

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2022**

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), Mary Ditmore (2023), Zane Long (2023), Sam Runyon (2023), and Tony Szmul (2025) were present. Also present were Mayor Tom Mackin (2025), Solicitor Emily Mueller, and Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk.

Regrets: None

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

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

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

TDA window replacement contract: Solicitor Mueller indicated that The Design Alliance had reverted to a standard version of its contract terms and agreements in drafting the window replacement contract. She will request that it be rewritten using the modified version agreed upon previously. President Falk indicated that the pricing will be reviewed for discussion at the January meeting.

Storm sewer damage/PUC notification: A discussion was held regarding potential action related to the storm sewer damage caused by work done on behalf of the gas company. Peoples Gas has indicated that repair work will begin next week. Solicitor Mueller informed Council that the deadline to file a complaint with the PUC is December 19, 2022, based on when the damage was initially discovered. A discussion followed. Mr. Coppola will contact Clint Reilly at NIRA to file the PUC complaint. Additional actions may be considered.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for November. There were two alarms (false), one animal call, and one report of vandalism.

A discussion was held on action that can be taken for repetitive false alarms. Solicitor Mueller will look into it.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

Disbursements: Ms. Falk presented the list of disbursements for November. A discussion followed. Mr. Runyon made a motion to approve the disbursements as presented. Ms. Catanzarite seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Draft 2023 budget – Ms. Falk presented Draft C of the 2023 budget. A discussion followed. Ms. Ditmore made a motion that council approve the 2023 budget as presented. Mr. Long seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Millage Resolution: Mr. Runyon made a motion that council resolve to maintain the 2023 real estate millage at the 2022 rate of 6.6 mills. Mr. Long seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

January 2023 meeting date: Ms. Falk informed Council that the first Monday of January falls on January 2, which is a federal holiday. A discussion followed. Council confirmed that the January meeting will be moved to the next day, Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

Gas credit card: Ms. Falk reported that Center Independent Oil (where the Borough has a house account and purchases most of its fuel) has changed its billing system and now requires a credit card for all purchases. She informed Council of a fuel card available through Wex Bank that would allow for the purchase of gas from most gas stations and that deducts state taxes from the fuel payments, rather than requiring the Borough to apply for an annual refund of state fuel taxes. A discussion followed. Council authorized Ms. Falk to apply for the Wex Bank fuel card.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: No report.

H/R: No report.

P/R: No report.

Roads: No report.

Sewers: No report.

Steering: No report.

Playground: No report.

Fundraising: No report.

Grants:

PennDOT Multimodal Funds – Hamilton sidewalk –Ms. Falk reported that the grant request has been submitted. The updated project total is \$210,600, with a grant request of \$152,000 and a Borough match of \$58,600 (38.6%).

COVID-19 ARPA Small Water & Sewer grant application and resolution – Ms. Falk reported that she is completing an application for an ARPA Small Water & Sewer grant for the repair of all previously identified structural defects in the Borough sanitary sewer system with a NASSCO condition grade of 3, 4, or 5. She will work with Borough engineer Clint Reilly to get the required information and costs, estimated to be approximately \$300,000. The Borough match requirement is 15%. A discussion followed. Mr. Runyon made a motion authorizing Ms. Falk to apply for the grant and to execute the necessary documents and paperwork. Ms. Ditmore seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Szmul made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 PM, which was seconded by Mr. Long. The motion carried.