

THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 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), Vinnie Coppola (2017), Mark Perrott (2017), Sam Runyon (2019), Tony Szmul (2017) and Ron Varga (2017) were present. Mayor Tom Mackin (2017) was present. Solicitor Chuck Means and Stephanie Kogut from GRB were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

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

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

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

Nolan Clarke from Thornburg Boy Scout Troop 867 requested permission to build and install bird boxes in the conservation park, which he hopes will attract species in decline. A discussion followed. Mr. Caliguire made a motion that council approve the project, which was seconded by Mr. Runyon. The motion was unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Sewer Lateral: Solicitor Means reviewed the issue of sewer lateral inspections at the time of sale. He recommended making sure residents were aware of any new requirements well in advance of implementation by August 2017. President Falk will review the sample ordinance and article and discuss with Solicitor Means.

Rockslide: The bid specifications have been distributed with proposals expected back in two weeks. Council will continue this meeting to August 29 to review the bids. Borough engineer Ray Antonelli will put together the contract document. A discussion was held regarding whether the project should be awarded under one contract or separate contracts. Solicitor Means informed council that the project would fall under the prevailing wage requirements since it is considered a replacement rather than maintenance. He will work with Mr. Antonelli to write a Temporary Right of Entry Agreement with the affected residents.

Joe Boward will not guarantee the project without an inspection of the work. Ms. Falk will coordinate with Mr. Antonelli to get a proposal for the inspection.

EIT contract/confidentiality: Ms. Falk reported to council that a confidentiality agreement is required before Jordan will provide the borough with earned income tax details. Solicitor Means informed council that GRB also represents Jordan. A discussion followed. Since council is not requesting tax payment information, Ms. Falk will provide Jordan with a list of borough residents to for confirmations that they are all paying earned income tax to the borough.

Property maintenance: Two Hamilton residents have received official notices that they are in violation of the property maintenance code. A discussion followed. Many other homes on upper Hamilton are in violation, though not as egregiously. A general letter will be sent to all residents on upper Hamilton reminding them of the property code requirements.

Trees: There are 13 dead trees on private property that have still not been removed. A discussion followed regarding a previously proposed meeting of residents and council representatives to facilitate their removal. Mr. Caliguire will provide a draft letter proposing a 7:00pm meeting on September 14. Mayor Mackin will continue to address a tree on Cornell that has partially fallen.

Code enforcement: The garage behind 1105 Princeton is collapsing. Ms. Falk will contact the code enforcement officer to investigate.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for July. There were: 3 alarm calls (all false); two loose dog calls (Baldwin and Hamilton/Princeton; one call for downed electrical wires (Cornell); one fraud report; and two medical calls (one with transport).

Feeding animals: Mayor Mackin has spoken with the family of the resident who is feeding wildlife. It appears to have stopped.

Honeybees in park: Resident Jeff Leithauser arrived to summarize a request for honeybee hives in the conservation park. A discussion followed.

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. Perrott made a motion to approve the disbursements for July. Mr. Varga seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Rutger RR crossing – Ms. Falk informed council that PennDOT is requiring the borough to post additional railroad crossing signs at the Rutgers Road crossing. A discussion followed. Ms. Falk will tell ask Rob to install signs at both crossings in the industrial park.

PNC payroll account – In order to reduce bank fees, Ms. Falk requested approval to close the PNC payroll account and have all withdrawals made from the remaining PNC account. A discussion followed. Mr. Runyon made a motion authorizing Ms. Falk to close the PNC payroll account. Mr. Perrott seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Council discussed Mr. Antonelli's written report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration (Mr. Szmul): No report.

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

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

Community Facilities (Mr. Varga): No report.

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

Public Relations (Mr. Perrott): No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

CONTINUATION:

Mr. Runyon made a motion to continue the meeting until Monday, August 29, 2016 at 7:00 PM.
Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

The continued meeting was not held on August 29, 2016 but was called to order by President Falk at 7:00 PM on September 12, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Runyon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM. Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.