

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2015**

Meeting Time: The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

Location: Thornburg Community Building, Library

Attendance:

PRESENT: President Sigo Falk (12/17) Mark Perrott (12/17) Fino Caliguire (12/15) Vinnie Coppola (12/17) Mike Dwyer (12/15)

ABSENT: Scott Quinn (2015), Tony Szmul (12/17)

Mayor Tom Mackin (2017) was present.

Solicitor Chuck Means from GRB was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Dwyer made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of February 9, 2015.

Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Dwyer made a motion to accept the Minutes of February 9, 2014 with the addition of “parking lot” under New Business describing the location of the 18 wheeler.

Mr. Perrott seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mayor Bloom from Crafton was present. He spoke about the \$50/month donation to the VFD that ceased in 2014 after the reported theft by the Treasurer. He discussed the process now utilized with oversight from their CPA. The relief fund provides for protective gear, tools for truck and related items. Donations are used for day to day operations and they are struggling financially to build fund back up. Mayor Bloom would like Council to consider giving the monthly donation again. He left after his appeal.

Sam Runyon was present.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin was present. The police report was discussed.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Solicitor Means was present.

Railroad Repairs – The PUC order states the work is to be completed by 1/31/16. Solicitor Means will send a letter requesting information about the schedule.

Solicitor Means updated Council on the ordinance regarding building permits for a structure over 200 square feet. The Department of Labor and Industry approved the amendment to the building code. The borough needs to give a 30 day notice to the DOL prior to enacting. Solicitor Means will notify the DOL Friday and the ordinance will be voted on in April.

Right To Know Request: Council should refrain from using personal emails and sending text messages, regarding Borough business, on personal phones if they wish to avoid subjecting their phones to searches resulting from RTKL requests.

Borough Engineer: The borough can select an engineering firm as it wishes. There are no bid requirements.

Tennis Court Repairs: If the bid is under 10,500 no bid is required nor three quotes.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Alarcon presented a report.

Mr. Caliguire made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Alarcon contacted two engineering firms. She will ask them to come for an interview before the April meeting.

Park permits were discussed. Mr. Perrott made a motion to raise the fees to \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Volunteer Fireman's Fund: Ms. Alarcon asked Council if they desired to renew the \$50 donation. A discussion followed and President Falk asked for a motion. No motion was made.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

The Engineer's report was provided. There were no comments.

The bump in the road on Princeton in front of Mercurio's was discussed. There may be a need to tie into the storm sewer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration (Mr. Szmul): No report.

Budget and Finance (Mr. Quinn & Mr. Falk): No report.

Land Conservation/Resources (Mr. Caliguire): Dave Smallhoover sent a preliminary business plan for his composting business. He talked to DEP and no permitting is required.

Jeff Leithauser would like to plant trees in the park this spring. More details will follow.

Dangerous Trees: there are a few trees that are dying/dead. The Karozza brothers who did work in the past have been contacted but have not yet toured the borough to review the trees that should come down.

Sewers/Public Works (Mr. Coppola): No report.

Community Building (Mr. Dwyer): No report

Public Relations (Mr. Perrott):

Permit tags – Red tags were purchased for park permits. Ms. Alarcon asked about the permitting process. She plans to have the applications online within the next month.

Website –Mark met with Lori Halt. She will be doing the website.

OLD BUSINESS:

Old borough truck was discussed. It is time to put it on the bid list.

LED Lighting – there is supposed to be an additional new one. Rob asked about one at the end of Stanford. There is one by Vinnie's that is turned in towards park. Mr. Runyon asked if the lights were adjustable – cast a narrow cone. Ms Alarcon will contact Duquesne Light.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tennis Court Bids: Mr. Coppola discussed the proposal for repairing the tennis courts. Mr. Coppola made a motion to approve the bid of \$9,600 pending investigation of the lower alternative. Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

A resident on upper Harvard is spreading corn to feed deer. There is an ordinance against feeding wild animals.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Coppola made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.