

**Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
3 South Main Street
Thornville Ohio
February 23, 2015**

Council Members Present:

Heidi Robinson, Council President
Lynne Snider
Dale Brussee
Mary Renner

Other Village Officials

Gavin Renner, Mayor
Beth Patrick, Village Administrator
Sharon Brussee, Clerk of Council
Melissa Tremblay, Fiscal Officer
Darrell Ball, Chief of Police

Guests Present:

Tim Copperrider	Jason O'Brien	Greg Gibson	Jack Bishop
Brandon Fox	Brandi Davis	Ty Davis	Brian Winders
Joe Muetzel	Tim Phipps	Jon Mohr	Tony Taylor
Daniel Grosse			

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

The Village of Thornville regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Gavin Renner on February 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Roll call taken with all members in attendance,

Approval of Agenda for February 23, 2015:

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to amend and approve the agenda to add **Executive Session** under New Business after the 2 ordinances; the State of the Village Q&A moved to the Mayor's Report and clarification on Monthly Water Report to Council January due to typing error due to printer error and was seconded by Councilwoman Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Review and Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting January 12, 2015:

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to approve the Regular Council minutes for January 12, 2015 and was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Renner. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Review and Approval of Minutes for Special Council Meeting January 20, 2015:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Mary Renner to accept the Special Council meeting minutes from January 20, 2015 and was seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Review and Approval of Minutes for Special Council Meeting January 28, 2015:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Dale Brussee to approve the Special Council meeting minutes from January 28, 2015 and was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Renner. A roll call vote was taken with both members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Review and Approval of Minutes Special Council Meeting February 17, 2015:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Dale Brussee to approve the Special Council meeting minutes from February 17, 2015 and was seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Daniel Grosse

Mr. Daniel Grosse spoke about Deer Trail Estates regarding the snow removal and the dedication of water and sewer lines. He voiced his concerns about the wait of 2 years to do that cap and he was told that it can't be dedicated until the cap is put on. He would like to cap it this summer so that it can be dedicated so that next winter that it can be plowed. He stated that mail is delivered and there is trash pick-up, but the Village won't do snow removal. He asked the Village to check into this. He asked why the water and sewer lines have not been dedicated. He asked what needs to be done. Village

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Administrator Beth Patrick stated the only sewer line that hasn't been dedicated is the line to his house. Village Administrator Beth Patrick will provide him a copy of the ordinance.

Discussion held regarding the dedication of the streets.

Councilman Dale Brussee recommended to Council that since the road wasn't done according to the plans that Mr. Grosse agreed upon that since there were elevation marks on the plans that he would like to have it surveyed to find out the road is in relationship as to where it is supposed to be. Councilman Dale Brussee added that he would like to see from Mr. Grosse what he wants to do regarding depth and capping and everything else because Councilman Dale Brussee isn't sure of the depth whether the road needs cored in few places just to see what the depth is. Mr. Daniel Grosse responded that it was another 3 inches on the top. Councilman Dale Brussee stated the road is rough, and he is not sure 3 inches is enough. Councilman Dale Brussee stated it will need to wait until spring and get the elevations and determine from those readings to determine what it takes to make it smooth.

Tim Phipps

Mr. Tim Phipps has is property for sale, and he has a potential buyer who has a horse. Mr. Phipps has 8 ½ acres in the Village, and basically, what he is looking for is guidance from Council about having a horse in the Village, and what needs to be done about getting a horse. Councilman Dale Brussee stated there is an ordinance (338) that prohibits livestock in the Village. Councilman Dale Brussee provided an option of de-annexing from the Village. Mr. Phipps stated the potential buyers have been patient about this issue. Mr. Phipps asked if there could be a variance. Councilman Dale Brussee responded there is no provision in zoning to allow this to happen. Mayor Gavin Renner also responded there is an ordinance outside of zoning, and there is no option to do a variance. Mr. Tim Phipps asked if this is a no. Mayor Gavin Renner responded that would be up to Council to give special permission for it. Mr. Phipps responded that is what he is looking for. Council President Heidi Robinson stated that if Council gives special permission for a horse, then anyone else could come forward with a request for an animal. She added that if Council gives permission to Mr. Phipps, then they would have to give permission to everyone else with this type of request. Council President Heidi Robinson added that giving permission to Mr. Phipps would be a bad move on Council's part. Mr. Phipps asked why there is a provision in the ordinance to give special permission, if it's not going to be used. Councilman Dale Brussee responded that this ordinance was written in 1969, and he didn't know what their thinking was. Village Administrator Beth Patrick stated that if Council agreed to this that it would not be grandfathered in, and the new owners would need to come back for approval. Mr. Phipps asked for clarification if a written statement would be needed to ask for special permission. Councilwoman Mary Renner stated that she would want to hear from people, who live in that area. Mr. Phipps asked what it would take to de-annex. Village Administrator Beth Patrick provided the steps of the de-annexation process. Mr. Phipps responded that he would look into the de-annexation process.

Police Reports for December 2014 and January 2015:

Police Chief Darrell Ball presented the December 2014 and January 2015 Police Reports.

December 2014 Police Report

Cases Handled:

2 Complaints

2 Assistance Calls

1 Lockout

1 Theft (Identity)

2 Traffic Cases

Total Auxiliary Hours Worked:

56 Hours

Trainings Attended:

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Continuing education training completed by officers for the year 2014. Four hours were required. Officer White has been temporarily suspended from active duty until he returns to complete his training.

Items of Importance:

None to report.

January 2015 Police Report

Cases Handled:

1 Crash

1 Complaint

1 Assistance Call

1 Threat/Harassment

1 Traffic Case

Auxiliary Hours Worked

Total Hours: 42

Trainings Attended:

None to report.

Items of Importance:

None to report.

Mayor's Report for February 23, 2015

Office Hours:

Due to a large project at work, Mayor Renner may not be able to do office hours through the remainder of the year. His contact information is 614-745-4802 or mayor.thornville@gmail.com

Correspondence:

- Email from a resident regarding issue with trash pickup. Forwarded to Village Administrator.
- Email from Yellow Pages regarding update to phone director. Sent them updated contact information.
- Email regarding "inconvenience fee" for MACRS radio system. Forwarded to Chief Ball.

Solicitor:

- None.

Online:

- Postings for TYRA baseball signup on the 28th at Thornville Library.
- Postings for jobs at Village Pool.
- Postings for reminder to residents about tree trimming and awareness of plowing efforts.
- Posting for Thornville Veterans Memorial.

Press Contacts:

- State of the Village published in *Beacon*.

State of the Village Q&A

Mayor Gavin Renner opened the discussion by stating that he had received comments from Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay regarding the State of the Village. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay stated that she and Village Administrator Beth Patrick had some questions since they had received requests regarding the Financial Report. She thinks people have a misunderstanding, and she and Village Administrator Beth Patrick would like an explanation of what the Mayor was trying to say and what he meant. Mayor Gavin Renner responded that what he was trying to say is the Village is in a strong financial position, and the Village has over \$2M at the end of the year, but that money is not something that can be spent away over the course of the year. He added that the Village needs to keep expenditures low, and he was recommending keeping that frugal approach. Mayor Gavin Renner stated that the next part of the State of the Village that he was talking about the Village is allocating that money, and Mayor Gavin Renner stated

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that he thought that he could have used better language where the Village is obviously planning for expenditures of operations and emergencies, and that is always in there for water and sewer. His concern was how to deal with roads in the Village that will need to be repaired sometime in the future. Mayor Renner added that this was a lead-in to urge Council to take a look at this issue. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay responded that their main concern was that the way it reads is that the Village has an extra \$2M, and the Village is accumulating taxpayer money solely for the purpose of emergencies. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay voiced her concern regarding the statement that “we are at a position where we should begin planning for expenditures on a regular and appropriate basis”. She stated this sounds like it isn’t being done now, when this is probably 75% of the jobs of the Fiscal Officer and Village Administrator. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay voiced her concern regarding the upcoming levies that the Village will have on the ballot, and with the misunderstanding of the State of the Village, it could have an impact on those levies. She added that she is getting numerous inquires regarding the Financial Report. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay stated that if those levies fail, the Village will have to immediately cut over \$100,000 out of appropriations. Fiscal Officer Tremblay also stated that she was concerned about answering questions and giving a different response than what was in the State of the Village. Mayor Gavin Renner agreed that those general fund levies are needed in order for the Village to maintain the things we have. Mayor Renner also believes the problem the Village has is the infrastructure that the Village can’t be maintained the way it was in the past. He added that decisions will have to be made on how to deal with alleys and roads, and it was meant to tie-in with how to maintain roads and projects the Village is working on. Mayor Renner stated that it was not meant to say the Village is hoarding money. Mayor Renner voiced his concern about making statements to the press around election-time regarding the renewal levies, and he is not sure what to tell people regarding the roads. Mayor Gavin Renner stated the Village definitely needs those levies. Mayor Renner commented that he hopes that Council will take a look at the roads in the future. Councilman Dale Brussee suggested the possibility of doing some of the work in-house.

Village Administrator Beth Patrick suggested bringing up roads in Public Facilities. It was asked by Mayor Renner if it would help issuing a clarification on the State of the Village. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay responded that with the questions that she had received that she wanted a clarification. She also added that maybe next year the Mayor, Village Administrator and she could have a meeting regarding the wording in a way that tells the story. Village Administrator Beth Patrick stated that the wording that goes out to the press regarding the general levies will need to be reviewed.

Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for January 2015:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Mary Renner to receive the Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners and was seconded Councilman Dale Brussee. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Monthly Water Report to Council for January 2015:

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to receive the Monthly Water Report to Council for January 2015 and was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Renner. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Administrator’s Report:

- Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay and working on the 2016 Budget and it should be ready by the March Committee meeting.
- Thanks to Administrative Assistance Anna Cox for her assistance with the budget paperwork.
- Review of operating levies by Perry County Auditor Teresa Stevenson and Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay, and they concurred they were fine. Also, forwarded both ordinances to the Solicitor Zets for review.
- American Legion and Veterans Memorial Society purchased a flag drop off box located in front of the office.

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- Shelly Lift Station is proceeding nicely. The project is scheduled sometime in March, weather permitting.
- Spoke with Kimble regarding on-going problem with alley pick-up. The driver is hesitating because of the size of the alley. Kimble is working on it.
- Scott Hill Appraisal gave an appraisal of the old firehouse, which came to \$325. The Township Trustees have been invoiced for their half of \$162.50.
- Added an extra sign in Thornhill, which will be a directional sign.

Presentation and Payment of Bills:

Village Administrator Beth Patrick presented the bill to Council.

Discussion was held on UV lights. Village Administrator Beth Patrick stated they are replacement lights.

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Lynne Snider to pay the bills, and was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Renner. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Bank Reconciliation:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Lynne Snider to receive the Bank Reconciliation for January 31, 2015 and was seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Fiscal Officer's Report:

Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay stated that she received clarification on the State of the Village, and she is working on the 2016 Budget.

Zoning Report – Council Representative

- No meeting for February 2015

Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation – Chairperson Lynne Snider

- Talked about the pool and the possible pay raise for Assistant Manager.
- Discussion was held regarding the TYRA and Timberwolves schedules. It was stated that the tournament date was changed, and the schedule conflict was resolved. Jack Bishop reviewed the latest schedule with Committee Chair Lynne Snider.
- TYRA Tim Cooperrider that since the Timberwolves will be building a field next year if TYRA could have a 2-year contract next year. Councilwoman Lynne Snider responded that this will have to go back to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Councilman Dale Brussee responded that he is not in favor of that at this time.

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Lynne Snider gave permission to Village Administrator Beth Patrick to sign contracts for TYRA and Timberwolves and was seconded by Councilman Dale Brussee. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Public Facilities and Safety – Chairperson Dale Brussee

- Discussed Clum Sanitary Detachment.
- Hagan Easement.
- Old firehouse.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Dale Brussee to not accept the proposal from Dennis Hagan and seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Discussion was held the sale would be for the old firehouse itself and the land underneath it.

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A **motion** was made by Councilman Dale Brussee to be in agreement to proceed in the selling of the old firehouse and have Brian Zets do whatever he needs to do and was seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

A **motion** was made by Councilman Dale Brussee to not to include the empty lot the other half of Lot 69 to be sold at this time and seconded by Councilwoman Lynne Snider.

Discussion was held. Village Administrator Beth Patrick asked that it would include Solicitor Zets to move forward process with the property. It was stated that was included in the first motion.

A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Council Rules – Chairperson Heidi Robinson

- Reviewed the newest edition of the Council Rules and found no errors.

Personnel – Chairperson Heidi Robinson

- Committee has done a rough review of the Personnel Manual
- Scheduled a Special Personnel Meeting for March 9 at 6 p.m. to go over and fine-tune the changes that may be needed

Finance – Chairperson Mary Renner

- Update on 2016 Budget.
- Village Administrator review of the levies that will be on the ballot this year.
- Reviewed the appropriations with no changes.
- Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay was asked to work up figures for the proposed raise of the Assistant Pool Manager.

Discussion was held regarding the hours for the Assistant Pool Manager and the hours he worked as a lifeguard. Also, discussed was how pay raises are determined for employees.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

Ordinance 15-01 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING, AND ENACTING AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING'S OHIO BASIC CODE – 2015 EDITION, AS THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF THORNVILLE, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **1st Reading.**

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to suspend the rules for **Ordinance 15-01** and declare as an emergency and seconded by Councilman Dale Brussee. Roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to adopt **Ordinance 15-01** as an emergency and seconded by Councilman Dale Brussee. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Ordinance 15-02 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 14-14, THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, REVISING SUMS FOR OPERATING EXPENSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **1st Reading.**

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to suspend the rules for **Ordinance 15-02** and declare as an emergency and seconded by Councilman Dale Brussee. Roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to adopt **Ordinance 15-02** as an emergency and seconded by Councilman Dale Brussee.

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Discussion was held regarding Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay checking of all of the account numbers.

Roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Executive Session

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Mary Renner pursuant to R.C. 121.22 (G)(1) to discuss certain personnel matters, including the investigation of charges and complaints against a public employee related to a February 23, 2015 accident and ask that Village Administrator Beth Patrick accompany Council into said meeting and was seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Council went into **Executive Session** at 8:05 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to exit **Executive Session** and was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Renner. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Council exited Executive Session at 8:28 p.m.

Council Comments

Councilwoman Mary Renner had no comment.

Councilman Dale Brussee had no comment.

Council President Heidi Robinson had no comment.

Councilwoman Lynne Snider had no comment.

Mayor Gavin Renner apologized causing confusion around the State of the Village address. He stated that it was all about planning for the future, and it wasn't meant to imply that it was that the Village is hoarding money, and he knows that Village is appropriately putting away money for the right things. Councilman Dale Brussee responded that the wording needs to be worded correctly in the *Beacon* for the upcoming levies. Mayor Gavin Renner agreed.

Citizens Comments:

Clerk of Council Sharon Brussee commented that she will be participating in the Perry County Relay for Life and asked for permission to put a donation jar in the Village Office. Council did not have a problem with this.

Meeting Announcements:

Special Personnel Meeting – March 9

Committee Meetings – March 16

Council Meeting – March 23

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to adjourn and was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Renner. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.



Gavin Renner, Mayor



Sharon Brussee, Clerk of Council