THORNBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

Meeting Time:	The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.
Location:	Thornburg Community Center, Library
Attendance:	Council President Vincent Coppola (2029), Lauren Catanzarite (2029), Sigo Falk (2029), Tony Szmul (2029), Zane Long (2027) were present. Also present were Solicitor Richard Monti and Secretary/Treasurer Colleen Kamnikar
Absent:	Michael Jameson (2027) Mary Ditmore (2027), Mayor Tom Mackin (2029) and Solicitor Emily Mueller

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The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion to dispense of the reading of the minutes of the August 3, 2026, meeting was made by Zane Long and seconded by Lauren Catanzarite. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Zane Long and seconded Tony Szmul. The motion passed.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Several members of the community were present.

- Neighbor Joan Britten was present for update on Lugalia property on Rutgers Road. Council had no update.
- Council President gave an update on the pothole at the intersection of Princeton and Columbia. The Borough Engineering inspected the manhole and concluded that the side was collapsing. Repairs are needed and bids have gone out.
- The October Council meeting will have a representative from the USDA to present a deer management program. Council would like the Borough Secretary to make announcements so that community members interested are aware of the speaker.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

President Coppola reported no police report this month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT/ ENGINEER'S REPORT:

<u>Hamilton Road Sidewalk Project:</u>

Sidewalk Project staining was darker than expected. Next step is to be combined 3 stains to get the intended color of a caramel shade. Backfill and landscaping will begin behind the retaining

wall. Paving will start after completion of cleanup of park area. Paving will consist of Hamilton and Yale Road.

Manhole Collapse/Sinkhole:

The Borough Engineering (NIRA) inspected the manhole and concluded that the side was collapsing. Repairs are needed and bids have gone out. NIRA excepted 3 bids. They are recommending State Pipe Services with a bid of $10,516. A motion was made to approve the bid for repairs by Zane Long and was seconded Lauren Catanzarite. The motion was approved.

SHACOG Salt Price Increase:

SHACOG Salt bid price was release in August. There was only one bid for the contract. America Rock Salt, LLC accepted the bid. That bid price doubled since last year approx. $88 to $160 per lb. A motion was made to approve the Salt Contract for 2027 by Zane Long and seconded by Lauren Catanzarite. The motion was approved.

Alcosan Delinquent:

Borough Council Secretary informed Council that there have been several repeat none Alcosan Delinquent payers that owe the Borough several hundreds of dollars. Their bills stretch beyond 90 days unpaid after multiple warnings and late chargers on top of their bills. Next steps the Borough will be taking for these type of non-payments will be placing liens on their properties. All costs of the liens will be the responsibility of the homeowner.

Design Alliance Architect Update:

Council President and the Borough Secretary have emailed the Architect for updates. They will inform Council at the next meeting of any updates.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Borough Solictor updated Council about the Zoning Hearing Board Variance decision that was granted to 1117 Harvard back in August. This decision is only specific to that property and no other.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Disbursements:
Ms. Kamnikar presented the list of disbursements for August. Tony Szmul made a motion to approve the disbursements as presented. President Coppola seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Human Resources:

- 2027 Pension MMO Worksheet Review

Council reviewed the worksheet for the projected pension contribution for the public works crew for 2027. A motion was made to approve the MMO Worksheet for 2027 by Sigo Falk and seconded by Tony Szmul. The motion was approved.

Public Relations:
Nothing to report. Ms. Catanzarite proposed a community day to invite neighbors down to view the sidewalk and have ribbon cutting. Mulch is planned to be delivered and Public Works will spread sometime in September.

Grants:
Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Purchase of Library Chairs

  Librarian Janice Coppola presented to Council her choice for new library chairs, which are slightly over the original budgeted figure of $2000 – Budgeted vs. Actual - $2400. A motion was made to approve the purchase of new library chairs by President Coppola and seconded by Sigo Falk. The motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Community Center Garden Improvements

  Borough Council Secretary presented 3 ideas for new landscaping in front of the Community Center. Over the years, student traffic and deer foraging have left the garden in disrepair. The plan is to allow grass to grow back in some areas, remove dying brushes, install pavers, and replant deer resistant plantings.

ADJOURNMENT:
President Coppola moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m., which was seconded by Sigo Falk. The motion passed.