

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2022**

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

**Location:** Thornburg Community Building, auditorium

**Attendance:** Council President Sigo Falk (2025) and Council members Lauren Catanzarite (2025), Vinnie Coppola (2025), Mary Ditmore (2023), Sam Runyon (2023), and Tony Szmul (2025) were present. Also present were Mayor Tom Mackin (2025), Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk, and Solicitor Emily Mueller

**Regrets:** Council member Zane Long (2023)

---

**Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

Mr. Runyon made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of March 7, 2022. Ms. Catanzarite seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Runyon made a motion to accept the Minutes of March 7, 2022 as presented. Ms. Ditmore seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Act 44 procedures and Resolution: Solicitor Mueller outlined the Act 44 requirements for engaging professional services for municipal pensions. Adopting the procedures was recommended by the PA Auditor General in its recent pension plan audit in the event that the borough moves its plan from the PA Municipal Retirement System to another financial services firm. A discussion followed. Mr. Runyon made a motion that Council pass a resolution to adopt the procedures, which was seconded by Mr. Szmul. The motion passed unanimously.

Playground equipment purchase order: President Falk summarized the current cash flow situation and reviewed the cost estimates for the playground equipment replacement. The playground committee supports the equipment selection. Solicitor Mueller has reviewed the two purchase orders, and her suggestions have been incorporated into the agreements. A discussion followed. Ms. Catanzarite made a motion the council enter into the agreements with AllPlay+/Kompan for Playground Equipment and Installation in the amount of \$100,394.46 and Additional Site Improvements in the amount of \$14,656.06. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ditmore, and it passed unanimously.

Act 77 Senior Tax Relief – A discussion was held on the number of residents who are eligible and taking advantage of the Act 77 15% senior real estate tax discount that Thornburg offers. Ms. Falk will contact Jordan for more information.

July meeting date – President Falk indicated that bids for the electric project will likely be available at the July 2022 meeting. A discussion followed. The meeting will be rescheduled for Tuesday July 12 for improved attendance.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

A number of residents and their families were in attendance to show support for the playground project.

#### **MAYOR’S REPORT:**

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for March. There were six alarms (all false), seven criminal mischief/disorderly conduct complaints about one individual who was later confined via Section 302, one criminal mischief complaint, one found cell phone, and one expired vehicle inspection.

#### **ENGINEER’S REPORT:**

No report.

#### **TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Ms. Falk presented council with a list of deposits made since the March meeting, as well as a balance sheet and P&L report.

Disbursements: Ms. Falk presented Council with a list of disbursements for bills received since the March meeting. She requested that Council also approve the 30% deposit checks to AllPlay for the playground project in the amounts of \$30,118.34 (equipment and installation) and \$4,396.82 (additional site improvements). A discussion followed. Mr. Runyon made a motion to approve the disbursements for April as presented including the two for AllPlay. Ms. Catanzarite seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Pension plan audit: Ms. Falk summarized the PA Auditor General report of the Thornburg Borough pension plan, which is administered by the PA Municipal Retirement System. The plan was determined to be funded and administered appropriately with one finding of inadequate reporting due to PMRS not having completed its 2020 financial statements. Ms. Falk will review AG Bulletin No. 2-88 as recommended.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance:** No report.

**H/R:** Mayor Mackin reported that we are in need of summer help.

**P/R:** No report.

**Roads:** Mayor Mackin reported that the paving on Eton has not yet been scheduled but is at the top of the vendor’s project list when spring paving begins.

**Sewers:** Mr. Coppola summarized his discussions with NIRA regarding the estimate to prepare the MS-4 waiver, which will be between \$2,000-\$4,000, depending on interactions with the state. Mr. Coppola made a motion to authorize NIRA to prepare the waiver, which was seconded by Mr. Runyon. The motion passed unanimously.

**Lawnmower:** Mr. Coppola reported that Rob Murphy has found a used Snapper zero-turn mower for \$5,500 to replace the 16-year old mower that no longer functions. Mr. Runyon made a motion that council authorize its purchase, which was seconded by Mr. Coppola. The motion passed unanimously.

**Steering:**

**Electric project update** – President Falk summarized discussions regarding the bid package for the electric update for the community center. It is expected to be put together in the spring with bids received by the July meeting.

**Playground:** Covered in Solicitor’s Report.

**Grants:** President Falk reported that two grants have been submitted: \$100k for window replacement (PA Historic and Museum Commission) and \$986,933 for mechanical, bathrooms, and accessibility corridor (Local Services Authority grant). Ms. Ditmore reported that the visit with State Senator Devlin Robinson went well.

**Fundraising:**

**Capital Campaign pledge update** – President Falk reported that the borough has received 12 signed pledges totaling \$83,500 and cash payments of \$40,500. Ms. Catanzarite summarized past events and upcoming activities of the fundraising committee.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**None.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Catanzarite reported that there is a guardrail on Smith that needs repair.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Runyon made a motion at 7:58 PM that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded by Ms. Catanzarite. The motion carried.