

TOWN OF THORNTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
September 18, 2023
7:00 PM

The September 18, 2023, meeting of the Council of the Town of Thorntown was called to order by Council Vice President, Dave Williams, 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:

Sara Fairfield, Council-absent	Dax Norton, Consultant
Dave Williams, Council	Frank Clark, Marshal
Bruce Burtner, Council	Derek Babcock, Deputy Marshal
Shawn McClintock, Council	Gary Moody, Utility Supt.
Larry Truitt, Council	Dan Cutshaw, MS Consultants
Koren Gray, Clerk/Treasurer	Mark Sullivan, Midwestern Engineering
Drew Guenther, Bldg. Inspector	Monte Striegel, Striegel Design and Construction
	3 citizens

Presentations/Guests:

Angie Moody, on behalf of the Festival Committee, requested Council signatures on an INDOT document for highway closure.

Mark Sullivan, Midwestern Engineering, and Monte Striegel, Striegel Construction were in attendance to keep the Council informed of the leakage at the new lagoon. IDEM will be sent a letter explaining the situation and the reasoning for the lagoon shutdown (this letter will be attached to the minutes in the minute book). A Soils Engineer will be on site this week for testing. There are two possibilities of this repair, more bentonite mixed with the soil or a synthetic liner. The results from the Soils Engineer will help determine the best recommendation.

Public Comments/Concerns:

None

Department/Board and Commissions Reports:

(NO REPORTS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH MEETING)

Advisory Plan Commission:

No representative present

Police: (Report previously submitted to Council)

Marshal Clark reported the department has a new Reserve to be sworn in. Shawn Apps will be sworn in at the Clerk/Treasurer's office September 19.

Fire:

No representative present

Utilities:

Nothing to report

Building Inspector:

The Building Inspector had a question regarding an easement at 611 W. Bow St. An alley had previously been vacated however; the utility department needs an easement to obtain access to utility poles/equipment. Larry made a motion to approve a set-back of 10' from the easement. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Park Board:

No representative present

Storm Water Board:

Nothing to report

Sanitary Sewer:

Nothing to report

Clerk/Treasurer:

The Clerk/Treasurer advised the health renewal is November 1. Renewal documents have been emailed to the Council. The program we have been using is no longer an option. The deductible will change from \$750 to \$1500. The out-of-pocket will change from \$7500 to \$5500. Koren will contact the insurance rep to attend the October 2, meeting or discussion.

We have received the ASTRA liability risk report. There are minor things that need attention to continue to keep our work environment safe such as yellow line painting on steps, mounting fire extinguishers in certain areas, minor repairs at the park. The Council would like to give this report to Drew and allow him to make said updates.

The Clerk/Treasurer received a 30-day notice of resignation from the contracted Building Inspector, Jerry Seymour. The full-time Building Inspector (Drew Guenther) has settled in and is conducting all inspections. Jerry also resigned from the APC and the APC was given a copy of the letter.

Public Hearing:

Dave opened the Public Hearing at 8:15 in regard to Ordinance 2023-12, Additional Appropriation for the CCD Fund. Dave read the ordinance for the first reading. The 2nd reading will be October 2. With no comment from the public, Dave closed the Public Hearing at 8:16.

Dave opened the Public Hearing at 8:20 in regard to Ordinance 2023-13, the 2024 budget. The draft budget has been submitted to the Council previously. Copies of the draft budget were available on the table. With discussion from the Council, and no comment from the public, the Public Hearing was closed at 8:25.

Bid Opening:

A bid notice for snow removal was advertised and bids were due September 15. The Council received no bids for snow removal. Dax recommended sending letters and information to potential bidders. Snow removal will be addressed at later date.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent Agenda consisted of Claims, APV Register, and Payroll Docket. The Council signed all documents at the end of the meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Consideration of a proposal for professional services from MS Consultants in regard to the updating of zoning and development of an UDO. The Council would like for Amy to review the proposal. Subject tabled for October 2.

The proposal from Wells Services for asset inventory depreciation services was discussed. Larry made a motion to accept the proposal. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-1 with Councilman Burtner voting nay.

Consideration of a proposal from REA for park zone and improvement plan was discussed. With this process a park impact fee for new build can be determined. The proposal was \$42,000. This can be paid from the ARPA Fund. Shawn made a motion to accept the proposal. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

The Council proposed to table discussion on facility assessment, wastewater/stormwater master plans, and a Council Procedures and Policies manual.

New Business:

Dave read Resolution 2023-13, a Resolution to Transfer Funds to Rainy Day. Shawn made a motion to allow the transfer of \$5,000 from General into the Rainy Day Fund. Larry made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

The Council agreed to table the fencing quotes for the lagoon as quotes were not available.

The Clerk/Treasurer presented a quote of \$1200 for Keystone software to be able to make payroll direct deposit. With favorable conversation, Shawn made a motion to allow the expense for the software. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

There was discussion regarding appointments to the RDC. The RDC is a 5 member group with 1 year terms and one member of the school board. It is preferred they meet at least monthly. With the RDC, a TIF District can be created. Tax funds from the TIF District are deposited into a separate fund and have different controls.

Adjournment:

With no other business to be presented, Dave Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 pm. Bruce Burtner made a second. Motion passed 4--0.

Sara Fairfield
Council President

Koren Gray
Clerk/Treasurer

Date: _____