

TOWN OF THORNTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
September 19, 2016

The Thorntown Town Council met on September 19, 2016, at the Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Don Johnson.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Council members Don Johnson, Koren Gray, Larry Acton, Mark Garing and Larry Truitt.

Also present were Clerk-Treasurer John Gillan, Utility Superintendent/ Street Department Gary Moody, Utility Board Harold Cox, Marshal Russ Voils, Town Attorney Dennis Williams, Web site developer Robbie Acton, and Park Board President Angie.

Seven (7) citizens of the Town were also present.

Larry A. moved to accept the August minutes as corrected. His motion was seconded by Larry T and passed 5-0.

BUDGET HEARING:

The proposed 2017 was presented for public comment. No comments were received.

Mark moved to close the Public Hearing. Motion seconded by Koren and passed 5-0.

INSURANCE:

The insurance committee recommended that the Town purchase health insurance from United Healthcare, with the employees paying Ten Percent (10%) of the cost and that if a spouse is able to purchase insurance at their place of employment they would not be included.

Employees need to be taken care of in a responsible manner that the Town can afford. This could be construed as a pay cut, but insurance cost have increased dramatically, The 10% contribution of employees and reduced cost of insurance will put us close to budget for next year. \$40,000 was budgeted this year for the police department but close to \$65,000 will be spent for current plan.

Larry A commented that is a fact of life that insurance costs more and employees are sharing that cost.

Larry T commented that even those on Medicare are having to pay more for part B and supplements, and they are on fixed incomes.

Don agreed with both statements

Koren moved to have employees pay Ten (10) percent of insurance costs. This motion was seconded by Mark and Passed 5-0.

Larry Truitt moved to purchase insurance from United Healthcare. Seconded by Larry A. The motion passed 5-0.

ORDINANCE 2016-6: Amendment to 2016 Civil Salary Ordinance.

Ordinance 2016-6 adds benefits to the 2016 salary ordinance. Koren moved that Ordinance 2016-6 be approved. Larry T seconded this motion and it passed 5-0.

ORDINANCE 2016-7: Amendment to 2016 Utility Salary Ordinance.

Ordinance 2016-7 adds benefits to the 2016 Salary Ordinance. Larry A moved to accept Ordinance 2016-7 with a second by Larry T. Motion passed 5-0.

SNOW BIDS:

One bid was received for snow plowing from Merrill Construction. The bid was the same as last year. Larry A moved to accept the bid from Merrill Construction. Koren Seconded this motion and it passed 5-0.

REPORTS

Park Board: Will be hosting a movie at the park during festival. Also fireworks at the fire station. Maintenance is being finished up. Working on budget. Had a meeting with the trail committee and financing was discussed.

Planning: No report

Website: Image resolution has been fixed. Minutes and agenda up to date. More businesses are signing up.

Police: New vehicle has been ordered. Nathan Cox has resigned. Durango is being stripped. Dereck will be working up to 30 hrs. per week. Parking problems during festival have been addressed.

Utilities: Camera for sewer inspection will be discussed at Utility Board.

Stalcop: OK

OLD BUSINESS

Development Director Job Description: Will be based on three bullet points from Executive Session; (1) infrastructure, (2) re-organization, and (3) re-vitalization. Description may change over time. Initial description does not have to address pay. Position is part time and will start on January 1. Pay will be per hour.

Festival: N Pearl will be shut down. SR 47 and 75 will be blocked. Market from 47 to Bow closed. Angle parking on Market St. All permits have been obtained.

Town Hall RR: Consensus is to wait until spring and look at repair.

Signs: Signs for Town Hall, Police, and Utilities have been ordered.

Re-organization: Meeting is planned with Town Attorney.

Doors: Estimates have been obtained for repair.

NEW BUSINESS

Local Income Tax Council: Larry T; (1) What do we get?, there will be no deduction, people on fixed income will be hurt, it's going to pass but will it help people in Thorntown, and in favor of .25 but not .5. Larry A; will more county officers help Thorntown? Mark; will not matter how we vote and how will it be spent. LIT money is not just for police but also for fire and emergency management

Larry T in favor of .25

Larry A in favor

Mark in favor

Koren in favor of .25

Don in favor

CONCERNS

Can the Town help the Art Center obtain the old cleaners and laundry property?

Marsha Davis property.

Review of claims.

Larry T moved to adjourn. Mark seconded this motion and it passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 840 PM.

ATTEST:

JOHN GILLAN, CLERK-TREASURER

Don Johnson, PRESIDENT