

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## THORN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION

Held: December 9, 2020

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The Board of Trustees of Thorn Township convened in regular session from 5:00 P.M. to 6:44 P.M. in the Township Hall. Trustee Lyle called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

**Members:**

Billie Dearlove	Present	Robert Coleman	Absent
Richard Wilson	Present	David Lyle	Present

**Other Township Officials:**

Anna Cox, Jeremy Weekly, Ed Corns

**Visitors:** Chris Parks, Jenny LaRue

**Motion:** A motion to approve the November 11, 2020 regular session minutes was made by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** Richard Wilson, Aye; David Lyle, Aye.

**Reports:**

**Fiscal Officer Billie Dearlove:** Fiscal Officer Billie Dearlove provided the November 2020 Reports: Fund Status Report, Receipt and Payment Report, Fire Department Payroll Report and Bank Reconciliation Report.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she received \$95,891.86 (ninety-five thousand, eight hundred ninety-one dollars and eighty-six cents) for the Perry County Auditor, which is redistribution of Covid-19 funds and we need a resolution to appropriate these funds to equipment.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Trustee Lyle for a resolution to appropriate the \$95,891.86 of Covid-19 funds for equipment and was seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** David Lyle; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove said that they will need resolutions to increase the appropriations for wages for the Fire Department in the amount of \$31,506.65 (thirty-one thousand five hundred six dollars and sixty-five cents, and for the road workers in the amount of \$4000.00 (four thousand dollars) in order to cover these 2 funds for the balance of 2020.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Trustee Lyle to increase the appropriations for wages for the Fire Department in the amount of \$31,506.65 and was seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** David Lyle; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Trustee Wilson to increase the wages for the Road Workers in the amount of \$4000.00 and was seconded by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** David Lyle; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove read a letter that she received from Judge LuAnn Cooperrider congratulating the township for moving forward with the park and the kayak/canoe launch.

A brief discussion was held regarding closing the building to the public until further notice. This will be effective on Tuesday, December 15, 2020. Employee reviews were also discussed and it was decided they will be skipped this year.

**Trustee Richard Wilson:**

Trustee Wilson stated that Energy Cooperative will be digging and doing work at Township Road 37, installing a new gas line.

**Trustee David Lyle:**

Trustee Lyle stated that they need to pass a motion to purchase the new squad.

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**Motion:** A motion was made by Trustee Lyle for the purchase of a new squad from Findley Fire Equipment Company Inc., using partial Covid-19 funds in the amount of \$271,595.00 (two hundred seventy-one thousand five hundred ninety-five dollars) and making it retroactive to last month's meeting (November 11, 2020) and was seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** David Lyle; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye.

Trustee Lyle stated that he contacted the insurance company and added the zero turn mower and the trailer to the policy.

#### **Public Comments:**

Jenny LaRue from the Perry County Health Department gave a presentation about a possible bike and walking trail on Township Road 358 along State Route 13 and she stated that she will be searching for grant money to fund this project.

#### **Chris Parks:**

Chris Parks was in attendance to see if any decisions had been made about his complaint to have the junk cars removed from his neighbor's property. Zoning Inspector Ed Corns stated that there is a process to go thru to have the junk cars removed and it could take a while. He stated that if we had a Property Maintenance Code in place this process would be a lot easier and quicker. A brief discussion was held about starting the legal process on this issue. It was decided to first have the township zoning attorney send a letter to the property owner before they start legal proceedings.

#### **Zoning:**

Zoning Inspector Ed Corns provided his monthly reports and permit updates to the board. He stated that zoning permits are well ahead of what we did last year. He also stated that Zoning and BZA meetings will be going to zoom meetings most likely from January 2021 thru the month of February 2021 because of the upward swing of Covid-19. Zoning Inspector Corns also stated that he has received 2 (two) applications and has 2 (two) other people interested in seats on both boards, however at this time the boards are full, but they could go on as alternates on the boards. He stated that Joshua Prior is interested in a position on the Board of Zoning Appeals, Mark Bicker would like to volunteer on the Zoning Commission, Mary Alice Stidham is interested in a position on the Zoning Commission and Doug Carpenter is interested in Board of Zoning Appeals. Inspection Corns stated that Robert Combs would like to become an alternate on the Board of Zoning Appeals, so he suggested that they move him to alternate and replace him with Doug Carpenter as a full-time position on the Board of Zoning Appeals and make the following alternates positions for Joshua Prior on the Board of Zoning Appeals and Mark Bicker and Mary Alice Stidham as alternates on the Zoning Commission.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Trustee Wilson to appoint Joshua Prior as an alternate to the Board of Zoning Appeals, Mark Bicker as an alternate to the Zoning Commission, Mary Alice Stidham as an alternate to the Zoning Commission and move Robert Combs to an alternate position on the Board of Zoning Appeals and appoint Doug Carpenter as a full-time position on the Board of Zoning Appeals. A second was received by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

#### **Fire/EMS:**

Chief Weekly provided his monthly reports to the board. He stated that at to date, Thorn Township has had 118 Covid-19 cases. Chief Weekly stated there is still zero cooperation from Perry county on the 9-1-1 issues. He said they have received the contract from Licking County for 9-1-1 Emergency Services, which would cost \$15.00 per each run and the trustees have also received copies of it to review. Chief Weekly said for the safety of our employees and the residents of Thorn Township they should move 9-1-1 dispatching services to Licking County. A brief discussion was held regarding the contract from Licking County. Fiscal Officer Dearlove asked what the cost would be to upgrade the departments equipment to be compatible with Licking County. Chief Weekly stated that it would be a \$1000.00 (thousand dollars) or less. He also stated that they are estimating that the number of runs in 2021 will be around 700 (seven hundred) runs. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that the funds are there to cover the cost for the services from Licking County. Trustee Lyle stated that he does not have a problem with moving to Licking County. He stated, it is a one year contract and come September, we can review it and decide if they want to continue with their services. Trustee Wilson stated that he does not like double paying. We have a levy that pays for this service to Perry County and now we will be paying

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Licking County, but if the chief thinks we need to do this for the safety of employees and residents then he will support it.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Trustee Lyle to approve the 9-1-1 Emergency Service Agreement Between The Board of Licking County Commissioners and Thorn Township, Perry County, Ohio to be effective January 1, 2021 until December 31, 2021 at a rate of \$15.00 per each run dispatched in Thorn Township service area by the Licking County Regional Communications Center and was seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

Trustee Wilson said that Luken Hill would be able to help on the road crew cutting brush for a few weeks. The trustees agreed to hire Luken Hill to help on the road crew at a rate of pay at \$15.00 per hour.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that the Re-Organizational Meeting will be on January 2,2021 at 10:00 A.M. in the Township Building.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 P.M. by Trustee Lyle and seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

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Billie Dearlove

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David Lyle

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Richard Wilson

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Absent  
Robert Coleman

All of the formal actions of Thorn Township concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.