

TOWN OF THORNTOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
June 19, 2023  
7:00 PM

The June 19, 2023, 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:

Sara Fairfield, Council	Dax Norton, Consultant
Dave Williams, Council	Frank Clark, Marshal
Bruce Burtner, Council	Gary Moody, Utility
Shawn McClintock, absent	Max Allen, Utility
Larry Truitt, Council	
Koren Gray, Clerk/Treasurer	5 citizens

**Public Comments/Concerns:**

Melanie Gall expressed her concern for parking current and in the future.

**Presentations/Guests:**

None

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

**Police:**

Nothing new to report

**Fire:**

No representative present

**APC:**

No report

**Utility:**

Gary advised we need to purchase a generator at an approximate cost of \$920. Larry made a motion to allow the purchase. Dave made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Max reported the Electric rate study has been completed. They were two recommendations. #1 to increase rates 13.4%. This would allow approximately \$50,000 annually for capital electric projects. #2 to increase rates by 9.8%. The study shows the Electric Utility is losing approximately 9% of our electric revenue. After discussion, Dave made a motion to allow the 9.8% increase. Larry made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

**Park Board:**

No representative present

**Storm Water Board:**

Nothing to report

**Sanitary Sewer Utility Report:**

Gary reported that Accu-Dig has not completed the camera project yet.

**Consultant Report:**

Nothing at this time.

**Public Hearing:**

No Public Hearing

**Clerk/Treasurer:**

The Clerk/Treasurer presented a change of ID form for INPRS (Indiana Public Retirement Service). The Clerk/Treasurer wishes to use the current email address as a part of the login process. Permission must be approved by the Town Council. Sara made a motion to approve the form. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

The CT also advised that a Resolution must be submitted to add the full time Building Inspector position. Koren also advised it would be wise to add Any Full Time Employee as a position then we would not need to do further Resolutions for this purpose. The Resolution will be presented the first meeting in July.

Koren and Drew Guenther (Building Inspector) took a tour with a liability risk representative from our insurance provider, ASTRA. We are mostly in good shape. They were a couple of minor repairs needing attention at the park. The Rep provided advice on fencing and signage at the wastewater site. We will receive a full written report from ASTRA.

**Public Bid Opening**

One bid was received for the 1996 Ford Bucket Truck. The bid was \$1200. Sara made a motion to accept the bid. A second was not made. The motion was void. Dave made a motion to reject the bid. Larry made a second. Motion passed 3-4 with Sara voting nay. Bruce made a motion to run the bid ad again with a minimum of \$2000. Sara made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

## **Consent Agenda:**

Larry made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda consisting of minutes of May 15, and June 5, and Payroll docket, claims, Accounts Payable Voucher Register. Dave made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

## **Unfinished Business:**

Sara noted that she has spoken with Lynn Davis, Sugar Creek Trustee. Lynn is concerned with protecting our water resource. Dax noted that reorganization has no bearing with our water resources. The question arose, "Who will pay for the reorganization costs?" Larry will set up a meeting with the Township Board and the Town Council.

With regard to our historical commercial district, Dax reported that there are new owners of the Odd Fellows building. They are very energetic and are discussing apartments on the second and third floors with retail space on the ground floor. These owners have also expressed an interest in 113 E. Main St. It is required by statute that the building be put up for bid.

### Community Crossing project

There are no new updates at this time.

### Park Impact fee, Utility Impact fee, General Obligation Bond for Park

Nothing new to report at this time.

### Investments

The CT reported she is waiting for Trust Indiana to create the accounts needed.

## **New Business:**

The Town Council received a sponsorship notice from the Festival of the Turning Leaves. The Council advised they provide security and close streets for set-up therefore they will not be making a monetary donation.

Dax discussed adding framing and drywall to the south wall of the Town Hall meeting room. This is the wall that the other monitor will be mounted on. Drew and Dax will be able to do the majority of the work. Dave made a motion to finish the wall not to exceed \$1000. Sara made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

Dax reported the cost for a pick-up truck for the Building Inspector would be in the range of \$50,000-\$55,000. This includes a plow. Currently one is not available. Bruce made a motion to allow, not exceeding, \$55,000, for the purchase of the equipment. Dave made a second. Motion passed 4-0. Dax will continue to follow up on availability.

The Accu-Dig invoice came in \$660.81 over what was previously allowed for the camera project. Bruce made a motion to all the additional \$660.81. Dave made a second. Motion passed 4-0. These funds will be paid from the ARPA-County Fund.

The APC has recommended to the Council to execute a contract for Professional Services for comprehensive plan and UDO updates. Don Gray will seek some additional information from MS Consultants.

Marshal Frank Clark has reported to the Council that a new police station will be needed in the near future. There are new guidelines that a police department must adhere to and currently we do not meet those guidelines. The cost of design, 1<sup>st</sup> draft, is \$292,000.

The AIM Idea Summit information was provided to the Council. Clerk/Treasurer, Koren Gray, asked permission to attend and advised would be glad to register anyone who also wanted to attend. Sara Fairfield would like to attend. Don Gray, President of APC would also like to attend. The cost for Koren and Sara is \$345 each and Mr. Gray can attend as a spouse for \$199. Bruce made a motion to allow the registration and lodging for the AIM Summit. Sara made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

#### Strategic Thoughts


#### Other Business:

Since the first Monday in July is July 3<sup>rd</sup>, and is a holiday weekend, the Town Council meeting will be postponed until July 10. The Town Council will combine with the APC at the Town Hall beginning at 6:00 pm.

#### Adjournment:

With no other business to be presented, Sara made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 pm. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 4-0.

  
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Sara Fairfield  
Council President

  
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Koren Gray  
Clerk/Treasurer

Date: July 17, 2023