

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF JUNE 8, 2015**

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

Location: Thornburg Community Building, Library

Attendance:

PRESENT: Vinnie Coppola (12/17) Mark Perrott (12/17) Fino Caliguire (12/15) Mike Dwyer (12/15),
Tony Szmul (12/17) Scott Quinn (2015)

ABSENT: President Sigo Falk (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. Szmul made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of May 11, 2015.

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

Mr. Szmul made a motion to accept the Minutes of May 11, 2015.

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Caliguire of Harvard Road was present. He wanted to know if there was an update on the garage located at 1143 Dartmouth Road. Solicitor Means stated that it was communicated with the Building Inspector to issue a violation letter after the May meeting. Dan Felton informed the Borough Secretary that he is on vacation and will issue a letter on June 15 when he returns.

Mr. Caliguire asked if a violation letter has been issued to the bank that now owns the former McConomy property on Harvard Road. It is an eyesore & danger. Solicitor Means stated that there is a property maintenance code in effect. If the structure is unsound the building inspector can issue notice of violation and require repair or removal. If no action is taken, the borough can take down garage. The building inspector, Dan Felton, has already looked at the garage and can issue a violation letter. Mr Mark Perrott will take pictures. Mr. Coppola suggested that Solicitor Means send the violation letter, pictures to the bank and let them know they have X number of days to remove the garage or the borough will take it down as it is unsafe. Solicitor Means needs something in writing from building code official.

Ms. Alarcon was directed to contact Dan Felton on June 15, and follow up with call regarding the garages.

Ms. Laura Irwin of Cornell Road was present. She felt that she was represented incorrectly in the Talk of the Town regarding the handling of our deer population. She is advocating a long term plan and not a cull as Mt. Lebanon had in their community a few months ago.

Ms. Irwin also wanted to know who is in charge of overseeing the building inspector, Dan Felton. At the last council meeting she was under impression that a violation letter would go out in days to the homeowner at 1143 Dartmouth. There has also been no sense of urgency with the McConomy garage. Mayor Mackin stated that he has been the point of contact for Mr. Felton. Mr. Dwyer shared his experience in dealing with BIU in the past. The borough is looking for an alternative and a recently interviewed engineering firm may provide the solution as they have an in-house building inspector.

Mr. Caliguire asked about the requirement for a building inspector. Solicitor Means said they need to be certified by the state.

Ms. Irwin asked when the lease with CCC expires. She also would like to clean out the storage room in the community building.

Ms. Lorraine Runyon of Princeton Road was present. Ms. Eileen Szuhay purchased a framed degree earned by Bert McConomy and gave it to Lorraine as the TCC historian. Ms. Runyon will hang it in the auditorium. Ms. Runyon is also concerned about the historical binders getting moldy in the present storage room. She will move them above the book shelves in library.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin was present. The police report was discussed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Means was present.

A letter was drafted by Solicitor Means and sent from Sigo to CCC regarding lease violations.

Child Protective Services: A new law requires employees or volunteers over the age of eighteen to be registered if they have direct contact with children. A discussion followed. Rob Murphy, George Kipolo, Chuck Coppola and Marty Scanlon will need to get their clearances. Ms. Alarcon will send a simple note to Rob and George about their reporting requirements.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's report for April and May was presented. Mr. Caliguire made a motion to approve the reports. Mr. Szmul seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Joan Britten's term on the Zoning Hearing Board expired on 12/31/14. Mr. Coppola moved to nominate Joan for another three year term. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The position of Vacancy Chair is vacant. Mr. Szmul motioned to nominate Judy Thompson. Mr. Perrott seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Alarcon suggested having internet access for Rob to provide for more efficient communication. A discussion followed and it was felt by Council that it was not necessary for business.

Ninety-two dog permits have been issued to date.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

The Engineer’s report was provided. Three repairs need to be made for a total of \$14,700. Ms. Alarcon will contact Bryan to get bids.

Mike Dwyer suggested that a decision be made at the next meeting concerning engineering firms.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration (Mr. Szmul): No report.

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

Land Conservation/Resources (Mr. Caliguire): The Korozza brothers have not been responding to calls. If they continue to be unresponsive other bids will be sought for tree removal.

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

Community Building (Mr. Dwyer): Mr. Dwyer inquired about the cleanliness of the bathrooms. CCC is responsible for keeping them clean. Mr. Coppola will call Rob and ask him to look at the bathrooms and identify plumbing issues.

Mr. Dwyer suggested buying a ladder for access to binders.

Public Relations (Mr. Perrott): Website: Barb Larimer recommended Thornburg.org. in lieu of Thornburg.gov. Lori Anne agreed about .org. Ms. Runyon thought Thornburg Financial is Thornburg.org. If so, another variation will be used.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Szmul made a motion to approve the bid of \$3,400 to fix the wall on Hamilton and split the cost with the homeowner. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Alcosan – The engineer is looking at how they will fill in behind the building with millings to stabilize levy. Mr. Caliguire expressed concern about the chemical used for killing the weeds. Mayor Mackin stated that Mr. Bigham misspoke about what is being used and Mayor Mackin will get information on the chemical that will be sprayed.

Railroad Repairs: Mr. Perrott sighted workers perusing the intersection.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Mark Perrott made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM.

Mr. Tony Szmul seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.