

TOWN OF THORNTOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 17, 2018

The Thorntown Council met December 17, 2018, at the Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Don Johnson. The board and public followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present for roll call: Don Johnson, Mark Garing, John Shives, Bruce Burtner, Amy Nooning, Koren Gray, Angie Moody, Frank Small, Gary Moody, Frank Clark, Derek Babcock, Jackie Hemmerling, Melanie Gall, Shawn McClintock, and Dave Williams. There were several members of the public present also.

The minutes of December 3, had a correction. The ordinance numbers were being listed but the entire list did not get printed. Mrs. Gray will attach the entire list prior to filing the minutes in the official book. Mark Garing made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. Second by John Shives. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Johnson read a letter from Frank Small that he will be resigning his Planning position effective December 31, 2018. Don thanked him for his years of service. A letter was also read from John Shives. Mr. Shives will be resigning his position on the Board effective December 31, 2018. Thank you, Mr. Shives, for your service to Thorntown. Both positions will need to be filled.

Mr. Johnson advised that Mr. Pat McPeak, a former council member, would be willing to fill in John's term on the Board. Donnie made a motion to appoint Mr. McPeak, with a second by John Shives. Mr. Garing requested a discussion. After sharing some insight, Mr. Garing nominated Carol Keith as well. This motion will be open on the table.

**Reports:**

**Utility:** Mr. Johnson thanked the Utility Department for adjusting the barricades at the Smith building. Superintendent Moody advised the Stalcorp report was good. He also advised that the holiday decorations up town would remain during January.

Harold Cox, Utility Board, asked who is the governing body over a Storm Water Board, the Town or the Utility? He will do some research on this and will have further discussion in January.

**Park/Development:** (Angie Moody) Making plans for stump removal, water fountain, pop machine, and other maintenance items. These are improvements the Park Board would like to make with their 2018 budget funds. The funds will be set aside for expenditure in 2019. Mrs. Moody had no other new information to report.

**Police:** Marshal Clark distributed the department monthly report to the Board members. Marshal Clark also advised the engine blew in the 2014 Dodge. A new engine would be about \$10,000; a rebuild would be about \$5,000. Funds will be taken from LIT to take care of this repair. Motion: Mark, Second: Bruce, motion passed 4-0 to do the rebuild.

**Fire Department:** no report

**Old Business:**

**Smith Building:** table for January

There was discussion regarding the Planning Commission. Plans need to be worked out for obtaining permits. Mark stated the Clerk-Treasurer would also need to be in attendance at the Planning meetings the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm.

**New Business:**

The council members signed the required Nepotism forms and the forms will be filed.

The council will hold a Special Meeting, December 29, 9:00 am, to appoint the council replacement to be effective January 1, 2019. The Council will also hold a Special Public meeting January 3, 2019, 7:00 pm for the purpose of swearing in, select board officers, and selecting the schedule of meetings for 2019.

The Legal Services contract was presented by Attorney, Amy Noonung. No changes were made for the town. However, with the new implementation of the Advisory Planning Commission there will be an hourly fee if her services are needed. Bruce Burtner made a motion to accept the contract. Second by Mark Garing. Motion passed 4-0.

The Council adopted the Street Cut Permit (Ordinance #9). After the first reading of the ordinance Mr. Garing made a motion so suspend the rules, second by Mr. Burtner. Motion passed 4-0. Mr. Shives made a motion to accept the ordinance, second by Mr. Garing. Motion passed 4-0.

The Board had discussion regarding the wage for the Community Director. After discussion, Mark made a motion that the Community Director be paid \$17.30 per hour not to exceed 29.75 hours per week. Second by Mr. Shives. Motion passed 4-0.

The Salary Ordinance 2018-8 was adopted with a 4-0 vote.

**Concerns:**

Melanie Gall: Is there something in place with the utilities if a lot of water is being used, but not the sewer, can any sewer fees be waived? See Sandy at the Utility office she will provide more information. Ms. Gall also shared the good compliments regarding the Police Department Christmas event.

Public Patron, Kelly Frank, addressed the Internet advertising signs that have been posted all about town and the trail. Marshal Clark advised if the signs are displayed on personal property there is nothing law enforcement can do. The homeowner would need to handle that situation. His department will deal with signs when possible.

Mrs. Harder had a concern how our scrap metal was dealt with. Mr. Gideon advised the utility department has policies in effect for that matter. All proceeds from scrap metal sales go directly back into the utility funds.

Mr. Garing would like to get ordinances delivered to American Legal.

Mark made a presentation regarding the town website. Since our previous Webmaster is no longer able to handle the website, we have a quote from Immense Impact to provide website services. He would like to have this website information on the agenda for January.

Frank Small announced that according to permits granted the Dollar General Store will be moving into town after the first of the year.

The Council presented Mr. Johnson with a plaque acknowledging his service to the Town of Thorntown. Thank, Donnie, for all you have done during your terms of office.

Claims were signed.

The meeting was motioned to adjourn at 8:43pm, by Mark Garing. Second by Bruce Burtner. Motion passed 4-0.

There was cake available for everyone as a celebration to Don Johnson for his service.

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President

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Attest: Clerk Treasurer

Items to keep in mind:

Advisory Plan Commission – implementation, meeting dates, process how permits will be handled.

Treasurer and Council need to discuss plans for checks and balances for the bookkeeping. This could be an ongoing process.