

# **THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2018**

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

**Location:** Thornburg Community Building, Library

**Attendance:** President Sigo Falk (2021) was present. Council members Vinnie Coppola (2021), Zane Long (2019), Mark Perrott (2021), Sam Runyon (2019), Tony Szmul (2021), and Ron Varga (2019) were present. Mayor Tom Mackin (2021) 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 9, 2018. Mr. Long seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Runyon made a motion to accept the Minutes of April 9, 2018 as written. Mr. Szmul seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Baldwin closure: Mike Dillon from the county was present and gave a summary of the Baldwin construction project and timeline. A discussion followed. Council expressed frustration with the lack advance notification and concern over traffic and speeding with cars cutting through Thornburg. Placement of detour signage was discussed as considered a factor. Mr. Dillon offered the use of at least two temporary speed humps and up to \$20,000 for additional police presence. Mr. Dillon left the meeting. Mayor Mackin will submit a request for three speed humps and coordinate with the Crafton Police for additional patrolling.

Resident Judy Kimblin (Tech) reported that the conservation park cleanup was successful. She requested a new bulletin board where park information such as native and invasive species could be posted. A discussion followed. Ms. Falk will suggest this as a potential Eagle Scout project.

Mary Ditmore (Eton) asked about any requirements for having a moving truck at her home. Mayor Mackin requested that she notify her neighbors.

Residents Gay and Suzy Golitko (Tech) and Lorraine Runyon (Princeton) were also present to observe.

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

Landslide update: Mayor Mackin reported that an initial report has been submitted to FEMA in case there is funding available. The soil engineer at Boward has looked at the landslide but not yet provided a report. The smaller trees have been removed, but a tree service will need to remove five to seven larger trees. A discussion followed. Council agreed to clean up the loose debris, remove

the larger trees, and monitor for additional movement. The street will be reopened if the hillside appears stable. Mayor Mackin will get estimates for tree and debris removal.

Traffic: Traffic and speeding have been particularly bad on Princeton as a result of the Baldwin work. Solicitor Means indicated that the mayor is authorized to make decisions for temporary road situations. A discussion followed. The alleys off Princeton will be closed to through traffic and one of the county speed humps will be placed there. Mayor Mackin will see if he can get additional funding for police patrols, especially for Memorial Day. Mark Perrott will put together a notice for the residents on Princeton which Lorraine Runyon offered to deliver.

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for April. There were four alarms (false), one animal complaint, one medical call with transport, one fallen tree, one complaint for a truck blocking the gate at the conservation park, and a complaint about someone hitting golf balls in the park.

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

Conservation easement ordinance: Solicitor Means summarized the ordinance, which modifies the land included in the conservation easement. A discussion followed. Mr. Coppola made a motion that council adopt the conservation easement ordinance. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Council went into executive session at 8:15 pm to discuss legal matters. Council came out of executive session at 8:35pm.

Preservation of minutes: President Falk indicated that there is a grant available for preserving archival records that could be used for the repair of Thornburg's minutes books (currently housed at the History Center). A discussion followed. Mr. Perrott made a motion that council authorize President Falk to apply for a non-matching grant of up to \$5,000 for the repair of the minutes books. Mr. Long seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Sewage: Solicitor Means reported that the ALCOSAN consent order agreement extension expires in June. Until a new one is established, ALCOSAN reserves the right to limit taps. Mayor Mackin and Ms. Falk have been in touch with NIRA and indicated that none are expected for the remainder of 2018.

Delivery vehicles: A resident had asked about any ordinances that would require delivery vehicles be identified as such. Solicitor Means indicated that municipalities are probably preempted from having their own rules by any PUC requirements. If interested, the borough may be able to regulate door to door delivery. No action was taken at this time.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

Insurance renewal: Ms. Falk reported that the 2018 premium for the general liability insurance policy renewal through MRM is \$15,327, a slight decrease from 2017. The premium for the renewal of the treasurer's bond remains \$109. A discussion followed. Council approved both policy renewals.

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

Annual audit report 2018: Ms. Falk presented the audit report for the 2017 financials. A discussion followed. Mr. Perrott made a motion that council advertise the financials. Mr. Varga seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

No report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

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

**Public Works/Sewers** (Mr. Coppola): Mr. Coppola reported that bids are being prepared for the required televising of the sewers.

**Community Facilities** (Mr. Varga):

School preservation: Mr. Perrott has been in touch with Louise Sturgess at the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation to see what funds may be available for the school preservation.

Mr. Perrott presented the Morosco roof analysis proposal. A discussion followed. Mr. Long made a motion that council authorize Morosco to perform a roof system survey and assessment, which was seconded by Mr. Runyon. The motion passed with six in favor and one opposed (Mr. Varga).

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

Sidewalks – Mr. Long gave an update on the sidewalk repairs effort. A discussion followed. Rob Murphy will be asked to re-inspect the condition of the sections needing repair prior to mailing official notification letters to residents. Homeowners will be given 90 days to perform the repairs.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Truck parking: Mayor Mackin will see if we can cite trucks that park at the conservation park.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Long made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM, which was seconded by Mr. Runyon. The motion was unanimously approved.