

Village of Thornville Council Minutes
1 South Main Street
Thornville, Ohio
October 14th, 2025

Council Members:

Aaron Hoppel
Lynn Snider
Dale Brussee
Tasia Savage

Other Village Officials:

Amanda Lackey – Mayor
Tonya Thurston- Clerk of Council
Sam Brown- Streets & Maintenance

Guests: Julie Conley, T.J. Rugg

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

The Mayor called the Village of Thornville Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Roll call was taken with Council Member Tasia Savage, Council President Dale Brussee, Council Member Lynne Snider and Council Member Aaron Hoppel all present.

Excused Absences: Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve Council Member Tony Taylor's absence. Council member Aaron Hoppel made the motion and was seconded by Council President Dale Brussee. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye

Roll Call:

Aaron Hoppel – aye
Lynn Snider – aye
Dale Brussee – aye
Tasia Savage – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Review/Approval of Regular Business Agenda for

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the October 14th, 2025 Regular Council Business Agenda after review and explained that items D and E will be switched and the titles adjusted. Item D will now be Ordinance 25-26, an ordinance approving the mayor's appointment of Eric Wilkins as village administrator, authorizing and directing the mayor and fiscal officer to execute an agreement with Eric Wilkins and declaring an emergency first reading. And item E will now be Ordinance 2527, an ordinance amending the pay rate in Section 2. Council Member Aaron Hoppel made a motion to change the agenda and was seconded by council member Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Dale Brussee - aye
Aaron Hoppel - aye
Tasia Savage - aye

Lynne Snider - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

Council President Dale Brussee made the motion to approve the amended agenda and was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Lynne Snider – aye

Tasia Savage – aye

Aaron Hoppel - aye

Dale Brussee – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Review /Acceptance of Regular Council Minutes from September 22nd, 2025:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the Regular Council Minutes from September 22nd, 2025 after review. Council Member Aaron Hoppel made the motion and was seconded by Council Member Tasia Savage. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Aaron Hoppel – aye

Tasia Savage – aye

Lynne Snider – aye

Dale Brussee – aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

Public Hearings: No public hearings

Unfinished Business:

State of the building update:

Administrator Brofford explained that architect Aleks Daskalov came out to inspect the building and provided 3 potential remedies.

1. Removing the extra load on the second floor and stabilizing the building. Removing the second floor- this option was NOT recommended by the architect. Estimated cost \$370,000.
2. Purchasing the old PNC building and restoring the ground floor and seal the basement, replacing front doors, drive thru and parking lot. Estimated cost \$280,000 assuming the purchase price is \$150,000.
3. Building a new building- estimated cost \$520,000. Council questioned the estimated amount.

Voorhies Property Update:

Revised easement agreement is ready to go. Waiting for Voorhies blessing and receipt of documents as well as setting a closing date.

Annexation- county engineers have approved the survey of the plant.

I&I Project Update:

Administrator Brofford gave an update on the I&I project.

Status of Mayor's Court:

Our current Magistrate is retiring at the end of the year. Other villages are also running into the same issue. Both the candidates we had for clerk have rescinded their applications. The current mayor's court clerk proposed staying on until the end of the year to close out cases. The mayor introduced TJ Rugg, a perry county prosecutor who would like to propose that he handle any cases that are sent down to the county court. Mr. Rugg gave an explanation of how this process would work. Council discussed closing out Mayors court and paying the clerk \$1800.00 to stay on to the end of the year and close out cases. Council President Dale Brussee made the motion and was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Aaron Hoppel - aye

Lynne Snider - aye

Dale Brussee - aye

Tasia Savage - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

New Business:**A. Reduction of Committee Assignments:**

- a. Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to reduce committee assignments and designate a chair and vice chair until the current open council seat is filled. Council Member Aaron Hoppel made the motion and was seconded by Council Member Tasia Savage. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage - aye

Dale Brussee - aye

Lynne Snider - aye

Aaron Hoppel - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

B. 2025 Leaf Pickup:

Proposed dates: November 3 to November 21. Council agreed to publish a flyer with these dates; flexibility to extend as needed was discussed. Operational guidelines: Leaves should not be mulched, especially when wet, due to equipment and process issues. Consideration of hiring a part-time person and using community service workers

C. Village Administrator Resignation:

Melissa Brofford resigned from Village Administrator. Her last day of employment will be 10/31/2025.

D. ORDINANCE #25-26 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF ERIC WILKINS AS VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH ERIC WILKINS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. First reading.

Council President Dale Brussee made a motion to suspend the 3-reading rule and was seconded by Council Member Tasia Savage. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage - aye
Lynne Snider - aye
Aaron Hoppel - aye
Dale Brussee - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

Council President Dale Brussee made the motion to adopt Ordinance #25-26 and pass as an emergency. He was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Lynne Snider - aye
Aaron Hoppel - aye
Dale Brussee - aye
Tasia Savage - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

E. ORDINANCE #25-27 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PAY RATE IN SECTION 2, REESTABLISHING AND RESTATING THE PAY RATE SET FORTH IN SECTION 10, AND AMENDING THE PAY RATE IN SECTION 13 OF THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE COMPENSATION AND PAY SCHEDULE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY:

Council President Dale Brussee made a motion to suspend the 3-reading rule and was seconded by Council Member Tasia Savage. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Lynne Snider - aye
Dale Brussee - aye
Tasia Savage - aye
Aaron Hoppel - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

Council President Dale Brussee made the motion to adopt Ordinance #25-27 and pass as an emergency. He was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Dale Brussee - aye
Aaron Hoppel - aye
Lynne Snider - aye
Tasia Savage - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

F. ORDINANCE #25-28 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REVISING SPECIFIC LINE-ITEMS IN THE APPROPRIATIONS OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2025 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY:

The ordinance amends and revises specific line items in the appropriations of expenditures for calendar year 2025, presented as a first reading with an emergency declaration. Discussion clarified that this is a fund-switching action following approvals, invoices, and APO processing. Council President Dale Brussee made a motion to suspend the three-reading rule and declare it as an emergency and was seconded by Council Member Tasia Savage. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Aaron Hoppel - aye
Lynne Snider - aye
Tasia Savage - aye
Dale Brussee - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

Council President Dale Brussee made the motion to adopt Ordinance #25-28 and pass as an emergency. He was seconded by Council Member Tasia Savage. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Dale Brussee - aye
Aaron Hoppel - aye
Tasia Savage - aye
Lynne Snider - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

G. RESOLUTION #25-24 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR, OR HER DESIGNEE, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ON-LINE AUCTION TO PURCHASE 24 S. MAIN STREET, THORNVILLE, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Council discussed renovation cost estimates: renovations at \$130,000 plus an elevator pushing costs over \$200,000, with total project estimates cited as \$400,000 to \$500,000. Some members

questioned whether to invest in renovation versus a new building. Concerns addressed the pool area and broader facility consolidation: suggestions included filling in the pool to create green space or pickleball courts, consolidating storage into a cold storage building, and potentially combining water department and office needs to reduce duplication of facilities. NO MOTION was made to suspend and declare Resolution 2524 an emergency.

Comments and Announcements

Police Chief Final Appointment: The practice of a “final appointment” for police chiefs was reviewed; it is not required but offers protection and requires statutory procedures for removal under the Ohio Revised Code. The council indicated intent to proceed with a final appointment for Chief Palmer to provide stability across administration changes. Council agreed to have related legislation prepared for the next meeting. Council President Dale Brussee made the motion to approve the Final appointment of Chief Palmer and was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Lynne Snider - aye
Aaron Hoppel - aye
Tasia Savage - aye
Dale Brussee - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

Follow-up on village sign: Tasia is still working on it. There was discussion about whether it had been tabled; it was set for the agenda on the 27th of October.

Mayor Lackey stated that there will be no parking on Church Street during the country fair and that signs will be placed there.

Traffic Safety and Speed Signage: Resident Terry Anderson raised concerns about speeding through the 25-mile-per-hour zone, including trucks and safety near the school and church. Discussion clarified that speed feedback signs do not issue tickets but can slow drivers. Quotes discussed were \$6,000 to \$10,000, with suggestions to pursue signs with red flags if free and explore ODOT assistance; portable trailer-mounted signs and clamp-on options were mentioned. Council agreed to keep researching sign options and work with ODOT on traffic solutions.

Public Works: Fire hydrant issues: hydrants have been out for two weeks; parts were on the way. Technical issues noted include scoring due to dirt and water quality impacts.

A catch basin repair on Main Street was discussed, including cutting asphalt, excavating concrete, and using a plate; a member offered to donate a half-inch plate (32-inch square coverage), noting logistics and potential rental/transport costs.

A manhole previously covered was addressed; concrete was left 1.5 to 2 inches to allow paving over while ensuring the lid remains visible for future access.

Mayor Lackey called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm. Council Member Lynne Snider made the motion and was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage - aye
Lynne Snider - aye
Aaron Hoppel - aye
Dale Brussee - aye

Motion Passed: 4-0

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Amanda Lackey", written over a horizontal line.

Amanda Lackey, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Tonya J. Thurston", written over a horizontal line.

Tonya Thurston, Clerk of Council