

TOWN OF THORNTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
August 21, 2023
7:00 PM

The August 21, 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	Erick Smith, APC
Dave Williams, Council	Frank Clark, Marshal
Bruce Burtner, Council	Gary Moody, Utility
Shawn McClintock, Council	Amy Nooning, Attorney
Larry Truitt, Council	Representatives from 500 Sycamore
Koren Gray, Clerk/Treasurer	4 citizens

Public Comments/Concerns:

Resident, Melanie Gall, asked what will be the benefit of re-organization with Sugar Creek Township and Washington Township, and what will be the benefit for the Town of Thorntown. Amy explained this is what the formation of a committee would be discussing. The committee would discuss the pros and cons for all concerned.

Presentations/Guests:

Angie Moody, a representative for the Festival of the Turning Leaves committee, requested use of the town restrooms and permission for closing a portion of North Market St., and a portion of S. Market St. for the evening of September 22, and all day September 23, and September 24, until 8:00 pm. Angie will work with Marshal Clark for permits for closing SR 47. This is the 50th year for the festival. Dave made a motion to allow the requests. Sara made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Ben Roeger, CPA, CL Coonrod & Co., was present to discuss the 2024 budget. He provided the Council with graphs showing the percentages of expense per department and an updated Fiscal Comprehensive Plan. The Public Hearing for the 2024 budget will be September 18, 2023.

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

Police:

Nothing to report

Fire:

Fire Chief, Steve Whittinghill, provided a report to Council President Sara Fairfield. Fire Chief Whittinghill advised the department will be needing to purchase air packs soon.

APC:

Erick Smith was present on behalf of the APC. Erick stated fences are currently being treated as a structure regarding setbacks as fences are not specific in the town codes. Erick advised we have some codes in our ordinances that need updating. The APC recommended to the Council to accept the previous proposal submitted by MS Consultants to help with the code updating.

Utility:

Utility Superintendent, Gary Moody, presented President Sara Fairfield with quote information for fencing at the wastewater pond.

Park Board:

No representative present, but a report was provided to President Fairfield.

Storm Water Board:

Nothing to report

Sanitary Sewer Utility Report:

Nothing to report

Consultant Report:

Consultant was absent.

Public Hearing:

No Public Hearing

Clerk/Treasurer:

Clerk/Treasurer, Koren, Gray, reported she has secured a grant from the Boone County Solid Waste Management District. This grant will pay up to and not to exceed \$5,000 for our Town Clean-Up day, September 9, 2023.

The CT reported a new pump has been installed in the basement of the Town Hall pas an emergency situation. It was discovered the pump was not working at all. Also, the air conditioner that handles the police department and the utility offices stopped working and a new AC unit needed to be installed.

Koren advised financial reports were available for review. We need to do an additional appropriation for the CCD line due to the expense of the purchase of 113 E. Main St., Thorntown.

Public Bid Opening

Bids for the 1996 Ford bucket truck were opened by President Fairfield. Jeremy Garst submitted \$2051.00; Tim Williams submitted \$3100.00; Damian Breedlove submitted \$3100.00; and Gary

Gard submitted \$7500.00. Larry made a motion to accept the bid from Gary Gard of \$7500.00. Dave made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Bids were opened for the property located at 113 E. Main St. Only one bid was received. Sycamore Thorntown, LLC, submitted a bid of \$19,500.00. Along with this bid the bidder agreed to comply with the engineering standards set forth in the bid notice. Sara made a motion to accept the bid of \$19,500. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Bruce made a motion to allow Amy Nooning to negotiate the sellers/buyers contract. Larry made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Consent Agenda:

Items on the Consent Agenda included minutes from July 17, 2023 and August 7, 2023, APV Register, Payroll Dockets. Bruce noted that the minutes of July 17, showed Shawn McClintock as absent. Mr. McClintock was present. Councilman Burtner made a motion to accept the consent agenda with the correction of Mr. McClintock. Councilman McClintock made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Bruce also made a request to approve minutes at each meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Consideration of a proposal from Wells Services for Asset Inventory Depreciation and Reporting Services, was tabled.

Consideration of a proposal from Krohn and Associates for Utility Impact Fee and GO Bond Financial Analysis was tabled.

Consideration of a proposal from REA for Park Zone Improvement Plan Development was tabled.

New Business:

Sara read Ordinance 2023-09 Establishing Rates and Charges to Be Collected by the Town of Thorntown for Customers Served by the Municipal Electric Utility. This ordinance is available for view at the Clerk/Treasurer's Office. Customer charge will change from 7.89 per kWh to 8.66 per kWh. A Public Hearing will be held September 13, 7:00 pm, at the regular Town Council meeting.

Sara read Ordinance 2023-10 Amending Section 10.25 Schedule of Fines and Fees of the Town Code. A fee is being added for obtaining Police body cam video footage. Shawn made a motion to suspend the rules. Dave made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Bruce made a motion to accept Ordinance 2023-10. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Sara read Ordinance 2023-11 to Establish a Law Enforcement Fund. Dave made a motion to suspend the rules. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Shawn made a motion to accept Ordinance 2023-11. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance 2023-12 Amending Ordinance 2022-20 Establishing Compensation to Be Paid to Officials of the Town of Thorntown and Employees. This amendment Eliminated the position of a Part-time Building Inspector and adding a Full-time Building Inspector. This ordinance amendment also added provision for the 3rd position Deputy Marshal to the take-home vehicle policy. Dave made a motion to

suspend the rules. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 5-0. Shawn made a motion to accept Ordinance 2023-12. Dave made a second. Motion passed 5-0.

The 2023/2024 Snow Removal notice of bid was presented. The Council approved the notice and were okay to continue with posting the notice in The Lebanon Reporter. Snow bids are due September 15, 2023, at the Town Hall.

Strategic Thoughts

2024 Sewer Utility Budget was mentioned. (Dax suggested previously that the USB, Town Council and Supt. Gary Moody have a meeting to set the budget and discuss plans for future use.)

Other Business:

None

Adjournment:

With no other business to be presented, Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 pm. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 5-0.



Sara Fairfield
Council President



Koren Gray
Attest: Clerk/Treasurer

Date: 9/12/23