

## **THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2015**

- Meeting Time:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.
- Location:** Thornburg Community Building, Library
- Attendance:** Council president Sigo Falk (2017) was present. Council members Vinnie Coppola (2017), Mike Dwyer (2015), Scott Quinn (2015), and Tony Szmul (2017) were present. Council members Fino Caliguire (2015) and Mark Perrott (2017) were absent. Mayor Tom Mackin (2017) was present. Solicitor Chuck Means and Emily Mueller from GRB were present.
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**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

### **READING OF THE MINUTES:**

Mr. Quinn made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from October 12, 2015 and the Minutes from November 9, 2015. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Szmul made a motion that the Minutes from October 12, 2015 be approved as written. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motions, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Szmul made a motion that the Minutes from November 9, 2015 be approved as written. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motions, and it was unanimously approved.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Residents Ron Varga (Tech) and Judy Kimblin (Tech) were present to observe.

Resident Lorraine Runyon (Princeton) was present. She requested that the borough zoning officer investigate the temporary garage/tent that was erected on Henrietta Way as it blocks visibility in the alley. A discussion followed. President Falk will bring it to the attention of the zoning officer.

Residents Lauren and Brian Catanzarite (Yale) were present. They inquired about ownership of a dead tree near their property. Mayor Mackin informed council that the tree was on Stanley Michaels' property and that he knows that it is his responsibility to take it down.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for November. There were five alarms (all false), one animal call, one harassment complaint, one medical call with transport, one possession of marijuana in a vehicle near the park, and one soliciting complaint.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

DEP Sewage consent order: Solicitor Means reviewed the DEP sewage consent order. A discussion followed. Mr. Szmul made a motion that council approve the DEP consent order. Mr. Quinn seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Mitchell update:

Solicitor Mueller summarized the situation regarding the construction of the Mitchell garage, which has been done without a valid permit. The Mitchells will require a variance to continue, which will require zoning hearing board approval. Work has been halted until a permit is obtained.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Ms. Falk presented the monthly Treasurer's Report. Mr. Coppola made a motion that council accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Check Disbursements:

Mr. Coppola made a motion to approve the disbursements for December. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Meeting/ Schedule:

Ms. Falk presented the council meeting schedule for 2016. Council will meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM, except for the January meeting, which is required to take place on January 4, 2016 since it is a reorganizational meeting. Mr. Dwyer made a motion that council authorize the advertising of the 2016 meeting schedule, which was seconded by Mr. Szmul. The motion passed unanimously.

Garbage contract:

Ms. Falk presented the bid tabulation results of the garbage proposals received. A discussion followed. Mr. Coppola made a motion that council accept the lowest bid for a one year contract for garbage and recycling removal which was submitted by Waste Management. Mr. Szmul seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Election: 2016

Ms. Falk presented the results of the November election. Two write-in candidates accepted their election (Ron Varga and Sam Runyon) and one declined (Lauren Catanzarite). Council will need to appoint a new member at its January meeting, who will have a term length of two years.

2016 draft budget:

Ms. Falk presented the 2016 draft budget as it stood following the previous meetings' adjustments. A discussion followed. Mr. Quinn made a motion that council adopt the 2016 budget as presented. Mr. Szmul seconded the motions, which passed unanimously.

2016 Real Estate Millage:

Mr. Dwyer made a motion that council approve the real estate millage rate of 5.6 mills. Mr. Quinn seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

No report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Administration** (Mr. Szmul): Mr. Szmul spoke with Scott Township regarding their code enforcement officer. Mayor Mackin will follow up as Mr. Graff has accepted the position on a temporary basis.

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

**Land Conservation/Resources** (Mr. Caliguire): No report

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

**Community Building** (Mr. Dwyer): Mr. Dwyer offered to stay involved with projects involving the community building in the future although he will no longer serve on council.

**Public Relations** (Mr. Perrott): No report

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

President Falk made a motion that council make a resolution thanking Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Caliguire, and Mr. Quinn for their service on council. Mr. Coppola seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Dangerous trees: This issue will be addressed in January.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Quinn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.