

**THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF JULY 12, 2022**

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

**Location:** Thornburg Community Center, Hamilton Park, Pace Pavilion

**Attendance:** Council President Sigo Falk (2025) and 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), Secretary/Treasurer Dorothy Falk, and Solicitor Emily Mueller.

**Regrets:** None.

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**Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

Mr. Long made a motion to dispense with reading the Minutes of June 6, 2022. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Runyon made a motion to accept the Minutes of June 6, 2022 as amended. Ms. Catanzarite seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Cable franchise agreement renewal: Solicitor Mueller reported that she has been in communication with Verizon regarding its franchise agreement renewal, which expired in 2020. Ms. Falk received a proposed contract from Comcast for a renewal of its franchise agreement, which expired in 2021. Solicitor Mueller will follow up. Legal costs will be shared with other municipalities who are also currently renewing their contracts.

PHMC grant contract: A discussion was held on a covenant in the grant agreement requiring PHMC to have approval of future work to the Community Center upon acceptance of grant funds. Solicitor Mueller will follow up.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Residents Jim Mitchell (Hamilton), Will Roboski (Hamilton), and Jason Herman (Hamilton) requested that "No Outlet" signs be installed on Hamilton due to increased traffic and speeding from drivers looking for shortcuts through Thornburg. They are concerned that the situation will get worse due to the bridge construction and have created a petition which has been signed by most residents on upper Hamilton and Smith. A discussion followed. Mr. Runyon made a motion that two "No Outlet" signs be installed near the Hamilton/Dartmouth intersection, which was seconded by Mr. Coppola. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Mackin will coordinate sign installation with Rob Murphy. Mr. Mitchell also pointed out that there was overgrown foliage at the intersection of Hamilton and Smith. Mr. Runyon and Mr. Mitchell will trim it back.

Resident Joe Perri (Tech) expressed concern regarding drivers in upper Thornburg speeding and running the stop sign at Harvard and Tech. Mayor Mackin will communicate Mr. Perri's concern to the Crafton Police. He also indicated that there will be increased police presence during the bridge construction.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Mackin gave the police report for June. There were 5 alarms (false), one animal call, one motorist assist with citation, one disturbance, one noise complaint, one dog bite, one medical call (with transport), one suspicious person/circumstance, and one traffic citation.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

No report.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

Disbursements:

Mr. Runyon made a motion to approve the disbursements for July as presented. Ms. Ditmore seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

SHACOG salt bid results: Ms. Falk reported that Cargill was the low bidder of the SHACOG salt bid at \$88.96 per ton, an increase of 8% from the previous bid, due primarily to an increase in transportation costs. A discussion followed. Mr. Runyon made a motion that council accept the proposal from Cargill. Ms. Catanzarite seconded the motion, which passed unanimously

2021 Financial audit and report: Ms. Falk presented the HSMW audit of the 2021 financials and the DCED report. A discussion followed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance:** No report.

**H/R:** No report.

**P/R:** No report.

**Roads:** No report.

**Sewers:** No report.

**Steering:** A discussion was held regarding truck access behind the Community Center if the addition is built. No action is needed at this time.

**Playground:** President Falk reported that the playground equipment has been delayed in customs but is expected to arrive this week. Once the equipment has been installed, the contractor will be back to install the drainage. Mayor Mackin will work with Rob to coordinate. A discussion was held regarding the need to keep kids off the equipment until the playground is finished.

**Grants:** Ms. Ditmore reported that she expects to hear back from the Borough's state representatives about the status of the LSA grant application.

**Fundraising:**

Capital Campaign pledge update –

President Falk reported that there are 87 pledges totaling \$349K, of which \$155K has been received. 48% of borough households have pledged. A discussion was held regarding cashflow and how much of the pledge funds to use towards the playground.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Dog permit: Mr. Runyon reported that there was an incident of an unruly dog at the conservation park. They do not appear to have a permit.

Dead trees: Rob Murphy is getting additional proposals to remove two dead trees from Stanford. Initial estimates have been high.

Garage clean up: A discussion was held regarding cleaning up the exposed clutter at the Rutgers garage and the possibility of a fence to conceal it. Mayor Mackin will discuss with Rob Murphy.

Scarecrows: A discussion was held regarding more timely removal of scarecrows after the fall.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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