

Village of Thornville Regular Council Minutes
1 South Main Street
Thornville, Ohio
March 2nd,2026

Council Members:

Aaron Hoppel
Lynne Snider
Craig Cooperrider
Dale Brussee
Tasia Savage
Mackenzie Brune

Other Village Officials:

Amanda Lackey- Mayor
Eric Wilkins - Village Administrator
Tonya Thurston – Clerk of Council
Cody Palmer – Chief of Police
Sam Brown – General Maintenance

Guests: Jeff Carr, EDG: Sewer plant Update, Ariana Frick, Abigail Frick

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Lackey 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 Aaron Hoppel, Council Member Lynn Snider, Council Member Mackenzie Brune, Council Member Craig Cooperrider, Council President Dale Brussee and Council Member Tasia Savage all present.

Roll Call:

Aaron Hoppel – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Mackenzie Brune – aye
Craig Cooperrider – aye
Dale Brussee – aye
Tasia Savage – aye

Excused Absences: None

Amendment of Regular Business Agenda for March 2, 2026

Mayor Lackey asked that the agenda be amended to reflect attending guests Ariana and Abigail Frick. She also asked that Resolution 26-03 be moved before the TYRA contract approval. Council Member Aaron Hoppel made the motion and was seconded by Council Member Craig Cooperrider. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage - aye
Dale Brussee- aye
Craig Cooperrider- aye
Mackenzie Brune- aye
Lynne Snider- aye
Aaron Hoppel- aye

Motion Passed 6-0

Review/Approval of the Regular Business Agenda for March 2, 2026- as Amended:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the Regular Council Business Agenda- as Amended, after review. Council Member Aaron Hoppel made the motion and was seconded by Council Member Mackenzie Brune. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage – aye
Dale Brussee – aye
Craig Cooperrider- aye
Mackenzie Brune- aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Aaron Hoppel – aye

Motion Passed 6-0

Guests:**Jeff Carr, EDG: Sewer Plant Update**

Mr. Carr introduced himself and gave a brief history of the sewer plant. He stated that it was realized in 2021 that an upgrade would have to be done so they started with a preliminary engineering report in 2022. He gave a detailed description of the components of the plant and stated that they would start with the headworks screen (head of the plant). The next step would be at the tail of the plant with the tertiary filter and UV. He stated that from a status standpoint, they have all the surveying done. They had an internal kickoff meeting, met out on site. They have gone through and started working with the different vendors that supply equipment. They have done that vendor coordination to say, you know, we want this type of equipment etc. He said they are in that 30 percent design phase right now. Our goal is to get a set of plans submitted to EPA by September. So, we're pushing pretty hard trying to keep that ball rolling. So that in September is the next round of WPCLF which that's the next round of funding that's coming up. That funding is where the design loan is through right now. They'll usually announce that sometime in December or January and then at that point. He then went on to state they are working with R- CAP which is a rural community, Rural Community Assistance Program. Rcap, and that is a state funded organization. And they kind of help you guys, they help us. They will go through and get that information submitted on behalf of the village. This would potentially be the allocation from Troy Balderson. The OWDA loan repayment was discussed. Mr. Carr stated that he is always available to council for questions.

Ariana Frick: Wants to host a 5K in the village

Ms. Frick introduced herself. She is a sophomore at Sheridan High School and has been competing in pageants for three years now. She started a mental health social media page called reflect your inner beauty. She and her mother have been discussing hosting a mental health run for Thornville and a spring cleanup, to bring together neighbors and kids of all ages to make Thornville cleaner and more welcoming than it already is. This would be held during the month of May as it is Mental Health Awareness month. Ms. Frick stated that there are areas of the park and village that have become a hotspot for young people to hang out and they leave trash everywhere. It was noted that the Park and Rec Levy passing would aid in this problem. Ms. Frick was informed that there was a special event application that has to be completed and turned in. Council President Dale Brussee also stated that once she is organized and has information to share, the Village would share it on social media as well.

Public Hearings: None**Unfinished Business:****a. Water Meter Updates**

Mayor Lackey stated that Administrator Wilkins has been working on getting the quotes. And that reached out to Heidi in regards to possible grants. Heidi did say it's very difficult to get grants for these meters, but we are going to hold off on making any decisions just yet. Heidi is going to come to our first meeting in April, and she's going to explain all of our options. She's working with another community right now locally. So, she's got a few different scenarios to share. Council Member Craig Cooperrider stated that the village of Millersport paid the service fee, the internet fees, but their meters were \$300.00, and they broke it up over six months or six bills until that was paid. He stated that there was a letter that went out that said something like "You got new meters, this is the cost. You are going to get billed for six eight months". Then at the end of that, the cost goes away. Mr. Carr with EDG spoke up and stated that another village he worked with put in new meters and discovered that they had over 400 Meters that were reading incorrectly. After replacing the meters, they collected an (approximately) additional \$300,000 in their water account and (approximately) \$500,000 in their sewer account.

b. TYRA Clean Up Day:

Mayor Lackey spoke with Commissioner Easton a little bit. He did inform her that numbers are down. There are only four baseball teams and three t-ball teams so, there's not going to be probably a lot of play on the fields this year with only seven total teams. Mayor Lackey asked him to put out a post from Tyra to see if there's any volunteers that would like to donate time or materials. She then mentioned that she would like to replace the Drinking Fountain and that she would follow up with TYRA for a date.

The restrooms at the ball field were discussed. And it was decided that a new drinking fountain will be purchased.

New Business:

- a. **RESOLUTION #26-04: A RESOLUTION TO HIRE ERIC WILKINS AS THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE ZONING INSPECTOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

First Reading

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion. Council Member Craig Cooperrider made the motion to suspend the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency and was seconded by Council Member Tasia Savage. A Roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage – aye
Mackenzie Brune- aye
Lynne Snider- aye
Craig Cooperrider- aye
Aaron Hoppel – aye
Dale Brussee – aye

Motion Passed 6-0

Council President Dale Brussee made a motion to adopt Resolution #26-03 and pass as emergency. He was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A Roll Call Vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Craig Cooperrider- aye
Tasia Savage – aye
Aaron Hoppel – aye
Dale Brussee – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Mackenzie Brune- aye

Motion Passed 6-0

- b. **TYRA Contract Approval**

I. RESOLUTION #26-04: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO THE VILLAGE PARK BALL FIELD USE AGREEMENT WITH THE THORNVILLE YOUTH RECREATION ASSOCIATION FOR THE 2026 YOUTH BASEBALL SEASON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

First Reading

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion. Council President Dale Brussee made the motion to suspend the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency and was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A Roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Craig Cooperrider- aye
Tasia Savage – aye
Aaron Hoppel – aye
Dale Brussee – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Mackenzie Brune- aye

Motion Passed 6-0

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #26-04. Council President Dale Brussee made a motion to adopt Resolution #26-04 and pass as emergency. He was seconded by Council Member Mackenzie Brune. 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
Mackenzie Brune- aye
Craig Cooperrider- aye

Motion Passed 6-0

Prosecutor for cases at the County

Mayor Lackey stated that she had spoken with Will Flautt. He indicated he's interested in maybe taking that on for us. He is already down at the county for Somerset on Wednesdays and Junction City. So, I am still waiting to get the rates and contract back from him, that information. So once that is received, she will bring it with legislation to council and invite him to come to the meeting. It was noted that TJ Rugg had not gotten back to council.

Equipment Maintenance

Mayor Lackey stated that she would like to have a routine maintenance schedule for the equipment the village has such as trucks, skid steer, Leaf Vac, motors at lift stations etc. This information (Milage, hours, etc) should be reported to Administrator Wilkins on Fridays. Administrator Wilkins stated that he would work on creating a maintenance log.

Water Bill Payments- Rentals

High water bills and lack of payment for rentals was discussed. It was mentioned that our policy in the village is to shut off water if no payment has been made within 10 days of getting a red tag notice. It was also noted that the reason that the water bills are left in the homeowner's name is due to the fact that the village cannot recoup money once a renter leaves the property.

Past Due Account Protocol

Council stated that they are willing to work with anyone who is having a hard time but that the payment arrangement MUST be kept and payments MUST be made on time. If no efforts are made, water will be disconnected.

R.C. 121.22(G)(1) to discuss the compensation of a public employee

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session. Council Member Craig Cooperrider made a motion to enter into executive session at 8:17pm and was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Craig Cooperrider- aye
Aaron Hoppel- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Dale Brussee- aye
Mackenzie Brune- aye
Lynne Snider- aye

Motion Passed 6-0

Council Member Craig Cooperrider made a motion to exit the executive session at 9:04pm and was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Craig Cooperrider- aye
Aaron Hoppel- aye
Lynne Snider- aye
Dale Brussee- aye
Tasia Savage- aye
Mackenzie Brune- aye

Motion Passed 6-0

It was noted by Mayor Lackey that no decision had been made and that the decision would be made on record in order to follow Sunshine Laws.

Council President Dale Brussee stated that Sam Brown's pay had been discussed and if a decision is made it will begin at Sam's one year anniversary with the Village and that Administrator Wilkins had spoken very highly of him. Mr. Brussee also stated that he proposed to bring it up to the top dollar amount that was discussed when he was first hired, \$28.00/hour. Council Member Craig Cooperrider also stated that he agreed with the increase to \$28.00/hour and that it should begin at Sam's one year anniversary. Council Member Aaron Hoppel stated that he would agree with the \$28.00/hour after the one-year anniversary but that any other increase only if Sam obtained a spray licence.

Council President Dale Brussee made the motion to increase the rate of pay for Sam Brown to \$28.00/hour on his one-year anniversary with the village and was seconded by Council Member Craig Cooperrider. 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
Craig Cooperrider- aye
Mackenzie Brune- aye

Motion Passed 6-0

Comments and Announcements:

Mayor Lackey stated that she received an email from the reps for Troy Balderson regarding more grants opening up. They sent us the early bird information for these March ones for 2027. Jeff's team and Heidi. They're all working on their end. Mayor Lackey sent the letters and already got one back from BLRC, the Buckeye Lake Regional Corporation in support. She asked the commissioners and Commissioner Owen indicated they are willing to write a letter to support us. Mayor Lackey asked Warren Township and asked the school to see if they would give us letters of support for this grant. Our audit is going to be this year. She stated that we need to make sure everything's uploaded on our website and asked the clerk to check on that.

March tenth and eleventh road closures at the main part of the village are going to be right here for the I& I project. They're coordinated with ODOT. The fire department has been notified and that there will be road closures, and a crew out here directing traffic.

The Grates at Bryan Orr and Maple is being run over and you can see tracks in it today from the snow. We have to put up a barrier. Scott Barrick sent an email about it. The Village needs to put something there to stop people from driving over it.

Council President Dale Brussee thanked Mayor Lackey for her hard work and informed council that when he was mayor the pay was \$6000.00 per year and that it is now \$3000.00 and an increase should be considered as well as Council pay.

Council Member Tasia Savage reminded everyone that The America 250 event for April is a Pinewood Derby race, and it is open to all ages, even adults, but there must be 50 registrants to make this event happen. So she will be posting on the village Facebook page tomorrow. The registration link has the link to the rules. It has a link to buy the kit as well. She asked that we share that or sign up for it or get your kids sign up for it.

Chief Palmer asked if there is a code or ordinance about soliciting in the village. It was noted that other villages in the county require a permit to solicit.

Adjournment:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25pm. Council Member Craig Cooperrider made the motion and was seconded by Council Member Aaron Hoppel. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Mackenzie Brune- aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Tasia Savage – aye

Aaron Hoppel – aye
Dale Brussee – aye
Craig Cooperrider- aye

Motion Passed 6-0



Amanda Lackey, Mayor



Tonya Thurston, Clerk of Council