47 to Plum Street. Shawn made a motion to suspend the rules of a second reading. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Bruce made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-23. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment:

With no other business to be presented, Sara made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm. Dave made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Sara Fairfield
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk/Treasurer

Date: _____