

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

THORN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

Held: February 10, 2021

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The Board of Trustees of Thorn Township convened in regular session from 5:00 P.M. to 6:59 P.M. in the Township Hall. Trustee Coleman called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Members:

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

Visitors: Anna Cox, Jeremy Weekly, Jon Sphon, Ed Corns, Jenny LaRue, Tim Vandagriff,

Motion: A motion to approve the January 13, 2021 regular session minutes was made by Trustee Coleman and seconded by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye; Robert Coleman; Aye.

Award Presentations: Chief Weekly presented the 2020 Thorn Township Fire & EMS Firefighter of the Year Award to Captain Jonathan Spohn and he also advised that earlier in the week he presented to CJ Maisenbacher the 2020 Thorn Township Fire & EMS “Most Improved Firefighter of the Year” Award. Congratulations to Jonathan and CJ.

Reports:

Fiscal Officer Billie Dearlove: Fiscal Officer Billie Dearlove provided the January 2021 Reports: Fund Status Report, Receipt and Payment Report, Fire Department Payroll Report and Bank Reconciliation Report.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove reported that internet service is available in the township building as of today. She stated that she attended the OTA Online Conference last week. She advised that the notice for inspection upon request for the Unaudited Financials for 2020 for Thorn Township was placed in the Perry County Tribune. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she has received 3 invoices for Zoning from G2Planning, one dated 9/22/2020 in the amount of \$2,990.00; one dated 10/14/2020 in the amount of \$115.00 and one invoiced dated 12/15/2020 in the amount of \$345.00, and she would like clarification as to what they are for. Zoning Inspector Ed Corns stated that they were for the PRD on Honey Creek Road (Township Road 496). Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she did not budget for these invoices and therefore they will have to increase appropriations for Zoning in the amount of \$3500.00 (Thirty-Five Hundred dollars).

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Coleman to increase the Zoning appropriations in the amount of \$3500.00 (Thirty- Five Hundred dollars) and was seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

Trustee Robert Coleman:

Trustee Coleman stated that he was contacted by Jerry Dryer who lives at 14584 Zion Road, who is requesting that they install “Children At Play” signs at Township Road 1066 and 1098. He also reported he was invited to attend a zoom meeting from Mount Rose Group. They explained a new senate bill that has passed, it is the Ohio Transformation Mixed Use District Program and he also attended a zoom meeting for BLRC, for a discussion about the dredging of Buckeye Lake. Trustee Coleman stated that he was contacted by Dave Snider from the Soil and Water Conservation. Mr. Snider asked if he could help him get in contact with the new owners of the Jim and Sarah Wolfe property at the county line on State Route 13. He explained that they would like to work with ODOT and the new owners of the property to divert the flood waters in front of the Dollar General Store on Blackbird Lane by running the water down to Boundaries Road and under State Route 13 and over to Buckeye Lake.

Trustee Coleman asked what their thoughts were about the Property Maintenance Code that they reviewed. Trustee Lyle stated that he thought this code would be a lot of work for the zoning inspector and about two thirds of it really did not apply to rural areas, or townships. Trustee Wilson stated that he was not in favor of it. A brief discussion was held, and it was decided to ask Attorney Julie Donon to try and come up with something geared more for rural areas or townships. Zoning Inspector Corns will see if he can schedule a zoom conference with Julie for the next township meeting or one at a future date.

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Trustee Richard Wilson:

Trustee Wilson reported that all the trees have been trimmed back along the township's roads. He also reported that they are having trouble getting brine to treat the roads. He stated that Jason Foltz received information and pricing on a new track hoe for the township. He stated that the cost would be around \$150,000.00 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars). Trustee Wilson said they are going to get a demo to try out.

Trustee David Lyle:

Trustee Lyle stated that he thinks the township should think about naming the park on Ridenour Road. He said maybe call it the "Vernon Hanby Memorial Park" or something to that effect. He said it is just something to think about. Trustee Coleman stated that he thought they need to add Thorn Township to the name somewhere. Nothing was decided at this meeting.

He also stated that he had a couple organizations ask him when they were going to open the township building back up to the public for organizational meetings. A brief discussion was held about reopening the building to the public.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Lyle to open the township building effective immediately to the public if they conform to the guidelines set down by the county and was seconded by Trustee Coleman. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

Trustee Lyle stated that he seen something on Facebook about a zoom meeting that BLRC was having at the request of the Thorn Township officials regarding the development at Township Road 496. He stated that he reviewed last month's minutes, and he did not see where it was discussed for a meeting with BLRC for tonight, and he would like clarification on this. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she was not aware of the presentation until she was contacted by someone inquiring as to what this meeting was about. She stated she did contact Mike Fornataro and he stated that they had already put the meeting date on the internet and it could not be changed. Trustee Coleman explained that this zoom meeting is a presentation to the public from BLRC and the design group regarding the development on Township Road 496.

Zoning:

Zoning Inspector Ed Corns provided his monthly reports to the board along with his yearend report for 2020. He stated they issued 100 total permits for 2020, this is an increase of 83% from last year. He reported that the zoning district change for the vacant lot on Township Road 79 across from the Port Bar has been tabled for more information. Trustee Wilson asked about this future development at Township Road 496, have they discussed road upgrades. Zoning Inspector Corns said no they have not.

Fire & EMS:

Chief Weekly provided his monthly reports to the board. He explained the process for cleaning firefighter gear after a structure fire. He stated that the drying time takes a couple of days and this sometimes presents a problem for them. He would like to purchase a portable Gear Dryer and the cost would be \$3500.00 (thirty-five hundred dollars). Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated the funds are available for this. All of the trustees agreed on the purchase of a Gear Dryer for the department. He reported that Melissa Riyadi passed her paramedic. He also reported that the new medic is in the final quality control check, but they are waiting on the cot system. He advised that he applied for two grants, one for the purchase of a boat and the other to replace eight radios. He reported that they are waiting for two quotes to replace the cabinets in the kitchen and for the construction of a front lobby entryway.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove reported that she looked at the numbers and the funds are there for the \$.50 cent per hour wage increase for the department's personnel that was discussed at last month's meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Lyle for a \$.50 cent (fifty cent) an hour wage increase for the fire/ems department's personnel and was seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

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Citizen Comments:

Jenny LaRue-

Jenny gave a presentation with further information on the Walking/Bike path on Township Road 358 from Thornville to Thornport. She discussed several grants that she is looking into and talked about the Perry County Park Board. Fiscal Officer Dearlove asked Trustee Lyle if he would be interested in attending a meeting with the County Park Board. He stated he was fine with that. Jenny stated that she will be in contact with Trustee Lyle about scheduling a meeting with the Park Board.

Tim Vandagriff-

Tim Vandagriff was in attendance for an interview for possible employment with the township. No action was taken on the hiring of Tim Vandagriff at tonight's meeting.

Meeting Adjourned:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 P.M. by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

Billie Dearlove

David Lyle

Richard Wilson

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.