

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
3 South Main Street
Thornville Ohio
June 22, 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
Brian Zets, Village Solicitor

Guests Present:

Mary Jane Bugh

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

The Village of Thornville Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Gavin Renner on June 22, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Roll call was taken with all members present.

Approval of Agenda for June 22, 2015:

Discussion was held regarding the Chairpersons for Personnel and Finance Committees need to be switched, and strike the Mayor's Court Report for May.

With no further discussion, a **motion** was made by Councilman Dale Brussee to approve the amended June 22, 2015 agenda and was seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Approval of Minutes for May 26, 2015:

With no discussion held, a **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to approve the May 26, 2015 minutes as written and was seconded by Councilwoman Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Mary Jane Bugh – Open Burning and Water Draining Issues

Ms. Mary Jane Bugh asked what steps can be taken to ban open burning within the Village limits, and she stated that most villages have open burning bans. Ms. Mary Jane Bugh voiced her concerns about her neighbor burning for extended periods of time. She stated that she can smell it in her house and that she cannot go outside to work in her yard. She is concerned about residents who have breathing issues and how this can affect their health. Councilman Dale Brussee asked for a history of this matter. Ms. Bugh stated that she has contacted Fire Chief Weekly and Police Chief Darrell Ball regarding this matter. It was asked what is being burned and she responded tree branches and yard waste. Mayor Gavin Renner responded that the Village follows the Ohio Basic Code, which is the standard. Ms. Bugh asked what steps can be taken to ban open burning in the Village. Council President Heidi Robinson if this would include fire pits, and Ms. Bugh responded no that this is different. Discussion was held regarding what is allowed in open burning and the definition of what is seasoned wood. Mayor Gavin Renner stated that the first step is to inform the property-owner of the standards for open-burning. Ms. Bugh was advised that Council will have to do additional investigation of the situation, and if Council chooses to pursue it, then an ordinance will need to be written, and that could take some time. Mayor Gavin Renner advised Ms. Bugh that he will let her know of Council's decision.

Discussion was held on the water drainage issue on Ms. Bugh's property due to her neighbors remodeling a few years ago. Ms. Bugh asked if there was an ordinance regarding neighbors' water on another person's property. Ms. Bugh was advised by Mayor Renner that this is a dispute between the property-owners and not a Village issue. Solicitor Zets stated this is between the property-owners and not what the Village regulates. It was suggested that Ms. Bugh call the Perry County Soil and Water, and they can advise her of any recourse that she has. Discussion was also held regarding a drain put in on July 15 and it will be hooked into the storm sewer. It was stated that the

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contractor wanted the Village to sign a contract. Village Administrator Beth Patrick stated that she cannot sign the contract another unless Council allows her to do it. It was suggested that Scotty Vest should check on this. It was also stated that a plan needs to be submitted to the Village Administrator.

Police Report for May 2015:

Police Chief Darrell Ball presented the Police Report to Council.

Cases Handled:

2 Crashes
1 Assistance Call
1 Lockout
4 Traffic Cases

Auxiliary Hours Worked:

Total: 66

Trainings Attended

None to report.

Items of Importance

Nothing to report.

Mayor's Report for June 22, 2015:

Mayor Gavin Renner gave a verbal Mayor's Report for June 22, 2015 due to network issues.

Office Hours:

Mayor Renner may not be able to do office hours because of additional projects at work. His contact information is 614-745-4802 or [mayor.thornville@gmail](mailto:mayor.thornville@gmail.com)

Correspondence:

- Received a letter from the Ohio Academy of Sciences regarding sending letters recognizing local students who excel in Science, and he plans on doing that shortly.
- Request for proclamation honoring Bill Hines' 90th birthday, and Mayor Renner will be issuing the proclamation on behalf of the Village.

Solicitor Contact:

-Nothing to report.

On-line:

- Pool Hours

Pool Facebook page needed to have the proper disclosure added and there were a number of residents who posted on that page regarding the change of hours from 7 to 6 p.m. The residents were concerned that they got off work late and would like to have an opportunity to take a quick dip in the pool. Mayor Renner asked Council to consider putting the pool hours back until the numbers on the usage of the pool have been compiled between these hours. He added there are a couple of considerations regarding swim lessons and pool parties that have been scheduled. Discussion was held. Councilman Dale Brussee stated that Council was told at the time the hours were reduced that this was a dead time and that it was a waste of money. Councilman Dale Brussee wanted to know if it is or isn't. Mayor Gavin Renner responded that he didn't know. Councilman Dale Brussee that this recommendation was what he based his decision on what he was told. Councilwoman Lynne Snider stated that money amount was \$1,650 in savings to the Village. Council President Heidi Robinson stated that it was told approximately 6 people generally used the pool during those times. Councilwoman Mary Renner stated it was been that way for a number of years. Councilman Dale Brussee asked if the information was incorrect that they were given. Mayor Gavin Renner responded that he did not know about that. Further discussion was held regarding the Pool's Facebook page. Councilman Dale Brussee stated he didn't recall discussing the Pool's Facebook page. It was also discussed on the various job responsibilities. It was asked by Village Administrator Beth Patrick asked what the responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Committee vs. the Village Administrator. Councilman Dale Brussee

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responded that the Parks and Recreations Committee has never been given that power from Council to dictate policy, and it is his opinion that it has always been that Parks and Recreations makes recommendations to go to Council, and then Council makes policy for the Village Administrator to follow. Councilman Dale Brussee asked if this is being changed. Councilwoman Mary Renner asked if this is the way it should be. Mayor Gavin Renner responded that if there is a policy and procedure adopted by Council, then it is the policy and procedure and it has to be followed. Discussion was held regarding how the numbers for the savings were gotten. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay commented that no one had ever come to her regarding the savings with the change of the hours, and she doesn't know where those numbers came from. Councilwoman Lynne Snider responded that the Pool Manager gave those numbers. Councilman Dale Brussee voiced his concern that the numbers that were given was the basis of Council's decision. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay asked if those numbers were verified. Councilman Dale Brussee responded that it goes back on Council for not checking. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay stated that what the Village Administrator Beth Patrick is not saying is that when she (Village Administrator Beth Patrick) tries to establish rules and regulations that she has been basically told that she can be overridden. Councilman Dale Brussee responded that the Village Administrator is overridden by the four Council members, but it goes through the policies to have it overridden. Councilman Dale Brussee added that the Village Administrator is given the control to run the pool. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay stated that if the Village Administrator tries to tell them something, they are not listening, and the response has been that I can go to Council or I can go to the committee and they are going to overrule you. Councilman Dale Brussee that this should go to the Parks and Recreation, and if they recommend it, then it would go to Council and it can be changed.

Discussion was held about closing the pool on the Fourth of July. It was asked by Village Administrator Beth Patrick if Council had agreed to close the pool on the Fourth of July, and the response was yes. Village Administrator Beth Patrick reviewed the numbers from the previous 3 years on the Fourth of July and Saturdays. Councilman Dale Brussee voiced his concern about information that had been provided. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay stated that Council should always ask how you came up with these numbers. Councilwoman Mary Renner stated that when those numbers were provided that she thought that Village Administrator Beth Patrick had approved those numbers. Councilwoman Lynne Snider responded that she and Village Administrator Beth Patrick had talked about closing the pool earlier several times. Councilwoman Lynne Snider stated she would never have taken the recommendation to 6 p.m. unless she saw the numbers, and she would never have made the recommendation if she knew they were incorrect numbers. Councilwoman Lynne Snider added that she was not in favor moving the membership swim to Monday nights. Mayor Gavin Renner voiced his concern about creating a situation because it could discourage people not to come to pool, but it does need to be balanced by being cost-effective. Councilwoman Lynne Snider stated that other pools change their hours in July and August. Fiscal Office Melissa Tremblay asked if the Council wants to stay with having the pool closed on the Fourth of July. Village Administrator Beth Patrick stated that she is not aware of any pool that closes on the Fourth of July. Councilman Dale Brussee stated that Council needs to erase everything on the motion that Council had previously approved. It was stated by Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay that this should wait until after the Executive Session to make any decisions.

Fourth of July Parade - There were complaints being held on July 3. Mayor Renner stated that historically Somerset holds their parade on Saturday, and this was a conflict. It isn't practical to expect the band to be in 2 parades. On Sunday, there are church services, and residents attend. Village Administrator Beth Patrick suggested having Bill Hines as the Grand Marshal this year in honor of his 90th Birthday. Mayor Gavin Renner responded they are always looking for someone to fill that position. Clerk of Council Sharon Brussee stated that she would check with his daughter to see if he is able to do this.

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- Added disclosure message to the Pool Facebook page.

- Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay stated an employee cannot set up a social media account for the Village. Discussion was held.

- Letter to the *Beacon* regarding the Thornville Water Sewer Contract with Northern Perry County.

- Discussion was held regarding the High Grass Case. It was stated that the Magistrate delivered a guilty verdict.

Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for May 2015:

A **motion** was made by Council President Heidi Robinson to receive the Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for May 2015 and was seconded by Councilwoman Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea.

Motion passed 4-0.

Monthly Water Report to Council for May 2015:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Lynne Snider to receive the Monthly Water Report to Council for May 2015 and was seconded by Councilman Dale Brussee. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Administrator's Report:

Village Administrator Beth Patrick presented the Administrator's Report to Council.

- Health Insurance Rates being raised and will be looking into other options.
- A copy of the letter from Ohio Attorney General Mike Dewine regarding antitrust lawsuit was read. *Letter attached to minutes.*
- Backflow devices were discussed regarding residents who have a second water meter for watering and **Ordinance 95-08** was provided, and letters will be sent out to those residents.
- Hold Harmless Waiver form. Discussion was held. It was discussed when it would be applicable to use. Solicitor Brian Zets stated that it would capture the most people who are using Village property.
- Received semi-annual payment of \$36,936.39 from the County.
- AT&T long distance account has a changed Account Manager, and she will be tracking down the new person.
- John Conn resigned as lifeguard, and she is in the process of interviewing another lifeguard from Somerset.

Presentation and Payment of Bills:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Lynne Snider to pay the bills and was seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea with the exception of Councilwoman Mary Renner. Councilwoman Mary Renner abstained from voting because she works for one of the companies. **Motion passed 3 yeas and 1 abstention.**

Bank Reconciliation:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Lynne Snider to receive the Bank Reconciliation for May and was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Renner. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Fiscal Officer's Report:

Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay has no report.

Zoning Report – Council Representative Dale Brussee

Mayor Gavin Renner gave the Zoning Report for June 1, 2015.

- Discussed about Zoning Report
- High grass
- Stop work order issued for demolition

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- Variance request for one-car garage
- Lot split Arlington Avenue.
- Branches covering roadways

Committee Reports

Public Facilities and Safety – Chairperson Dale Brussee

- Nothing to report on Hagan Easement
- Vacating alleyway no update
- Sludge Contract

Parks & Recreation – Chairperson Lynne Snider

- Pool hours
- Discussed putting up bouncy houses at the pool
- Pool was doing well when it was hot and not raining
- Movie in the parks this Thursday and Resource Fair

Personnel – Chairperson Heidi Robinson

- Still working on the new manual
- Discussion was held on the monthly employees pay and the definitions for bi-weekly. Village Administrator Beth Patrick voiced her concerns about the language to say how they are paid and discussion was held regarding the process. It was asked by Councilwoman Mary Renner asked Solicitor Zets where the wording should be placed in the Personnel Manual or the Pay Ordinance. Solicitor Zets responded it should be under the Pay Ordinance where it would be together.

Finance – Chairperson Mary Renner

- Kevin Howell came in to talk about insurance for buildings and land. Discussion was held regarding events in the park and a dog swim.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- None

Executive Session:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Mary Renner pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G) (2) for the sale of property at competitive bidding, if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest; ORC 121.22 (G) (3) Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action and O.R.C. 121.22 (G) (1) to discuss certain personnel matters, including the investigation of charges and complaints against a public employee and ask that Village Administrator Beth Patrick, Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay and Village Solicitor Brian Zets 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 8:24 p.m.

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

Council came back into session at 9:20 p.m.

Council Comments

Councilman Dale Brussee asked Village Administrator Beth Patrick what she thought about opening the pool on the Fourth of July and changing the closing of the pool back to

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7 p.m. Village Administrator Beth Patrick responded that she thinks the pool should be opened on the Fourth of July, but she did not know how moving the closing time back to 7 p.m. would affect the pool parties and swim lessons and she would have to check on this. Discussion was held. Councilwoman Lynne Snider suggested moving the pool hours back to 7 p.m. in July and August. Discussion was held regarding the Monday swim night. Councilwoman Lynne Snider responded that she didn't know, and she didn't think that anyone has complained. Councilwoman Lynne Snider stated the pool manager will need to keep records of the attendance between 6 – 7 p.m. It was discussed that the pool would close at 6 on the Fourth of July.

With no further discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Lynne Snider that starting July 1 go back to the 7 p.m. closing, Sundays 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., move the pool parties, whatever parties that people are okay with doing and any future parties, will be scheduled closing at 9 p.m. and the pool will be open on the Fourth of July with \$1 admittance and was seconded by Council President Heidi Robinson. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yea. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Councilwoman Mary Renner had no comment.

Council President Heidi Robinson had no comment.

Councilwoman Lynne Snider had no comment.

Citizens Comments

None.

Meeting Announcements


None.

Adjournment:

With no further discussion, a **motion** was made by Councilwoman Lynne Snider 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 9:25 p.m.


Gavin Renner, Mayor


Sharon Brussee, Clerk of Council