

**Minutes  
Regular Council Meeting  
1 South Main Street  
Thornville, OH  
July 24, 2023**

**Council Members:**

Kim Billman  
Lynne Snider  
Sterling Krout  
Tasia Savage

**Other Village Officials:**

Gina Kaetzel- Mayor  
Kelly Beem- Fiscal Officer  
Traci Sturgill- Administrator  
Dan Williams- Chief of Police

**Guests Present:** Amanda Lackey, Dale Brussee, Michael Spade, Jeff Carr, Don Boland, Evlyn Boland

**Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mayor Kaetzel called the Village of Thornville Regular Council Meeting to order on July 24, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

Roll Call was taken with Council member Kim Billman, Council member Lynne Snider, Council President Sterling Krout and Council member Tasia Savage all present. Council member Erica O'Neill was not in attendance, but she did advise Village Administrator Traci Sturgill she would be in Minnesota for work tonight and she had also received a text from Council member Ashley Moore that she would be arriving late tonight.

Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to excuse Council member Erica O'Neill. **Motion** made by Council member Kim Billman and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call**

Tasia Savage- aye  
Lynne Snider- aye  
Kim Billman- aye  
Sterling Krout- aye

**Motion passed 4-0**

Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to excuse Council member Ashley Moore. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call**

Tasia Savage- aye  
Lynne Snider- aye  
Kim Billman- aye  
Sterling Krout- aye

**Motion passed 4-0**

**Motion to approve the Business Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on July 24, 2023:**

Mayor Kaetzel requested a **motion** to approve the business agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on July 24, 2023. A **motion** was made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

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**Roll Call**

Lynne Snider- aye  
Kim Billman- aye  
Tasia Savage- aye  
Sterling Krout- aye

**Motion passed 4-0**

**Motion to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting on June 26, 2023:** Mayor Kaetzel requested a **motion** to approve the minutes from the Regular Council meeting June 26, 2023. A **motion** was made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

**Roll Call**

Lynne Snider- abstain  
Sterling Krout- aye  
Tasia Savage- aye  
Kim Billman- aye

**Motion passed 3-1**

**Community Day:** Mayor Kaetzel introduced Don Boland who owns Boland Entertainment Bounce Houses. Mr. Boland talked about donating his bounce houses, dunk tanks and water slides to have a community day for kids since the pool is closed. He is just asking for volunteers to assemble and disassemble the equipment, so he doesn't incur costs. Volunteers will also need to be stationed at each inflatable the entire time. He will train the volunteers and is fully insured. It was decided to try and pull it together for August 26<sup>th</sup> from 4pm-8pm. Council member and TAC Committee President Tasia Savage added she would talk to the TAC committee and see about pulling together the movie night to have following this event that night. If we aren't to pull this together for this year, we will definitely work on this for 2024.

**Environmental Design Group, Engineer Jeff Carr:** Mayor Kaetzel introduced Engineer Jeff Carr from Environmental Design Group. He is here tonight to discuss our preliminary engineering report for the possible new sewer plant. Discussion held: Jeff advised the projected final cost is \$10,478,754.50 (option III) He discussed all the flows we currently have, explained the flow charts in the handout, all the Village's capacity caps etc. EDG put together 3 different options. They broke down the projected cost to repair the Village's I&I issues, Option I, which is \$1,097,762.75. Option II is Regional (all sewer goes to Licking County) with a projected cost of \$8,739,590.50. Jeff also explained they are required by the EPA to give projected costs of different scenarios as they have given us here tonight. Village Administrator Traci Sturgill added that we did apply for congressional funding in the budget from Congressman Troy Balderson and are being awarded \$1 million dollars towards our sewer project if we decide to proceed with the new plant. If we do decide to move forward with the new plant, the \$30 monthly debt fee on the current Village resident water bills will continue for the life of the new loan. We will be re-negotiating the sewer contract with Northern Perry Water / Perry County Commissioners with new rates and possible capacity fees split to cover their portion of the new plant. Jeff & Traci will be sitting down with them as soon as possible once we decide if we are moving forward.

Council member Ashley Moore arrived at the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

**Motion** made by Council President Sterling to proceed with Option III (new plant) and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

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**Roll Call:**

Ashley Moore- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Police Report for July 2023:** Chief Williams went over the police report submitted for July. If anyone has any questions, please let him know. He was out one week for vacation, but our part-time officers were out patrolling. Officer Josh Moore has officially started, and he will be working afternoon, evenings, and weekends.

**Mayor's Report:**

**Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for June 2023:**

Mayor Kaetzel advised she needs a **motion** to receive the monthly water report to the Perry County Commissioners for June 2023. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and seconded by Council member Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Kim Billman- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Monthly Water Report to Council for June 2023:**

Mayor Kaetzel advised she needs a **motion** to receive the monthly water report to Council for June 2023. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call**

Lynne Snider- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Monthly Mayor's Court Reports for June 2023:**

Mayor Kaetzel advised she needs a **motion** to receive the Mayor's Court Reports for June 2023. **Motion** made by Council President Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

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**Roll Call**

Sterling Krout- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Kim Billman- aye

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Administrator's Report:**

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill advised the council the payment register is in everyone's file for review. If anyone has any questions about the bills, please let her know. She also explained the larger payments are for the sludge removal, water well project draws and the payment of the trench box which we received the grant funds for.

Mayor Kaetzel stated if there are no questions on the bills, she will need a **motion** to pay the bills. **Motion** made by Council member Kim Billman and was seconded by Council member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Sterling Krout- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Tasia Savage- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

**Motion passed 5-0**

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill discussed the following items with council:

- Medical insurance renewal only increased \$.10 for the year. Great news!
- Appalachian Grant Planning updates- She met with the engineers and discussed projects council would like to see happen if we are chosen as recipients for any of the grant funds. The projects she advised them of were the pickleball courts, walking path at the park, dog park, gazebo and entryway signage. She also created a mapped layout of the proposed park improvements for them and passed it around for council to review.
- Paving estimates- Traci has been working with Shelly Company to get estimates of all remaining streets and alleys that need paved. The total is \$670,000 for streets only and we would need to pave alleys as we have the funds due to alleys not being permitted in grants / funding. I have sent this estimate to our grant writer Heidi Milner, and she is looking to see if there are any grants available for us.
- RCAP Rate Study is complete, and they will be here at our August council meeting to go over all of it in person with council. It just came in today, so we haven't even had time to review it yet. We sent it straight to the engineers for the PER of the proposed sewer plant for their presentation tonight.

**Fiscal Officer's Report:** Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem advised the bank reconciliation is on the table to receive for June 2023 and sign. All the Village funds are still in good standing. She's happy to see us receiving grant funds.

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Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to receive the bank reconciliation for June 2023. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Tasia Savage- aye  
Sterling Krout- aye  
Lynne Snider- aye  
Kim Billman- aye  
Ashley Moore- aye

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

Mayor Kaetzel asked to revisit the community day details and wanted to be sure everyone could attend and volunteer. Discussion held: It was decided to change the time to 4pm-8pm with the movie starting at 8pm.

Mayor Kaetzel advised this is the 1<sup>st</sup> reading for Resolution #23-13. Village Administrator Traci Sturgill advised she had been attending meetings at the Perry County EMA and being involved with the updates to the mitigation plan that is required to be done every couple years by the EMA. This plan provides details of who, what and where everyone will go if an emergency did happen here in Perry County.

- RESOLUTION #23-13 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PERRY COUNTY 2023 MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

**Comments and Announcements:**

- Council member Tasia Savage updated the council on the TAC committee open house planned for September 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 at the Grace Lutheran Church if any council members would like to attend. They are inviting all other Thornville groups to discuss ways to work together better on all Thornville events. Mayor Kaetzel let Tasia know the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade was great and thanked TAC for their hard work. Village Administrator Traci Sturgill added she is getting a lot of questions on why we can't let fireworks off in Thornville. She asked resident Dale Brussee if he remembered why that was. Dale advised it was because of the requirements of the distance between the homes from the fireworks when they let them off at the park. The distances were revised sometime back. Somerset has a large field that is still within guidelines to allow them to continue. Thornville does not have that.
- Council member Ashley Moore advised she spoke with a few people who used to help run the Thorn dunker and they still have all the information if we are interested in bringing that back to the Village. Traci feels we can also look at having it in the Thornville Elementary parking lot and possibly the gym also. Mayor Kaetzel feels we need to put this to the Parks & Recreation committee for further discussion. Council President Sterling Krout thanked Ashley for looking into this. Chief Williams discussed something we need to consider on these special events like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, that it is very difficult to get extra officers to come in on a holiday weekend for the part time salary rate they are paid. These types of events are considered "Special Duty" and the current rate in Perry County to pay officers is \$35 per hour and is paid by

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the entity that is putting on the special event. Right now, he is paying his officers to come in for these at their normal hourly rate of \$16 per hour but this is taking away from his yearly budget which means less police coverage out on the streets. Ashley also asked for an update on the zoning ordinances we had talked about in the previous meeting. Traci advised they will be on the agenda for the next zoning meeting to discuss and if zoning decides to move forward with them, they will then come back to council for a vote.

- Council member Lynne Snider wanted to thank Village Administrator Traci Sturgill for all her hard work on the grants.

**Citizen Comments:** None

**Adjournment:** Mayor Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. **Motion** made by Council member Kim Billman and was seconded by Council member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Sterling Krout- aye  
Tasia Savage- aye  
Ashley Moore- aye  
Lynne Snider- aye  
Kim Billman- aye

**Motion passed 5-0**

Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Mayor Gina Kaetzel



Traci Sturgill, Council Clerk