

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2020**

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

**Location:** Pace Pavilion, adjacent to the Thornburg Community Building

**Attendance:** President Sigo Falk (2021) and council members Vinnie Coppola (2021), Mary Ditmore (2023), Zane Long (2023), Mark Perrott (2021), and Sam Runyon (2023) were present. Council member Tony Szmul (2021) was not present. Mayor Tom Mackin (2021) was present. Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk and Solicitor Emily Mueller were present.

---

**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

Mr. Runyon motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of July 14, 2020. Mr. Long seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Runyon made a motion to accept the Minutes of July 14, 2020 as presented. Mr. Long seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Glass recycling: Solicitor Mueller worked with Ms. Ditmore on the glass recycling bin contract. Suggested changes have been incorporated. A discussion was held regarding scheduling and placement. The week of October 17, 2020 was selected, and Mayor Mackin will talk to Public Works director Rob Murphy about optimal locations. Ms. Ditmore will coordinate with the PA Resources Council.

Allegheny County CARES grant program and resolution – Ms. Falk summarized the federal grant program being coordinated through Allegheny County, which offers \$20,000 in funding for the borough to use towards its police expenses. A discussion was held regarding the borough's eligibility to participate in the program. Solicitor Mueller confirmed that many boroughs are using the funding as described. Mr. Perrott made a motion that council authorize the appropriate officials to enter into the agreement with the county and submit the required paperwork. Mr. Long seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

No report.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Judy Kimblin (Tech) asked council to look into expanding the items that were being collected for recycling. A discussion followed. Ms. Falk will ask a representative of Valley Waste to attend a council meeting for further information.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for July. There were two false alarms, one public disturbance on Cornell, one complaint of fireworks at the conservation park, one fraudulent unemployment claim, one welfare check, and another water main break on Cornell. Mayor

Mackin will talk to PA American Water about getting the all of Cornell milled and paved due to the four water breaks this summer.

Crafton Police: Mayor Mackin indicated that the Crafton Police opted not to retain an officer who was on new employee probation and that they did not intend to hire a replacement. Mayor Mackin will begin discussing the police contract renewal with Crafton and will make sure there is a stipulation that there are no fewer than nine officers on the force.

Hillside stabilization project: A discussion was held on the scope and timing of the project. Mr. Perrott and Ms. Ditmore indicated that the multimodal grant deadline is September 30 for 2021 projects with a minimum cost of \$100k. Mayor Mackin will talk to NIRA to expand the project to meet the cost minimum. Mr. Perrott and Ms. Ditmore will continue looking into the grant.

### **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. Runyon made a motion that council approve the disbursements for August. Ms. Ditmore seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Laptop replacement: Ms. Falk reported that the borough laptop was repeatedly crashing and that the Quickbooks version is no longer supported. Council authorized the purchase of a new laptop and updated software.

### **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:**

Streetlights: Ms. Ditmore reported that the streets in upper Thornburg seem well lit. She will look at coverage on Lehigh. Mr. Perrott indicated that lower Thornburg is also well lit, with the exception of an area in front of 1117 Harvard. The homeowner David Jose indicated he would like a streetlight added there. Mr. Perrot will provide the pole number to Ms. Falk, who will confirm with Duquesne Light that there would be no installation cost to add the new streetlight.

Community building master plan: A discussion was held on the deliverables from The Design Alliance project discussed at the July meeting. Mayor Mackin will arrange a meeting with The Design Alliance, President Falk, and Mr. Perrott to outline what we would like to have done and to identify any possible grant opportunities.

Mayor Mackin will follow up with a roofer on to look at the condition of the soffits.

Tennis court – A discussion was held regarding establishing a policy to honor individuals within the borough. Council decided that there needed to be a consensus among council members that an individual or former resident had provided significant service to the borough, state, or nation.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Raccoon rabies baiting program: A discussion was held on the rabies vaccine baiting program. Ms. Falk will forward information provided about the program to council and the Community Club distribution list.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Coppola made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM which was seconded by Ms. Ditmore. The motion carried.