

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
3 South Main Street
Thornville, OH
April 22, 2019

Council Members Present:

Dan Harmon
Lynne Snider
Josh Hultgren
Abby Frick
Daria Carr

Other Village Officials:

Linda Savage, Mayor
Traci Sturgill, Village Administrator
Melissa Tremblay, Fiscal Officer
Darrell Ball, Chief of Police

Guests Present: Winnie King

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Linda Savage called the Village of Thornville Regular Council Meeting to order on April 22, 2019, at 7:00 pm by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Roll Call taken with all councilmembers present.

Motion to Amend the Agenda: Mayor Linda Savage requested a Motion to Amend the Agenda to remove #5 to Review and Approve the Minutes from Regular Council meeting from March 25, 2019, that has already been done and I would like to add new business, Resolution #19-06, this would be the first reading for the levy. Motion made by Council Member Dan Harmon, and seconded by Councilmember Abby Frick. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers voting yea.
Motion passed 5-0

Motion to Approve Amended Agenda: Mayor Linda Savage requested a Motion to Approve Amended Agenda for April 22, 2019. Motion was made by Councilmember Lynne Snider and 2nd by councilmember Josh Hultgren. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers voting yea.
Motion passed 5-0

Presentation of Bills:

Discussion Held: Village Administrator Traci Sturgill explained the itemized payments from the registers.

With no further discussion held, a **motion** was made by Councilmember Lynne Snider and seconded by Councilmember Josh Hultgren to pay the bills for April 22, 2019. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea.
Motion passed 5 -0

Bank Reconciliation: Mayor Linda Savage presented the Bank Reconciliation.

With no further discussion held Councilmember Lynne Snider made a **motion** to receive the bank reconciliation for March 2019 and was seconded by Councilmember Abby Frick. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea.
Motion passed 5-0

Fiscal Officer's Report- Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay turned in her report and was introduced by Mayor Linda Savage to Winnie King as the person who keeps us in the "Black" with the Village for 14 years.

- Mayor Linda Savage asked Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay if she could stay for the meeting. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay stated she can, does she need to? Mayor Linda Savage responded with "you might". Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay, stated "ok".

Police Report for March 2019: Police Chief Ball

Chief Ball reported they had one assistance call with the Sheriff's office and one lockout. One theft, one report of harassment and 4 traffic cases. Auxiliary hours worked 97. He advised Mike is back now off of medical leave and has been fully cleared by his doctor so he has started putting hours in again and those will continue to increase. March 27, 2019 had a report of menacing threats in the library parking lot. Charges will probably be filed in the next week. Also on March 27, an individual reported a theft of a cell phone at the Circle K and also on March 29, 2019 there was damage to the park on Thorn Hill Drive with pretty good ruts made, restitution will be made to the Village. One other thing, he has received several calls in regards to golf carts, they are NOT allowed in town, the resolution was not passed. Throwing to the Councilmembers if whether or not to allow golf carts. Any questions please refer to the chief. Chief's personal opinion is his hesitation for a serious accident on blind curves.

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Motion to excuse Kristina Roshon was asked by Mayor Linda Savage. Motion made by councilmember Daria Carr and seconded by councilmember Josh Hultgren: A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea.
Motion passed 5 - 0

Administrator's Report-

- Old Fire House Update: Spoke with Bob Coleman, from the township trustees, Traci is on the agenda for the next meeting on May 8th.
 - Verizon Wireless upgrades, quote for \$40 extra a month.
 - Interviewed and hired Jodi Bowen, from New Lexington as pool manager if council ok with that. Jodi will continue to help with all the interviewing.
- A **motion** was requested to be made for Jodi Bowen to be the pool manager. Motion made by councilmember Lynne Snider, and seconded by councilmember Dan Harmon. Roll call was taken with all member voting yea.
Motion passed 5 - 0

- Travis has caulked, removed leaves, power washed, and painted the pool bottom. Had to order more paint. It is finished.
- Inspection from fire department at concession stand, need to purchase a surge protector, but that is it.
- Adult swim days – can not be on Wednesdays, due to pool maintenance. A manager must be on duty.
- Thursdays are best for membership swims.
- Lifeguards will be required to sweep the pool three times per week.
- A concrete pad will be poured Butch Brown for the dumpster.
- Pizza Shop light is repaired.
- Metal post is also fixed off to the side.
- No parking lines are on the list and sign height repair
- Jack Walker's yard is on the list to be repaired also from the plow.
- New Snow Flakes will receive power from AEP free of charge to 8 poles and John Ridenour will show us where they will be located.
- Shelly Company is going to try and get the state to repair the storm drains in June
- Flag pole behind the village continues to wrap around the eagle and the legion is going to address at their next meeting.
- Post office parking lot completion end of July first of August, they were delayed due to the deed having a different name.
- Salt agreement is done for next year.
- Parade Rules and added a new application for everyone to look at – a lot of wording in the rules – take a look and see if you want something added or taken out.

Public Hearing

- Mayor Linda Savage opened the meeting to the public at 7:17 p.m. about Resolution #19-03.

RESOLUTION #19-03 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO LEVY A TAX OUTSIDE THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION. REQUESTING THE PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR CERTIFY TO THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WILL BE GENERATED BY RENEWAL TAX LEVIED OF ONE HALF (.50) MILL FOR PARKS AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES AND DELCARING AN EMERGENCY
2nd reading

With no other comments the Public Hearing for Resolution #19-03 was closed at 7:18 p.m.

Mayor's Report for March 2019: Mayor Linda Savage presented the Mayors Report

- **Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for March 2019:**

Mayor Savage asked for a **motion** to receive the monthly water report to Perry County Commissioners for February 2019. With no discussion held, a **motion** was made by Councilmember Abby Frick to receive the Monthly Water Report to the Perry County Commissioners for March 2019 and was seconded by Councilmember Daria Carr. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea.
Motion passed 5-0.

- **Monthly Water Report to Council for March 2019:**

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Mayor Savage asked for a **motion** to receive the monthly water report to Council for March 2019. With no discussion held, Council President Dan Harmon made a **motion** to receive the Water Report to Council for March 2019 and was seconded by Councilmember Daria Carr. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 5-0.**

- **Mayor's Court Report for March 2019:**

Mayor's court was not held in March 2019, nothing to report.

- Mayor Savage asked for a **Motion** to be made to change the regular scheduled council meeting for May 27, 2019 to May 28, 2019. **Motion** was made by councilmember Lynne Snider and seconded by Councilmember Josh Hultgren. A roll call vote was taken with all member voting yea. **Motion passed 5-0**

Committee Reports for February 2019:

- **Finance- Committee Chair Dan Harmon**

- Committee discussed the levy.

- **Parks & Recreation- Committee Chair Lynne Snider**

- Committee Chair Lynne Snider was unable to make the last meeting, Vice Chair Abby Frick to update councilmembers.
- Pool painting was completed, pool manager hired, donations so far \$270 of which \$130 for punch cards and \$140 misc. Opening day May 22, closing day, still open. Dog day swim Day, August 24th, adult swim, up to manager.
- Corks and Forks have asked for a pool membership as a donation for a silent auction. Not sure if this is something that the Village can donate. Do not feel this can be donated.

- **Personnel- Committee Chair Kristina Roshon**

- Personnel Committee Vice Chair Josh Hultgren updated council . Personnel Committee reviewed the employee handbook.
- We have a new Village Administrator as of last week, Traci Sturgill is the new Village Administrator.
- The process to hire a new council clerk is in the process.

- **Rules- Council Chair Abby Frick**

- New Ordinance for Agenda's, Resolutions, and Ordinance Location postings. We are getting a new board and we are reviewing the first section of rules to discuss with the committee. The new box will be here Thursday.

- **Public Facilities & Safety- Committee Chair Josh Hultgren**

- Fire house, parade rules, time table for post office parking lot, concrete pad and yard damage – all addressed in the administrators report a few minutes ago.
- Yard sale dates August 2nd and 3rd
- Discussion about Halloween date, trick or treat, if Halloween on Thursday we will have it that day.

Zoning and Planning Commission:

- Zoning and Planning inspector has been rolled into the Village Administrator duties, Village Administrator Traci Sturgill will update. Traci met with Martin Thomas to return items to Village. Three checks, one back from February not cashed yet, I have

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the books, a key to the office and the checks, so he's done. There were three fence applications with checks.

Unfinished Business:

Mayor Savage – moving on to Resolution #19-03 that's the second reading.

RESOLUTION #19-03 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO LEVY A TAX OUTSIDE THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION. REQUESTING THE PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR CERTIFY TO THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WILL BE GENERATED BY RENEWAL TAX LEVIED OF ONE HALF (-50) MILL FOR PARKS AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES AND DELCARING AN EMERGENCY
2nd reading

- **ORDINANCE #19-04 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION AND PAY SCHEDULES FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE AND REPEALING ALL PRIOR SALARY ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
3rd Reading

Mayor Linda Savage would like a **Motion** to pass Ordinance #19-04. **Motion** made by Council President Dan Harmon and seconded by Abby Frick. A roll call was taken with all members voting yea.
Motion passed 5-0

- **SOPEC - Electric Aggregation**

Gentleman that was offering the opportunity for residents to sign on with his company to get a bulk rate. Josh recused himself from the subject but agreed that is the topic. The only information received is what the gentleman brought, not enough information to take any kind of action. No one from the community has come forward asking council to take action.

New Business:

- **ORDINANCE #19-05 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 18-08 (THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE). THEREBY REVISING SUMS FOR OPERATING EXPENSES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
1st Reading

- **ORDINANCE #19-06 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH TRACI STURGILL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
1st Reading

Mayor Linda Savage would like a **motion** to suspend the rules for Ordinance #19-06 and to declare this an emergency. Councilmember Abby Frick made a **motion** to suspend the rules for Ordinance #19-06 and declare this an emergency. **Motion** was seconded by Council President Dan Harmon. A roll call was taken with all members voting yea.
Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Linda Savage asked for a **motion** to pass Ordinance #19-06 declaring this an emergency. Council President Dan Harmon made a **motion** to pass Ordinance #19-06 and to pass it as an emergency. Councilmember Josh Hultgren seconded the **motion**. A roll call was taken with all members voting yea.
Motion passed 5-0

Council President Dan Harmon made comments: For the community here we have made a commitment to make a lot less emergency and suspension of the rules and emergency passage. We have already hired a new Administrator and we needed to make this an emergency to get things buttoned up.

- **ORDINANCE #19-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ORDINANCE 19-04 (COMPENSATION AND PAY SCHEDULE), THEREBY MAKING THE YEARLY SALARY OF THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR MATCH HER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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Mayor Linda Savage asked for a **motion** to suspend the rules for Ordinance #19-07. Councilmember Josh Hultgren made a **motion** to suspend the rules for Ordinance #19-07 and to declare this an emergency. **Motion** was seconded by Council President Dan Harmon. A roll call was taken with all councilmembers voting yea. **Motion passed 5-0**

Mayor Linda Savage asked for a **motion** to pass Ordinance #19-07. Councilmember Josh Hultgren made a **motion** to adopt Ordinance #19-07 and to pass as an emergency. Council President Dan Harmon seconded. A roll call was taken with all councilmembers voting yea.

Motion passed 5-0

- **ORDINANCE 19-08 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2020 TAX BUDGET FOR THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE, DIRECTING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO SUBMIT THE 2020 BUDGET TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
1st Reading

- Mayor Linda Savage asked for a **Motion** to approve the new Village Administrator's Employment agreement. A **motion** was made by Council President Dan Harmon to approve the New Village Administrator's Employment agreement. **Motion** was seconded by councilmember Abby Frick. A roll call was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 5 - 0**

- **RESOLUTION #19-06 A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH PLACING THE ISSUE ON THE BALLOT FOR A ONE-HALF (0.50) MIL, FIVE (5) YEAR REPLACEMENT TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL. LIMITATION FOR PARKS AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
1ST READING

- **MOTIONS TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING PURCHASES (discussed in committee meetings)**

Mayor Linda Savage asked for a **Motion** to approve the purchase of a new mower for \$11,200. A **motion** was made by councilmember Lynne Snider to table the purchase of a new mower and seconded by council President Dan Harmon

Mayor Linda Savage asked for a **Motion** to un-table the approval to purchase a new mower for \$11,200. A **motion** was made by Council President Dan Harmon to un-table the purchase of a new mower and seconded by councilmember Daria Carr. A roll call was taken with all councilmembers voting yea. **Motion passed 5-0**

Motion made to purchase the lawn mower by councilmember Lynne Snider after Melissa and Traci figure out which funds the purchase of the mower will come out of. **Motion** seconded by council President Dan Harmon. A roll call was taken with councilmembers voting yea. **Motion passed 5-0**

- Mayor Linda Savage asked for a **Motion** to purchase a new overhead garage door. **Motion** was made by councilmember Abby Frick and seconded by council president Dan Harmon. A roll call was taken with all councilmembers voting yea. **Motion passed 5-0**

- Discussion regarding new laptops and Verizon Cellular Phones upgrade. Everyone in agreement to purchase these items.

- Mayor Linda Savage asked for a **Motion** to change the previous **Motion** for the date of Trick or Treat-“Trick or Treat should always be Thursday night prior to Halloween from 6-8 pm, UNLESS Halloween falls on a Thursday”. **Motion** was made by councilmember Lynne Snider and seconded by councilmember Abby Frick. A roll call was taken with a vote of one vote of nah and four votes of yea. **Motion passed 4-1**

- Community Yard Sale Date – August 2nd & 3rd,

- Pool Opening/Closing/Adult Swim/Dog Swim/Hours of operation – Waiting to speak with new Manager to see if she can do this.

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Council Comments

- Council Comments
 - Daria thanked Traci for everything
 - Abby Frick's Neighbor complained that the water guys dug up her lawn, covered it back up, stuck a flag in it and left. This was about a month ago, need to get house number on Craig drive. Traci will find out and address with Water/Sewer.
 - Josh had nothing
 - Councilmember Lynne Snider thanked Traci for having everything ready – She thinks the feel in the room is 100% different and felt in 55 minutes more was accomplished than had been in six months. Traci, do not put yourself too deep without asking for Council's help. Feels you are a great asset to the Village.
 - Council President Dan Harmon had nothing
 - Mayor Linda Savage:

Glad things went really well at the committee meetings, hopefully things will be moving in a positive direction. We have great talent on this council and thank you for your enthusiasm and all you do. This has been a tough month and a lot happening in the last month. I wasn't pleased with the way things were done, I am not sure that this council thought about the repercussions from a rash unethical decision, mainly to drag intentionally a persons reputation thru the mud, that's a behavior I will never approve and will never condone. Thornville is a small caring community, a lot of you are five years or so less and do not realize that it is a small giving community too. Council did not need a reason to terminate the Village Administrators position but inevitably they overstepped their responsibilities, used defamation of character, made false accusations, violated the employee handbook, the list goes on. There were concerns about the violations, the discrepancies with the timesheets, that money was being stolen from the Village, but when you think about the amount of time that has been spent contacting the solicitor, asking for a contract there has been time a few times a week. Every time when engage our solicitor there is a fee involved. I am afraid, I do not have any idea how much money was spent interacting with the solicitor over the termination of the Village Administrator, not to mention the time spent pouring over time sheets and minutes to put together an itinerary to execute a major change for the whole Village, it was a dark blot on the Village and the Council. It was just dark times. But I do feel that with Traci's leadership that this council can get past this ordeal and move forward with a positive direction and I do want to caution this council to curb gossiping and office encounters. Please think for yourselves, use your intelligence, don't allow yourselves to be coerced in any direction. Traci's roots are in Perry County and she genuinely cares about the well being of the Village. Now where is my place with this council? I have been here since 2016, it seems though that in the past year as Mayor, my influence has been undermined, my voice is no longer respected. In this past year I have endured scoldings, lectures, name calling. My words are interrupted, dismissed, contradicted, talked over, or simply unheard. This is apparent that this council is creating and allowing a hostile environment so it is my decision to retire from the position of Mayor and I am turning in my resignation effective now on this day, April 22, 2019.

Citizens Comments

Citizen Winnie King, well I do not want to go about this anymore. I really feel that Mickey was let go on unusual circumstances. And I know that we are not all perfect and he hadn't even had the job for a year, and he needed help obviously. I just wanted to voice my opinion to the fact that I just didn't think it was a correct way of getting rid of him. And I would like to know who is responsible for new contracting homes, inspections on them. Lynne Snider Responded with: It is not the Village. It would be a code ordinance, and we do not have a code ordinance. Perry County only inspects plumbing. There is no code that we have in the Village. Zoning did mention in the last meeting to start taking care of that. Zoning is going to talk about that in the next meeting. Water is coming from Craig Drive and it needs to be discussed about where the water will go.

Mayor Linda Savage informed council that she would be going to the bank tomorrow to remove her name off the signatures. This council will now need to

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determine who will be the second signature on the checks. A second is recommended not required. Council will figure it out.

Councilmember Dan Harmon is now the new Mayor. He relayed that he does not want this position long term. He is Mayor until the end of the year. The Mayor position will be open at the end of the year.

Adjournment:

With no further discussion held, a **motion** was made by Council President Dan Harmon to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilmember Daria Carr. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea.

Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Dan Harmon, Mayor



Traci Sturgill, Clerk of Council