

Minutes
Village Council Meeting
1 South Main Street
Thornville, OH
November 25, 2024

Council Members:

Sterling Krout
Lynne Snider
Tasia Savage
Ashley Moore
Tony Taylor

Other Village Officials:

Amanda Lackey – Mayor
Melissa Brofford – Village Adminstr.
Abby Tolliver – Clerk of Council
Taylor Bennett – Fiscal Officer

Guests: Aaron Hoppell, Dale Brussee via phone

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 Sterling Krout, Council Member Lynne Snider, Council Member Ashley Moore, and Council Member Tasia Savage all present. Mayor Lackey informed Council that Council Member Tony Taylor would be arriving approximately 10 minutes late, Council Member Dale Brussee would be listening in by phone, and Council Member Lynne Snider would have to leave early if the meeting surpassed 8PM.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Ashley Moore – aye
Tasia Savage – aye

Agenda Amendments:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to amend the Business Agenda for November 25th, 2024, to include an Executive Session - pursuant to R.C. 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment & payment of a public official – in place of Public Hearings on Item 10, and strike New Business Item I, Ordinance 24-15, discussing the budget. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage – aye
Ashley Moore – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Sterling Krout – aye

Review/Approval of Business Agenda as Amended for November 25th, 2024:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the business agenda as amended for November 25th, 2024. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Ashley Moore – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Tasia Savage – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Review/Approval of Regular Council Minutes from October 28th, 2024:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the Regular Council Minutes from October 28th, 2024 after review. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout – aye
Ashley Moore – abstain
Tasia Savage – aye
Lynne Snider – aye

Motion Passed 3-0

Review/Approval of Special Council Minutes from November 4th, 2024:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the Special Council Minutes from November 4th, 2024 after review. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Lynne Snider – aye
Ashley Moore – aye
Tasia Savage – aye
Sterling Krout – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Review/Approval of Special Council Minutes from November 14th, 2024

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the Special Council Minutes from November 14th, 2024. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Lynne Snider – aye
Tasia Savage – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Ashley Moore – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Police Report:

Chief Williams informed Council that the previous month had gone typically, outside of an abnormal OVI call. Chief explained that he received a call about reckless driving as he saw the driver approaching the school zone within the Village and illegally pass a stopped school bus. Chief followed the vehicle into the Millersport area before he was able to get the driver stopped. Chief reminded Council that his retirement takes effect November 30th, and thanked Council for a wonderful five years in the Village.

Executive Session:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to open an Executive Session, pursuant to R.C. 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment & payment of a public official. Invited to the Executive Session are Mayor Amanda Lackey and Village Administrator Melissa Brofford. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by council member Tasia Savage. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Lynne Snider – aye
Ashley Moore – aye
Tasia Savage – aye
Sterling Krout – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

The Executive Session was started at 7:05PM. Council Member Tony Taylor arrived at 7:08PM, and was invited to join the Executive Session. Council returned to the Council Room from the Executive Session, and Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to end the Executive Session. Council Member Lynne Snider made the motion, and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout – aye

Tasia Savage – aye

Ashley Moore – aye

Lynne Snider – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Mayor Lackey explained that former Village Fiscal Officer, Melissa Trimbey, had been sent terms to be rehired by the Village that had originally been agreed to by both Former Fiscal Officer Trimbey and Village Council. Following Council approval of the terms, Former Fiscal Officer Trimbey rescinded her agreement to terms and requested higher rates of pay. After discussion in Executive Session, Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to rescind any employment offers to Former Fiscal Officer Trimbey. Council Member Ashley Moore made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Tasia Savage. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout – aye

Lynne Snider – aye

Ashley Moore – aye

Tasia Savage – aye

Tony Taylor – aye

Motion Passed 5-0

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lackey informed Council that all open positions have been posted, and reminded Council to share social media posts as often as possible. Mayor Lackey explained that one of the Village's part time officers, Rob Vanderbosch, would be willing to take over at Interim Chief to ensure the department can continue running. Mayor Lackey brought up replacing the lights at the Village Ballpark, and explained that TYRA would like to know if the Village is replacing the lights by January or February. Mayor Lackey asked Village Resident Guest Aaron Hoppell if he had any thoughts on this issue, to which Mr. Hoppell expressed he would rather see the Village spend the money on LED replacements now than have to continuously have to keep paying to repair older lights. Council Member Lynne Snider explained that if the lights are causing safety issues, it needs to be addressed, but otherwise, the field is not used consistently enough to put that much money into light replacements, especially without TYRA help or the Parks & Recreation Levy passing. Council President Sterling Krout suggested waiting until Council sees a certified budget for the year before making a decision.

i. Monthly Water Report to Council for October 2024

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the Water Report to Council for October 2024 after review. Council Member Ashley Moore made the motion, and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage – aye

Tony Taylor – aye

Ashley Moore – aye

Lynne Snider – aye
Sterling Krout – aye

Motion Passed 5-0

ii. **Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for October 2024**

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the Water Report to Council for October 2024 after review. Council Member Ashley Moore made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Lynne Snider. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Ashley Moore – aye
Tony Taylor – aye
Tasia Savage – aye

Motion Passed 5-0

Administrator's Report:

Administrator Brofford reminded Council of the scheduled water maintenance taking place, and informed them she'd be personally delivering the sample to the lab in Dover to ensure timely results. A file was found with letters between Jonathan Creek Developers and the previous Village Administrator, committing specific amounts of sewage taps, and Administrator Brofford plans on getting in touch with the township and county for clarifications, as our infrastructure can only handle a certain number of taps. Progress is being made on the I+I grant, moving to put out bids for engineering services, which EDG, our current engineering firm, will have to put a bid in for. Shelter house rental revenue has reached an all time high. Quotes for Bryan Orr, Thornhill, and Craig Drive paving projects have been produced, and Dreams will be patching November 26th. Leaf Pickup is ongoing, and Administrator Brofford & Mayor Lackey helped with pickup throughout the week due to staffing shortages. Administrator Brofford explained she hired two temporary workers at \$14/hour to help with Leaf Pickup, and would be hiring a Meter Reader, Carl, at \$14/hour, as soon as possible. Council Member Lynne Snider made a motion to hire Carl as the Village Meter Reader at \$14/hour, and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Lynne Snider – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Tony Taylor – aye
Tasia Savage – aye
Ashley Moore – aye

Motion Passed 5-0

Council Member Lynne Snider was excused from the meeting by Mayor Lackey at 7:57PM.

Council Member Dale Brussee asked, via phone, if anything would be done to help fix Bryan Orr by the end of the year, to which Administrator Brofford explained notes were not transferred correctly on Shelley's end, so work on Bryan Orr would not be completed by the end of the year. Administrator Brofford asked if there were any protests to liquor licenses within the Village being renewed with no changes, to which there were none. Administrator Brofford also made Council aware of a few State House Bills that are being introduced that could end up affecting the Village, and asked that they read over them in case they'd like to voice support or disdain with the bills to the appropriate representatives.

iii. Presentation & Payment of Bills:

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to approve the payment of Village Bills after review. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion to pay the bills, and was seconded by Council Member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tony Taylor – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Ashley Moore – aye
Tasia Savage – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Fiscal Officer's Report:

Fiscal Officer Bennett explained that the 2025 Budget was still being uploaded to UAN and that Village Officials are trying to work around the parks levy not passings. Fiscal Officer Bennett explained that Kelly Beem has come into help look at the Village Bank Reconciliations, but they have still yet to find why it remains unbalanced. Fiscal Officer Bennett explained that there will be no End of Year Report until the fund is balanced. Mayor Lackey suggested asked UAN for help looking at the bank reconciliations to find the issue.

Committee Reports:

- i. **Ad-Hoc Pool Committee:** Committee Chair Sterling Krout informed Council that the Committee was able to meet with Kerry Gerich via phone to discuss the EDG Proposed Plan for Pool Construction. The plan is split into separate numbered tasks, with different projects included under each task. Committee Chair Sterling Krout informed Council that the Committee would like to move forward with getting 3 schematic designs, discussing any alterations they would like done to the designs, and get one final schematic design in return. The Committee would then like to take this design to Village residents to get feedback before moving forward with the plan. Pricing for these tasks to be completed would be around \$5,900 , which is easily doable with the current budget for the Village Pool. Council Member Dale Brussee questioned why the Committee was not pausing all plans until a Parks & Recreation Levy is passed to prevent any future confusion within the Village as to what the Levy will be used for. Council Member Dale Brussee expressed that Council nor any Village Committees should be discussing pool repair until a plan is in place to handle to the Village Parks out of the General Fund. Council Member Ashley Moore argued that the levy didn't pass due to Village Residents not having access to Village Information. Council Members questioned the best way to get resident engagement, to which Council decided to send mailed surveys, similar to those sent in 2021-22, before money is spent on designs. Council Member Tasia Savage noted that part of the issue with levies is that residents don't understand how each how things around the Village are paid for, and are thus taken for granted. Mayor Lackey stated that no one knows what each levy does specifically, but is unsure how to effectively communicate this information to residents in a way that is easy to understand.
- ii. **Public Facilities & Safety Committee:** Committee Vice Chair Tasia Savage informed Council that the Committee has been discussing GIS Demonstrations and Water System Repairs.
- iii. **Rules Committee:** Committee Chair Ashley Moore informed Council that the Committee discussed official posting spots and decided on only the front of the Village Office and the Village Post Office. Discussed changes with Village Social Media Accounts and the Village Website, and are looking to review and edit the Village Council Rules for 2025 and moving forward.

- iv. **Finance Committee:** Committee Chair Sterling Krout informed Council that the Committee discussed pricing of lights at the ballpark, as well as the 2025 Budget, with had both already been discussed prior in the meeting.

Zoning & Planning Commission Report:

Council Representative Lynne Snider informed Council that there was a meeting held to discuss the Coconis' Variance Application, which was approved, as well as 3 permit requests received within the month.

Unfinished Business:

- i. **ORDINANCE 24-12: AN ORDINANCE AMMENDING THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE CREDIT CARD POLICY**

3rd Reading

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 24-12. Council Member Ashley Moore made the motion, and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout – aye

Tony Taylor – aye

Ashley Moore – aye

Tasia Savage – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

New Business:

- i. **ORDINANCE 24-16: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW COMPENSATION & PAY SCHEDULE WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE, REPEALING ALL PRIOR SALARY ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

1st Reading:

Mayor Lackey explained that this Ordinance was handling the Fiscal Officer Rate of Pay, and asked for a motion to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 24-16 and declare an emergency. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tony Taylor – aye S

Sterling Krout – aye

Ashley Moore – aye

Tasia Savage – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 24-16. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Sterling Krout – aye

Ashley Moore – aye

Tony Taylor – aye

Tasia Savage – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

ii. RESOLUTION 24-19: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE OHIO COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENIAL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

1st Reading:

Mayor Lackey explained that due to the time restrictions on event applications, the Resolution would need be passed as an emergency. Council Member Ashley Moore made the motion to suspend the three-reading rule for Resolution 24-19 and declare it an emergency, and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage – aye
Ashley Moore – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Tony Taylor – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 24-19. Council Member Ashley Moore 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
Ashley Moore – aye
Tony Taylor – aye
Sterling Krout – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

Comments & Announcements:

- ii. Both the Village of New Lexington Police Chief and Village of Junction City Police Chief came to introduce themselves to Council and Village Officials, and offer their help in any way possible, whether it be in the hiring process, policing process, anything the Village may need with the position not being filled.
- iii. Council President Sterling Krout informed Council that he had put his home up for sale, and would be moving out of state in the near future. Council President Sterling Krout assured the Mayor that he would keep Council and Village Officials updated on his official resignation date.

Continued New Business:

iii. Special Events Application for It's A Wonderful Life Event:

Mayor Lackey informed Council she would reach out to the County for extra help with police coverage to ensure all event requirements are met. Council Member Ashley Moore made a motion to approve the application, and was seconded by Council President Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

Tasia Savage – aye
Ashley Moore – aye
Tony Taylor – aye
Sterling Krout – aye

Motion Passed 4-0

- iv. **Review of Swimming Pool Design Proposal from Environmental Design Group:**
Covered in Ad-Hoc Committee Report
- v. **Police Chief Retirement**
Covered in Police Report

Adjournment:

With no further business, Mayor Lackey asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26PM. Council President Sterling Krout made the motion, and was seconded by Council Member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Roll Call:

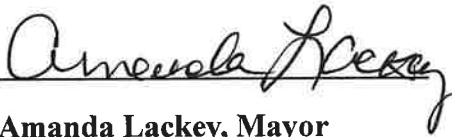
Sterling Krout – aye

Tony Taylor – aye

Ashley More – aye

Tasia Savage – aye

Motion Passed 4-0



Amanda Lackey, Mayor



Abby Tolliver, Clerk of Council