

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2021**

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

Location: The meeting was held in the auditorium of the Community Building

Attendance: President Sigo Falk (2021) and council members Vinnie Coppola (2021), Mary Ditmore (2023), Zane Long (2023), Mark Perrott (2021), Sam Runyon (2023), and Tony Szmul (2021) were present. Also present were Mayor Tom Mackin (2021), Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk, and Solicitor Emily Mueller.

Regrets: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Runyon made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of September 7, 2021. Mr. Long seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Long made a motion to accept the Minutes of September 7, 2021 as amended. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT’S REMARKS:

President Falk made the following remarks:

“Yesterday afternoon, October 3, 2021, former Thornburg Mayor, Thomas P. (Tucker) Gordon, died. He moved to Thornburg in 1963, 58 years ago. Tucker’s personal generosity enabled the borough to acquire the land and establish the Thornburg Conservation Park. As written in stone in the park, “Devotion to our Community and Extraordinary Generosity Preserved this Park for Future Generations.”

A moment of silence was held in memory of Mr. Gordon.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Residents Laura Irwin, Eileen Mackin, Sara Mahone, Colleen Kamnikar, and Steve Salvador were present to observe.

Chief of Police: Mayor Mackin introduced Crafton Chief of Police Mark Sumpter. A discussion was held regarding dealing with residents with mental health issues. Chief Sumpter emphasized that residents should call 911 for all issues and to inform the officer that they will testify in front of the magistrate if disorderly conduct is charged. Solicitor Mueller was asked to look into nuisance ordinances.

A discussion was held regarding delivery trucks.

Playground update: Dan McDowell from LaQuatra Bonci presented the current version of the playground design to Council. A discussion followed. Mr. McDowell will provide images of hillside slides and amphitheater seating and look into local installations for council to see.

Playground committee chair Colleen Kamnikar also has images she can share. Council is in favor of the general layout and authorized the committee to proceed with equipment discussion.

Resident Guy Trulli (Lehigh) asked council to look into a neighbor's cutting down and leaving fallen trees on his or possibly borough property. Mayor Mackin will follow up with the code enforcement officer.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Mueller is finalizing the contract with The Design Alliance. The remaining issue is insurance, which may impact future contract negotiations.

Solicitor Mueller reported that a hearing was held today regarding code enforcement action for a property within the borough. She will update council after consulting with the code enforcement officer.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for September. There was one false alarm, one noise complaint, two fraud complaints, multiple hazardous conditions (fallen trees/branches), one welfare check, one suspicious person (deer baiting), one truck incident, and one unauthorized entry.

A discussion was held on the condition of trees at the intersection of Stanford and Cornell. Mayor Mackin will ask Rob Murphy to look into these and additional trees in the borough.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Ms. Falk reported that NIRA has put together the bid for the sanitary sewer repair. Mr. Runyon made a motion to authorize Ms. Falk to advertise the sanitary sewer repair bid, which was seconded by Mr. Perrott. The motion passed unanimously.

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. She requested that council also approve payment to the PA State Association of Boroughs for unemployment insurance in the amount of \$293.56. Mr. Runyon made a motion that council approve the disbursements as presented, including the check to the PSAB. Mr. Szmul seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously

Draft 2022 budget: Ms. Falk reviewed the draft budget prepared for 2022 with input from President Falk. A discussion followed. Suggested changes will be incorporated for further discussion in November.

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): Mr. Perrott will ask the Thornburg Community Club Communications committee to circulate President Falk's comments on the passing of Tucker Gordon.

OLD BUSINESS:

Glass recycling: Ms. Ditmore reported that Greentree Borough has been inconsistent with whether or not it will allow Thornburg residents to use its glass recycling bin. She will follow up. President Falk indicated that there is a facility in Stowe that accepts glass.

Master Plan Update: The Design Alliance will present an update at the November meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mr. Runyon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 PM, which was seconded by Mr. Szmul. The motion carried.