

# **THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2016**

**Meeting Time:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

**Location:** Thornburg Community Building, Library

**Attendance:** President Sigo Falk (2017) was present. Council members Fino Caliguire (2017) and Tony Szmul (2017) were absent. Council members Vinnie Coppola (2017), Mark Perrott (2017), Sam Runyon (2019), and Ron Varga (2017) were present. Mayor Tom Mackin (2017) was present. Solicitor Chuck Means from GRB was present.

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**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

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

Mr. Runyon made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of April 11, 2016. Mr. Perrott seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Runyon made a motion to accept the Minutes of April 11, 2016 as written. Mr. Perrott seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Borough engineer Ray Antonelli (NIRA) was present.

Rockslide: Joe Boward from Garvin Boward Beitko Engineering was present to review options for repairing damage from the rockslide. He had previously worked for the company that built the fence/containment system c. 1998.

The permanent fix would be to scale the rock face, insert bolts, install wire mesh, install drainage panels, and cover everything with shotcrete. The cost to do this is approximately \$600k. A less expensive option would be to scale a subsection of the rock face to remove much of the rock most likely to fall and rebuild the fence. Council was inclined to take this approach.

Solicitor Means indicated that since the scaling is specialized work, the borough does not need to advertise and/or accept the lowest bid. The borough can negotiate directly with companies or put out an RFP to get competitive quotes. The rebuilding of the fence can also be considered a maintenance/replacement so it may not need to be bid out either.

A discussion followed. Council requested that Mr. Broward submit a written proposal for the engineering of the proposed project.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Speeding - Greg Begg (Princeton) requested that Council address the issue of speeding which seems to have increased on Princeton due to the Cornell closure. A discussion followed. Mayor Mackin will talk to Crafton about the possibility of borrowing its portable speed monitoring signs.

Pickleball - Linda Froehlich (Kenyon) gave a presentation on the sport of pickle ball. She requested that Council consider adding lines to the tennis courts to make them available for use as pickle ball courts. A discussion followed. Mayor Mackin will look into making the basketball court available for pickle ball.

Residents Judy Kimblin (Tech), Stephanie and Zane Long (Tech), Lorraine Runyon (Princeton), and Joan Britten (Columbia) were present to observe.

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

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for May. There was an alarm call (false), one call regarding an open garage, one noise complaint, one harassment (via phone), one medical call with transport (fall from scaffolding), one medical assist without transport, one theft (tools from truck in industrial park), one traffic call (kids not secured in car seat), and one confrontation between a resident and a speeding vehicle.

Stanford water line: PAWC will be replacing a water line on Stanford, which should take care of the water issue on Cornell. The entire street will be repaved.

Planting: The Boy Scouts want to do planting in front of the conservation park. Mrs. Kimblin indicated that there are perennials in that area. Mayor Mackin will have the scouts call her before doing any work.

Playground mulch: Crafton Children's Corner needs more mulch on the playground to meet the specs for them to use the playground. They offered to supply the mulch if the borough installed it, which would require public works to dig down another 4 inches. Mr. Runyon suggested that this be approved by the inspector prior to doing the work.

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

Chuck Means had nothing additional to report.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ms. Falk presented council with a list of deposits made since the last council meeting.

Disbursements: Ms. Falk presented the monthly Disbursement Report. Mr. Runyon made a motion to approve the disbursements for April. Mr. Varga seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Ms. Falk informed council that the financials from 2015 which were presented at the April meeting need to be advertised. Mr. Perrott made a motion to advertise the financials. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Health insurance. Ms. Falk reviewed increases in health insurance premiums over the last several years. She requested a change in the broker of record for the current HealthAmerica policy to move from Robert Nelson Agency to Paychex to facilitate getting bids for other policies which may involve employee contributions. Mr. Runyon made a motion that the broker of record be changed to Paychex. Mr. Varga seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Administration** (Mr. Szmul): No report.

**Budget and Finance** (Mr. Falk, Mr. Runyon): No report.

**Public Works/Sewers** (Mr. Coppola): There is still a small leak crossing Hamilton Rd. extension but it appears not to be a problem according to Public Works director Rob Murphy.

**Community Facilities** (Mr. Varga): No report.

**Land Conservation/Resources** (Mr. Caliguire):

Railroad spraying on Princeton: Mr. Perrot asked about the status of herbicide spraying near the railroad tracks. Mayor Mackin indicated that the agreement is that if the borough maintains the area, the railroad will not spray. A discussion followed. Mr. Perrott will call the railroad to discuss. President Falk asked if the railroad cars could be parked further up the track from the crossing.

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

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

COG meeting: Mr. Coppola indicated that Thornburg would be hosting the COG meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>. He invited council to attend.

## **CONTINUATION:**

Mr. Runyon made a motion at 8:37 PM to continue the meeting to Monday, May 16, 2017 at 7:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coppola and unanimously approved.

## **MEETING RECONVENED:**

The meeting was reconvened at 7:00 PM on Monday, May 16, 2016. President Falk, Mr. Coppola, Mr. Szmul, Mr. Varga, Mr. Runyon, and Mayor Mackin were present. Mr. Perrott and Mr. Caliguire were absent.

Rockslide: A discussion was held regarding the engineering proposal and agreement submitted by Joe Boward from Garvin Boward Beitko Engineering. Council was inclined to accept the scope of the work and costs but objected to several items in the Terms and Conditions concerning legal fees, liability, arbitration, and indemnification. Mr. Runyon made a motion to accept the proposal pending successful resolution of the specified terms and conditions. Mr. Coppola seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Crafton paving: Ms. Falk informed council that she had been contacted by Folino Construction who is doing paving of Steuben St. They would like to use the closed portion of Cornell as a staging area for the repaving. A discussion followed. Mayor Mackin will follow up with a request for truckloads of millings in exchange for use of a staging area.

Duquesne Light: Ms. Falk informed council that she had received an authorization request from Duquesne Light for the replacement of two poles. Council had no objections.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Runyon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM. Mr. Varga seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.