

**Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
1 South Main Street
Thornville, OH
November 27, 2023**

Council Members:

Erica O'Neill
Ashley Moore
Sterling Krout
Tasia Savage
Kim Billman

Other Village Officials:

Gina Kaetzel- Mayor
Kelly Beem- Fiscal Officer
Traci Sturgill- Administrator
Dan Williams- Chief of Police

Guests Present: Dale Brussee, Jeff Carr

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Kaetzel called the Village of Thornville Regular Council Meeting to order November 27, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Roll Call was taken with Council President Sterling Krout, Council member Tasia Savage, Council member Ashley Moore, and Council member Erica O'Neill all present. Council member Kim Billman was running late but will be here soon. Council member Lynne Snider did email Village Administrator Traci Sturgill and advised she would be out of state for this meeting.

Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to excuse Council member Lynne Snider. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call

Sterling Krout- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Tasia Savage- aye

Motion passed 4-0

Motion to approve the Business Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on November 27, 2023:

Mayor Kaetzel requested a **motion** to approve the business agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on November 27, 2023. A **motion** was made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

Roll Call

Ashley Moore- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Sterling Krout- aye

Motion passed 4-0

Motion to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting on October 23, 2023: Mayor Kaetzel requested a **motion** to approve the minutes from the Regular Council meeting October 23, 2023. A **motion** was made by Council member Ashley Moore and was seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call

Erica O'Neill- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Tasia Savage- aye

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Sterling Krout- aye
Motion passed 4-0

Jeff Carr- EDG Environmental Services: Jeff explained that Village Administrator Traci Sturgill invited him to attend tonight's meeting to discuss the new grant that just became available for water & wastewater infrastructure projects called the WWIG grant. He, along with Traci & Heidi sat through the online presentation detailing the grant details. This grant opens tomorrow, November 28th and the submittal deadline is approximately 30 days. There is approximately \$750 million dollars available. This is a first come, first serve state level grant from ODOD. We looked at submitting for our wastewater treatment plant upgrade but with the time restraints attached to the grant of spending, we are unable to meet those with that project. We then looked at our I & I portion of the treatment plant project. The grant will not fund design costs only construction therefore any projects must be "shovel ready" when submitted. Traci advised \$1.3 million of the wastewater treatment plant quote was for I & I and we really need this part of the project completed whether we end up moving forward with the PC Commissioners and a new plant or not. The Village's I & I is very high and a real problem. We are paying to treat water we don't need too on a regular basis. The council would need to decide tonight if they would like to move forward applying for the grant that has to be submitted tomorrow morning. The Village will also be required to provide funds of \$44,250 to cover the survey and engineering plans to submit the application which is available in the sewer fund. The I & I project will also provide the Village with mapping of all our manholes which we currently don't have available.

Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to move forward with authorizing RCAP to submit the I & I project application to Ohio Dept of Development. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call

Tasia Savage- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Motion passed 4-0

Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to commit Village sewer funds of \$44,250 towards the I & I project design. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call

Ashley Moore- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Motion passed 4-0

Police Report for November 2023: Chief Williams reviewed the police activity for November. He advised it was a relatively quiet month. Officer Josh Moore was away on military training for a couple weeks. He also updated the council on an old case from 2021 that we stopped a motorcycle for running a red light, a chase pursued and when we caught him, he was in possession of a large amount of cocaine, meth, fentanyl and over \$19,000 in cash. He has since pleaded guilty to all charges. The court has now awarded us the cash which has been sitting safely locked up in the

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safe since the arrest. Chief Williams will create a line item in the police department fund to deposit the funds, which can only be used for special purposes.

It can't be used to replace levy funds. It can be used for a cruiser, radios, and miscellaneous purchases like those. Chief Williams also added he is currently taking his required CPT training. Mayor Kaetzel asked for an update on the school zone monitoring software. Chief Williams advised after sending it for review with Attorney Zets, he highly advised against us taking part in this. He has represented several companies like this in lawsuits. We also cannot run the tickets through Mayor's court like we were advised we could. They would all have to go through municipal court, which he was misled on from the company when presented. Mayor Kaetzel asked if there were any funds in the police budget to purchase a speed sign. Chief Williams stated there should be enough in the carryover for next year. Village Administrator Traci Sturgill added that the council had previously voted against purchasing one of these and Chief Williams added yes, when he first started here. Mayor Kaetzel thought that was due to money restraints and no police levy. We can revisit purchasing one in 2024 with the council again. Council member Ashley Moore asked if one could be donated? Traci advised yes, that would be great.

Council member Kim Billman arrived at 7:20 pm.

Public Hearing:

Mayor Kaetzel opened the public hearing for Ordinance #23-09 at 7:30 p.m.

- ORDINANCE #23-09 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
2nd Reading

Public Comments or Discussion- None

Mayor Kaetzel closed the public hearing for Ordinance #23-09 at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Kaetzel advised this is the 2nd reading for Ordinance #23-09 and she will need a **motion** to suspend the three-reading rule and pass it as an emergency. **Motion** made by Council member Kim Billman and seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Kim Billman- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to adopt Ordinance #23-09 and pass it as an emergency. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Ashley Moore- aye
Kim Billman- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Motion passed 5-0

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Mayor's Report:

Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for October 2023:

Mayor Kaetzel advised she needs a **motion** to receive the monthly water report to the Perry County Commissioners for October 2023. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Erica O'Neill- aye

Motion passed 5-0

Monthly Water Report to Council for October 2023:

Mayor Kaetzel advised she needs a **motion** to receive the monthly water report to Council for October 2023. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and was seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call

Kim Billman- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Erica O'Neill - aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Motion passed 5-0

Monthly Mayor's Court Reports for October 2023:

Mayor Kaetzel advised she needs a **motion** to receive the Mayor's Court Reports for October 2023. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call

Kim Billman- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Erica O'Neill- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Motion passed 5-0

Leaf Pickup-Mayor Kaetzel wanted to discuss the leaf pickup we didn't have this year. She feels she needs to apologize to the public for not addressing this sooner. It should have been addressed and it wasn't in a timely manner. In the interim of all of that she did start calling around to see if we could rent a leaf vac, which she did find out we could not do. Mayor Kaetzel added she heard that a few years ago, which she does need to do more research on, there was some type of legislation put through the state advising villages can share big equipment like this, which is when she contacted Millersport, and they did offer to come in donate the one day of pick up. They also said they would be willing to go into contract on a yearly basis for something like this, but all of this will need to go to committees in 2024. She just wanted everyone to know that it was looked into, and Village Administrator Traci

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Sturgill has called around and received quotes on new leaf vac machines. The one they use in Millersport did cost \$80,000. Traci advised she has quotes ready to bring to committees in January. She did find one that will work for our village that you pull behind the truck, it has the box attached and the cost is around \$26,000.

Administrator's Report:

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill advised the payment register is in everyone's file for review. If anyone has any questions about the bills, please let her know.

Council member Ashley Moore asked what "UBC" stands for on the receipts. Fiscal Officer Kelly Beam advised "Utility Billing Clerk". Utility payments that come in daily.

Mayor Kaetzel stated if there are no other questions on the bills, she will need a **motion** to pay the bills. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Kim Billman- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye

Motion passed 5-0

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill advised we were awarded our first splash pad grant of \$20,768 from the Ohio Dept of Natural Resources Natureworks Grant. Next grant to apply for is the Land & Water Grant which is on for vote tonight.

TAC Committee- Traci wanted to talk about the TAC Committee. She has been trying to get them to understand that everything they are doing is wonderful, but they do need to get permission from the Village Council and Mayor prior to moving forward with plans. Nobody here had any idea they were going to decorate all the baskets around town this year. While they do look great, we have a couple of local ladies in the Village who have purchased items for the baskets and decorate them every year on their own time and money. She is worried they will be upset now but nobody knew this was taking place until pictures were posted on Facebook on a Saturday morning. She did advise the TAC Committee of this, and they said they would contact them to let them know the Village was unaware they were decorating the baskets.

Judge Cooperrider continues to send out emails to multiple people trying to set up meetings to apply for grant funds without first getting the approval of the Village Council & Mayor.

While we know she is trying to do great things for the Village, the Village must decide if and what grants we are applying for. Grants require match funds, attorney fees and miscellaneous fees out of the funds of the Village. Council member Ashley Moore advised Judge Cooperrider had also asked her to discuss the Village purchasing the bank tonight during council comments. She wants us to purchase the bank, remodel it and then lease it. Judge Cooperrider thinks the Village has the funds to do all this. Traci just wanted Council to be made aware of what all has been going on with this situation. She is aware of all the grants when they come out and brings to council & Mayor Kaeztel those grant opportunities, she feels the Village can go after and afford.

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Christmas Lights Display Contest: Discussion held: Decision made to have a winners display sign made and council members would vote on the winner at the December 18th council meeting. Council member Ashley Moore will get a donated gift card for the winner. Council member Sterling Krout will go collect the winner's sign after the holidays.

Fiscal Officer's Report: Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem advised the bank reconciliation and financials are on the table to receive for October 2023 and sign. Kelly also added we are winding down the year, so spending is cut down in December, so we have all invoices paid prior to the new year.

Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to receive the bank reconciliation for October 2023. **Motion** made by Council member Kim Billman and was seconded by Council member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Erica O'Neill- aye

Motion passed 5-0

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished Business:

Mayor Kaetzel advised this is the 3rd reading for Ordinance #23-02 and she will need a **motion** to adopt Ordinance #23-02.

ORDINANCE #23-02 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #18-02 AND ESTABLISHING RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT WATER BASE RATES AND SURCHARGES, ESTABLISHING RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT SEWER BASE RATES AND SURCHARGES, AND REPEALING ALL PRIOR INCONSISTENT LEGISLATION

3rd Reading

Motion made by Council member Erica O'Neill to adopt Ordinance #23-02 and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Erica O'Neill- aye

Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Kaetzel advised this is the 3rd reading for Ordinance #23-06 and she will need a **motion** to adopt Ordinance #23-06.

- ORDINANCE #23-06 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW COMPENSATION AND PAY SCHEDULE FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE, REPEALING ALL PRIOR SALARY ORDINANCES
3rd Reading

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Motion made by Council member Kim Billman to adopt Ordinance #23-06 and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Erica O'Neill- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Kim Billman- aye
Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Kaetzel advised this is the 3rd reading for Resolution #23-11 and she will need a **motion** to adopt Resolution #23-11.

- RESOLUTION #23-11 A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE BID OF AND EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH WIN WASTE INNOVATIONS OF HEATH INC. FOR THE WEEKLY CURBSIDE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF RESIDENTIAL TRASH, REFUSE, AND YARD WASTE WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE
- 3rd Reading

Motion made by Council President Sterling Krout to adopt Resolution #23-11 and was seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Kim Billman- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Motion passed 5-0

New Business:

Mayor Kaetzel advised this is the 1st reading for Resolution #23-16 and she will need a **motion** to suspend the three-reading rule and pass it as an emergency.

- RESOLUTION #23-16 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO REQUEST PERMISSIVE TAX FUNDS FROM THE PERKY COUNTY ENGINEER TO PAY FOR THE PAVING OF LAKEVIEW DRIVE AND NORTH WEST STREET AND DECLARING AND EMERGENCY
- 1st Reading

Motion made by Council President Sterling Krout to suspend the three-reading rule and pass it as an emergency and seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Kim Billman- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Motion passed 5-0

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Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to adopt Resolution #23-16 and pass it as an emergency. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Ashley Moore- aye
Kim Billman- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Sterling Krout- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Kaetzel advised this is the 1st reading for Resolution #23-17 and she will need a **motion** to suspend the three-reading rule and pass it as an emergency.

RESOLUTION #23-17 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SE OHIO GRANT SOLUTIONS, LLC TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION, THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, TO SECURE A LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION GRANT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SPLASHPAD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

1st Reading

Motion made by Council member Ashley Moore and seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all 4 Council members voting aye and 1 Council member voting no.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage- aye
Kim Billman- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Sterling Krout- no
Motion passed 4-1

Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to adopt Resolution #23-17 and pass it as an emergency. **Motion** made by Council member Erica O'Neill and seconded by Council member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all 4 council members voting aye and 1 council member voting no.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage- aye
Kim Billman- aye
Sterling Krout- no
Ashley Moore- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Motion passed 4-1

2024 Meeting Schedule: Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to approve the 2024 meeting schedule. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and seconded by Council member Erica O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Ashley Moore- aye
Kim Billman- aye
Erica O'Neill- aye
Motion passed 5-0

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Comments and Announcements: None

Citizen Comments: None

Council Comments:

Council member Ashley Moore advised the bank is still firm on \$500,000 and it is now on hold due to them trying to combine all of them into a group purchase of some kind.

Council member Sterling Krout thanked Village Administrator Traci Sturgill for always putting everything together for the meetings so organized. He would like to know our thoughts on future discussions regarding projecting the meeting information onto a projector due to the paper waste and the work it takes printing everything. Traci advised she will add this to the committee agenda in 2024.

Council member Kim Billman feels she likes the idea of the projector but also having the agenda printed. Council member Ashley Moore agrees also.

Fiscal Officer Kelly Beam suggested buying all council members Ipads. This is what many surrounding Village council members have.

Adjournment: Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

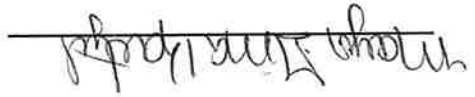
Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Erica O'Neill- aye

Motion passed 5-0

Adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



Mayor Gina Kaetzel



Traci Sturgill, Council Clerk