TOWN OF THORNTOWN

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

August 5, 2024

7:00 PM

The August 5, 2024 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, absent Frank Clark, Marshall

Bruce Burtner, Council Max Allen, USB

Larry Truitt, absent 9 citizens

Dave Williams, Council

Shawn McClintock, Council

Koren Gray, Clerk/Treasurer

Guests: Colin Sullivan and Chris Wheatly – BFS Engineering

Gina Allen, Angie Moody – Festival of Turning Leaves

Angie Moody - WAVE

**Presentations/Guests:**

Colin Sullivan and Chris Wheatly from BFS Engineering, advised the Council the PASER review needed to be completed every two years to stay in compliance with state regulations and be eligible for future Community Crossings projects. Our current PASER rating ends this year. An updated PASER rating needs to be completed by December 31, 2024, to remain in compliance. Bruce made a motion to allow BFS to do the PASER rating. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

A couple of years ago it was brought to the attention of Council that Lincoln St. is showing on the official street map, however, it has never been developed. If the Town wished to have Lincoln St. included as a street on the inventory (PASER) we would need to apply gravel first, then it could be considered a street and possible project for the CCMG. This would require the Council to have a conversation with the property owner to discuss possible development for the future growth of Thorntown. Shawn stated he had no desire to look into developing Lincoln St. or even an additional development. After much negativity from the Council, the Clerk/Treasurer advised Lincoln St. would never be mentioned again on the agenda.

Colin and Chris requested approval of the bid advertisement for the alley drainage project on Main St., alley to the Pizza King. They are proposing to tear out the current asphalt, install concrete with an inverted crown. They believe this project would be approximately $50,000 Bruce made a motion to allow the advertisement for bids. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

Angie Moody, WAVE representative, and on behalf of the American Legion, stated a chair lift is needed for the second floor. She presented a proposal from Access Elevator for $7450.00. John Graves, representative for the American Legion, also noted the need for the lift. Angie said they can apply for a grant. WAVE and the Amerian Legion are asking permission from the Council to have a lift installed. Shawn made a motion to allow the installation. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

Angie introduced Gina Allen, who is the new President of the Festival of the Turning Leaves committee. Angie noted the committee requests permission each year to hang the festival banner over SR 47, closure of SR 47 for the 2-day festival period, closure of North and South Market St. for festival vendors, and west North Pearl St. for a car show on Sunday.

**Public Comments/Concerns:**

Amanda Hankins requested variance for installing a fence on her property on North Market St. This fence would be on the property line. Council advised Ms. Hankins to provide signed letter(s) from neighbors stating her placement of a fence would be okay with them. Letters should be given the Building Inspector.

Steve Cole approached the Council regarding the stormwater that stands on his property on West Bow St. The Cole’s have approached the Council previously but have not seen any action for the solution of the standing water issue. JJ Nelson also from West Bow St., was present to confirm of water standing. Stormwater also stands in his yard and backs up in his drains. Dave will ask the utility crew to check into the issue. BFS also recommended a camera or smoke test to try to determine an issue. Max will also discuss the issue with Utility Supt. Gary Moody.

**Public Hearing:**

Dave opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2024-7, Ordinance Establishing Sewer Capacity Fees, at 7:58 pm. At this time the Ordinance 2024-7 was presented for the second read. There was one question from the public, “Are capacity fees and tap fees different?” Yes, they are different fees. Public Hearing closed at 8:00 pm. Bruce made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-7. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

Dave opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2024-8, Ordinance Establishing Water Capacity Fees, at 8:02 pm. Ordinance 2024-8 was presented for the second read. With no questions or comments from the public, the hearing was closed at 8:03 pm. Bruce made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-8. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

**Department/Board and Commissions Reports:**

(NO REPORTS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH MEETING)

**Police:**

Marshal Clark reported an issue has developed regarding permanent living in campers/RVs. The Boone County Health Dept. is pursuing codes/violations. We have to abide by the County codes.

**Fire:**

**Advisory Planning Commission:**

**Building Inspector**:

**Utility Department:**

**Park Board:**

**Storm Water Board**:

**Sanitary Sewer:**

**Customary Items for Approval:**

Minutes for June 3, and July 15, were provided. Dave made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Bruce made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

**Clerk/Treasurer:**

The Clerk/Treasurer provided a copy of the proposed 2025 budget. These figures have been provided to the DLGF. This budget will be accepted by the DLGF as it is presented.

The Clerk/Treasurer reported MD3 consulting has installed the new items for updating our internet. Internet speed tests are much better. Staff and guest logins have been set.

The CT advised she needs a copy of the quote that has been submitted for Town Clean-up Day.

The CT shared a little information regarding a DORA , Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area. DORA’s are a trending atmosphere in many municipalities. This is something that will require Council to have discussion.

Koren advised the CT office has an offensive odor due to police evidence storage. Due to recent health issues, she is asking if something can be done regarding storage of evidence.

Arbor Homes/Innovative have submitted plat plans and fees. Planner, Oksana Polhuy, has those plans for review.

**Unfinished Business:**

RDC appointments – Nothing new to report

Sanitary Hot list – Dan Cutshaw, MS Consultants, has received and reviewed the proposal from Accu-Dig for repairs on the top wastewater concerns for repair. Dan recommends Council accept the proposal. Dave made a motion to accept the proposal pending legal review. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

Trash Clean-up Day – Shawn is waiting on a response for a collection site.

Lions Park donation – Koren noted that the community sign at the Lions Park is a part of the donation of the park land. She is working with Christine Sterle at the Library for the housing of the sign letters.

B & R Fire – The CT presented a written quote for fire extinguishers for the Town-owned vehicles. The police vehicles already have them. We need 8 for all other owned vehicles. This is a requirement of our liability carrier.

**New Business**:

Max Allen, USB President, presented the information from the water rate study. An average household uses approximately 4000 gal per month. The proposal included increases of 40%, 50% or 60%. The USB recommends an increase of 50% which would be an approximate additional $11.00 per 4000 gal of water. Bruce made a motion to accept the recommendation. Dave made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

Max also recommended to increase the top fee to $750.00. Dave made a motion to allow the increase in the tap fee. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

The Clerk/Treasurer presented a transcribing proposal for Town Council minutes and other Board usage Dave made a motion to accept the transcribing proposal at a cost of $.20 per line. The motion was seconded and passed 3-0.

**Other Business**:

Dave provided a copy of the supplies needed for the fence at the lagoon. The cost is $1307.00. Gary has also ordered some signs that need to be posted. Dave made a motion to allow the expense, not to exceed $2000.00. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

**Adjournment:**

With no other business to be presented, Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 pm. Shawn made a second. Motion passed 3-0.

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Sara Fairfield Koren Gray

Council President Clerk/Treasurer

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_