

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AUGUST 14, 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 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 Emily Mueller 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 July 10, 2017. Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Varga made a motion to accept the Minutes of July 10, 2017 as written. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Flood Control: Nothing new to report.

Record retention: Solicitor Mueller summarized the memorandum of understanding with the History Center. She cautioned that only non-confidential documents such as meeting minutes and ordinances be stored there as all items will be available for public viewing. Council will need to pass an ordinance to approve storing records at the History Center. Mr. Runyon made a motion that the ordinance be advertised when it is ready for adoption. Mr. Szmul seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Conservation easement: Solicitor Mueller and President Falk are working to prepare the grant of an easement to the Allegheny Land Trust, which will be adopted by ordinance. Mr. Caliguire made a motion that council advertise the ordinance when it is ready for adoption. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for July. There were four medical calls (all with transport), one animal call, one fire call (oven fire), one noise complaint (Conservation Park), one motor vehicle accident (with transport), and one suspicious persons complaint (marijuana use in the Conservation Park parking lot).

Public Works director Rob Murphy has asked to extend employment of one seasonal employee into the fall if there is money left in the summer help budget. Council approved the request.

Mayor Mackin will ask Rob about the status of the No Parking sign for Henrietta Way.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Falk presented council with the financial reports and deposits since the last council meeting.

Disbursements: Ms. Falk presented the monthly Disbursement Report and requested approval for a subsequent bill (the annual Ford truck payment of \$15,715.73). Mr. Varga made a motion to approve the disbursements for August plus the annual Ford truck payment invoice. Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Paving: Mayor Mackin presented the paving recommendation from his meeting with NIRA. A discussion followed. Mr. Szmul made a motion to advertise for paving bids as outlined in the NIRA e-mail recommendation. Mr. Perrott seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration (Mr. Szmul): No report.

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

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

Public Works/Sewers (Mr. Coppola):

Mower –Mr. Runyon suggested that council consider the purchase of a zero radius mower for use in the parks. A discussion followed. Mayor Mackin will talk to Rob Murphy and get estimates.

Community Facilities (Mr. Varga):

Playground proposals – Mr. Varga is still getting estimates.

Renovation proposal – Mr. Perrott reviewed the proposal provided by Morosco Architects. A discussion followed. Council agreed that a proactive strategic plan is appropriate for the community building. Mr. Runyon made a motion that council engage Morosco Architects to prepare a detailed set of drawing as outlined in the proposal for an amount not to exceed \$5,120. Mr. Caliguire seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Public Relations (Mr. Perrott):

Web site maintenance - Mr. Perrott reported that Holt Web Designs has instituted a \$125 annual website maintenance fee. A discussion followed. Council agreed to the annual fee.

President Falk received a DVD from the PA Boroughs Association describing a junior council program for students interested in local government. Mr. Perrott will include it in the next issue of the Talk of the Town.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sidewalk maintenance – Mr. Perrott drafted a letter to send to residents who need to do sidewalk repair. A discussion followed. The letter was approved. Ms. Falk will send the letter with the detailed sidewalk deficiencies (as noted by Rob Murphy) to the affected residents.

Sidewalk/fencing along Hamilton Park – A discussion was held on the condition of the sidewalk/fence along upper Hamilton. A gap exists which could be dangerous. Mayor Mackin will inspect it with Rob Murphy to determine if Mr. Murphy can relocate the fence posts or if a contractor is needed to do the work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Monteverde real estate sign – A discussion was held on a commercial real estate sign that has been up for a while. Ms. Falk will ask Bruce Graff to investigate.

Dead tree: Council will ask Rob Murphy to look at a tree at 1181 Harvard to see if it is potentially dangerous.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Runyon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm, which was seconded by Mr. Caliguire. The motion was unanimously approved.