

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

Meeting Time: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President Vinnie Coppola.

Location: Thornburg Community Center auditorium

Attendance: Council President Vinnie Coppola (2025) was present and chaired the meeting. Council members Mary Ditmore (2027), Sigo Falk (2025), Zane Long (2027), Lauren Catanzarite (2025), Michael Jameson (2027), and Tony Szmul (2025) were present. Mayor Tom Mackin (2025) was present. Solicitor Emily Mueller and Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Long made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of January 2, 2024. Mr. Falk seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Szmul made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 2, 2024 as presented. Mr. Long seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Resident Sam Runyon (Princeton) asked about the following items:

- the status of the streetlights on Cornell, which are not working. Mayor Mackin will look into it.
- The feeding of feral cats on Princeton. Mayor Mackin has previously spoken to the resident. A discussion followed. President Coppola suggested the following procedure: a letter from the borough; a citation from the code enforcement officer; going to the magistrate.
- the removal of the old playground equipment from Hamilton. Mayor Mackin reported that public works removed the metal parts and concrete. A discussion was held on using the landscape timbers for rebuilding steps. Mr. Runyon will coordinate with Rob Murphy.

Resident Colleen Kamnikar (Hamilton) reported on behalf of the Community Club that the company that printed the Talk of the Town is no longer providing print services. Resident Jackie Dornback has offered to print them at no charge (approximate cost \$125 per issue). A discussion followed about printing and delivering hard copies. Copies will be made available in boxes near the upper and lower bulletin boards. The Community Club will poll members to see if delivery is still requested.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Emily Mueller had no formal report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mackin provided the police report for January. There were three alarms (all false), one animal complaint, one fallen tree, one medical call with transport, one motor vehicle accident, and one suspicious vehicle/incident.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Crafton Children's Corner (CCC) lease: President Coppola reported that he met with Judy Albenze and other representatives from CCC. Items discussed included the timeline for the window replacement project, the status of the floor in the boys' bathroom, repairing the water fountain, and use of the lower level room by the kitchen. President Coppola will create a new lease that will address ambiguities, correct typos, and make updates to the 2004 lease that is currently in effect rather than sign the rent adjustment amendment previously delivered. As required by the current lease, he delivered a formal termination of the current lease with the intent of entering into a new agreement by the March 1, 2024 renewal date.

Construction Projects:

Window replacement: Ms. Falk reported that the windows are expected to be delivered by May 1, with construction and installation anticipated during the month of May. A preconstruction meeting will be scheduled closer to the window delivery date.

Mechanicals: A discussion was held on moving forward with the HVAC/DOAS project. Council confirmed that it is ready to move forward with the conceptual design using the current building footprint.

Hamilton Road Sidewalk: The borough is still waiting for PennDOT to provide the grant agreements. A discussion was held regarding coordinating the paving part of the project with anticipated sewer repairs.

Sanitary Sewer project: Thornburg was awarded a \$200,000 grant to correct Level 3, 4, and 5 repairs identified previously. Additional televising is required as part of the consent order. A discussion followed. President Coppola and Mayor Mackin will meet with borough engineer Clint Reilly to review the locations to be televised.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

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

Auditor proposal for FY2023 – Ms. Falk summarized the proposal from Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood to do the 2023 financial report and audit. Mr. Long made a motion that Council accept the proposal from HSMW to perform the 2023 audit and complete the financial report for \$4,975. Mr. Falk seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

COMMITTEES:Construction Projects:

These projects were addressed in the President's Report.

Traffic Calming: No report.

Human Resources: No report

NEW BUSINESS:

Chickens - Ms. Falk reported that she received an e-mail from residents of Thornberry who live near Tech Road complaining about 15-20 chickens roaming loose. A discussion followed. Mayor Mackin will follow up.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into Executive Session at 8:05 PM to discuss personnel. Council came out of Executive Session at 8:35 PM.

OLD BUSINESS:

Secretary/Treasurer position - Mr. Long made a motion that Council offer the position of Secretary/Treasurer to Kris Szmul upon resignation of the current Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jameson. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Szmul abstaining. Ms. Falk will coordinate a transition plan with Ms. Szmul if she accepts the position.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Coppola made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 8:37 PM, which was seconded by Mr. Long. The motion carried.