

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 3, 2023**

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

Location: Thornburg Community Center, auditorium

Attendance: Council President Sigo Falk (2025) was present. Council members Lauren Catanzarite (2025), Vinnie Coppola (2025), Zane Long (2023), Sam Runyon (2023), and Tony Szmul (2025) were present. Council member Mary Ditmore (2023) participated by phone. Also present were Mayor Tom Mackin (2025), Solicitor Jacob Leyland from Goehring, Rutter, and Boehm, and Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk.

Regrets: None

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Long made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of March 6, 2023. Ms. Catanzarite seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Runyon made a motion to accept the Minutes of March 6, 2023 as presented. Ms. Catanzarite seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Resident Zac Kamnikar informed Council that contractually PennDOT can close the Thornburg bridge for up to four weekends in May/June to complete the required repairs. If the weather cooperates, they anticipate completing it in two weekends.

President Falk brought up residents' concerns about speeding and traffic as expressed at the March meeting. A discussion was held about potential traffic calming measures. Council agreed to form a committee to investigate the feasibility of doing traffic studies, particularly on Princeton, Tech, and Harvard. Mr. Runyon, Ms. Catanzarite, and Mr. Szmul volunteered to serve on the committee.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Jacob Leyland from GRB presented on behalf of Solicitor Emily Mueller.

Alarm legislation: Solicitor Mueller has drafted an alarm ordinance for Thornburg to consider based on the current Crafton alarm ordinance. A discussion followed. Council requested that Solicitor Mueller revise the draft to establish the fine at \$1,000 rather than "not to exceed \$1,000". Mr. Szmul made a motion that Council authorize Ms. Falk to advertise the amended proposed ordinance for adoption at the May 1, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Runyon and approved unanimously.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for March. There were four alarms (all false), one fireplace assist, one welfare check, one disturbance call, one complaint of illegal dumping, one harassment complaint, one medical call with transport, one motor vehicle accident, and one citation for driving with suspended privileges. Daily and nightly checks at the parks continue.

Mayor Mackin attended a Chartiers Valley District Flood Control Authority meeting. The City of Pittsburgh has started paying its assessment fees again. The authority has begun selling billboard advertising along the creek basin.

Mayor Mackin reported that he is looking into possible state aid to help fund traffic control efforts during the bridge repair.

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 the list of disbursements for April. A discussion followed. Mr. Szmul made a motion that Council approve the disbursements as presented. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Website: Ms. Falk reported that she has been in touch with the PSAB web program team. The annual fee has increased from \$389 to \$597 and the migration fee is no longer capped at \$99. A discussion followed. Ms. Falk will get hourly cost information beyond the 7 included hours.

COMMITTEES:

Human Resources: Mr. Long reported that Solicitor Mueller has made notes on the Rosslyn Farms employee manual as it relates to Thornburg. He suggested dividing the project into two components: developing job descriptions for the Thornburg positions and editing the policy document. Mayor Mackin volunteered to assist with the job descriptions, with Ms. Falk providing samples of the Rosslyn Farms public works and secretary/treasurer positions. Mr. Long volunteered to edit the manual, which Mr. Runyon will review.

Capital Improvement Projects: President Falk summarized funds available for the projects currently under consideration, including expected income and expenses for the remainder of the year. A discussion was held on each and prioritized as follows:

Electric: Initial work on the project has started but is on hold until the expected arrival of the electric panels in June.

Windows: Project specs are currently being developed, with alternative options for window selection being researched. This project will be bid in Fall 2023 and implemented in Spring 2024.

Sewer, grading, paving: This project was given immediate priority. Design work will continue in order to determine cost and timing.

Thornburg is awaiting notification of two potential grants (COVID Small Sewer and Water, PennDOT Multimodal Fund) to determine whether the sewer repair and/or Hamilton sidewalk repair will occur. Both require matching funds and will impact the scheduling of other projects.

A discussion was held on the status of the overall Capital Campaign project. Ms. Ditmore and Mr. Long suggested that a summary be developed to keep residents informed of what has been/is being done.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sidewalks: A discussion was held on the cost to replace the Hamilton sidewalk. This item will be tabled until the result of the PennDOT grant application is known.

NEW BUSINESS:

Crafton Children's Corner: Judy Albenze intends to purchase a defibrillator and has asked Council for guidance on where to store it. A discussion followed. Council will let Ms. Albenze determine the best location based on the school's needs.

Ms. Albenze would like to install security cameras. A discussion followed. Council requested that she provide additional details on her plan/request.

Conservation Park sign: Mr. Runyon suggested that Council consider installing a sign to identify the Thornburg Conservation Park and convey that it is not a dog park. A discussion followed. Council will look into it.

Pickleball Courts: A discussion was held on establishing permanent pickleball courts due to their popularity. Mr. Coppola suggested looking into converting or modifying the existing tennis courts.

Playground: A discussion was held on the age suitability of the new playground pieces.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Runyon made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 PM which was seconded by Ms. Catanzarite. The motion carried.