

THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2017

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Runyon made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of January 9, 2017. Mr. Perrott seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Varga made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 9, 2017 as amended. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Residents David Jose (Harvard), Zane Long (Tech) and Judy Kimblin (Tech) were present to observe.

ALCOSAN: Kimberly Slater-Wood (manager of municipal relations and outreach at ALCOSAN) and consultant Ashley Henry-Shook introduced themselves to council. They shared information about programs (including regionalization), grants, and public outreach, including a website for municipalities where additional information was available. President Falk asked whether there were plans for an additional line along Chartiers Creek. Ms. Falk asked about an autopay option for residents. Ms. Slater-Wood will look into these questions.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for January. There was one medical call (w/transport).

Community building – Mayor Mackin reported that an estimate to rekey the existing locks was approximately \$450. Keyless entry requires electricity be available at every door and would cost about \$1,400 per door. A discussion followed. Council agreed to rekey the existing locks.

Incident at park - Two dogs with park permits were involved in a fight, and an adult who tried to intervene was bitten. A discussion followed. The dog identified as the aggressor will have its permit revoked. Solicitor Means will provide Ms. Falk with a sample letter.

Chickens – Mayor Mackin asked for clarification on the status of chickens in the borough, as they are becoming more prevalent. Solicitor Means indicated that they can be regulated in the zoning ordinances. He will provide a sample ordinance.

Grant for Cornell Rock Catcher Fence – Mayor Mackin has been working on securing a \$40,000 grant to help pay for the rock catcher fence. Council resolved to authorize Mayor Mackin and Ms. Falk to apply for the grant and provide the information required in the application process

Mitchell garage – A discussion was held on the status of the Mitchell garage on Hamilton. Ms. Falk will ask the building inspector for an update.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Chuck Means from GRB was present. He had nothing new 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. Perrott made a motion to approve the disbursements for February. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Ms. Falk indicated that she had been contacted by Robinson Pipe Cleaning regarding the retainage for a spot liner project that was partially completed on Stanford. Mayor Mackin will look into it.

Council wants a copy of the contract with Chartiers Valley Flood Control prior to paying the 2017 invoice.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Mr. Antonelli was not present. Mr. Coppola updated council on the results of televising. He has asked Mr. Antonelli to provide the least expensive proposal to do all the required level 5 repairs. Mr. Varga suggested that we coordinate street repairs with open cut sewer repairs where possible to reduce costs. More information will be available at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration (Mr. Szmul): No report.

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

Land Conservation/Resources (Mr. Caliguire):

Conservation park easements: President Falk summarized the status of easements in the conservation park area. The park itself has an easement from the state. An additional conservation easement with stewardship on the proposed 19 acre Lewis Run Conservation Area together with a second easement on the conservation park would help prevent the installation of a proposed ALCOSAN overflow tank. Mr. Falk will work with Solicitor Means regarding ownership of property along the bank.

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

Community Facilities (Mr. Varga):

Plumbing: The service sink in the girls bathroom needs repair. Mercurio Plumbing submitted a proposal to do the work for \$1,446. No other bids were received. Mr. Runyon made a motion to accept the proposal from Mercurio. Mr. Perrott seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Public Relations (Mr. Perrott): No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Char-West COG membership: Mr. Coppola reported that private vactor estimates were only slightly higher than the member rates through Char-West COG. Salt is obtained through SHACOG so should be unaffected. Following a discussion regarding the merits of continuing as members, Mr. Runyon made a motion that Thornburg withdraw as members of the Char-West COG. Mr. Coppola seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

OVR MY Work - Ms. Falk summarized the program which reimburses boroughs for wages paid to high school students with disabilities hired through the program. A discussion followed. Ms. Falk will look into any additional liability issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Varga made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 PM, which was seconded by Mr. Perrott. The motion was unanimously approved.