

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2020**

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

Location: Thornburg Community Building, Library

Attendance: President Sigo Falk (2021) and council member Mark Perrott (2021) were physically present. Council members Vinnie Coppola (2021), Mary Ditmore (2023), Zane Long (2023), Sam Runyon (2023), and Tony Szmul (2021) were present remotely via Zoom. Mayor Tom Mackin (2021) and Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk were present remotely via Zoom.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Runyon made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of March 10, 2020. Mr. Szmul seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Szmul made a motion to accept the Minutes of March 10, 2020 as presented. Mr. Long seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

No report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

President Falk presented a map from NIRA identifying sections of sewer for televising. Mr. Coppola indicated that the proposed sections were the oldest to be done. A discussion followed. NIRA will be authorized to obtain estimates for televising the sections indicated.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for March. There were two found bikes, one alarm (false), one medical call, and two email scams reported. There was little activity in February.

Sewer blockage – A discussion was held regarding sewer repair work incurred by the borough due to a blockage in the main caused by improper installation of a lateral sewer liner. Mr. Coppola will write a letter to the previous homeowner who contracted the work and the plumber who performed it to request reimbursement.

Mayor Mackin reported that he is in communication with the election monitors to discuss moving the voting machines to the auditorium to allow for more social distancing.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Debbie Hadfield (Smith) was present via Zoom. She will do the butterfly garden as presented previously but is waiting until she can see the plants in person before ordering.

Several other residents were present via Zoom. None opted to speak.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Falk presented council with a list of deposits made since the last council meeting, a profit and loss report, and a current balance sheet.

Disbursements: Ms. Falk presented the monthly Disbursement Report. Mr. Perrott made a motion that council approve the disbursements for April. Mr. Szmul seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Salt: Ms. Falk informed council that the borough has not fulfilled its 80% minimum purchase of salt under the current contract due to the unseasonably warm winter. Cargill is putting together a storage option or time extension to allow the borough to take delivery of the minimum amount required by December 31 instead of June 30. More information will follow.

A discussion was held regarding renewing the road salt contract with Cargill for 2020-2021. Cargill is forgoing the CPI price increase allowed by the current contract and reducing its price 3% to \$79.30 per ton. Mr. Perrott made a motion that the borough exercise the first year option to renew, which was seconded by Mr. Runyon. The motion passed unanimously. The amount contracted for next year will be adjusted by the remainder to purchase under the current contract.

Dog Permits: A discussion was held regarding permit applications for the 2020-2021 season. Current permits will remain valid for an additional 60 days due to the stay at home order.

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 (Ms. Ditmore): No report.

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

Public Relations (Mr. Perrott): No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community building roof update: President Falk and Mr. Perrott updated council on the work schedule. The contractor is ready to begin given the favorable weather. A discussion followed. The contractor will be notified that they may proceed. Mr. Perrott will make sure that Crafton Children's Corner is aware that the work will begin. President Falk and Mayor Mackin will look into options for the inspection work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Multimodal Transportation Fund: President Falk shared information with council about a grant opportunity that might be available for the repair work needed for the sidewalk /hillside near Hamilton Park. Mr. Perrott will contact our engineers and have them look at the project. Ms. Ditmore offered to assist with the grant application.

Other grant opportunities: Ms. Ditmore reported that Crafton got a grant for work done in their park. She will investigate opportunities within the same program that might exist for Thornburg projects. She will coordinate with Mayor Mackin, who indicated that the office of our state representative Dan Deasy would be able to help with the process.

Code enforcement: A discussion was held regarding the condition of the property located at 202 Eton. It appears vacant. Ms. Falk will ask Harshman to look into it.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Coppola made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM which was seconded by Mr. Szmul. The motion carried.