

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

THORN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

Held: June 9, 2021

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The Board of Trustees of Thorn Township convened in regular session from 5:00 P.M. to 6:53 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, Lt. Larry Thomas, Chip McNeer, Jason Foltz, T.P. Jenkins, Chris Parks, Jerry Parks, Kathy Barr, Brad Blain, Marty Finta.

Motion: A motion to approve the Unedited May 12, 2021 regular session minutes was made by Trustee Coleman and seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye

Motion: A motion to approve the May 12, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes was made by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Lyle. Votes were: Robert Coleman; Aye, Trustee Wilson; Aye, Trustee Lyle; Aye.

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

Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that for the record she would like to make a statement of clarification about last month's meeting minutes and why she turned down the \$50,000.00 check from SHVLH/Marty Finta for the Capital Improvement Community Park. Her statement was as follows:

“To settle any confusion regarding my comments at the May 12, 2021 Regular monthly meeting, the following is a list of reasons as well as statements I made at the meeting as to why I was not in favor of accepting \$50,000.00 from SHVLH/Marty Finta for the Capital Improvement Community Park. The Township has a contract for a grant from ODNR for the Capital Improvement Community Park as well as contract with GM Contracting and EDG for services being rendered at the park. I would not be comfortable using donations from SHVLH, Marty Finta or anyone else to pay GM Contracting or any other vendor for work being done there. Again, we have executed contracts for the park project. Audit trails are created for these projects and intermingling funds would not be proper in my opinion. I have to account to the Auditor of the State of Ohio for how all funds are received and spent in my role as the Fiscal Officer of Thorn Township. Any donations or unbudgeted funds received by Thorn Township during the year has to be sent to the Perry County Auditor for an amended Certificate of Estimated Resources before those funds can be appropriated and/or spent. I requested that Trustee Wilson return the check to SHVLH with the request that they change the escrow agreement to make their donation to the fire department and township, which is what Mr. Finta has been telling the Trustees he was planning to do for many years. At this time, I am not sure of their response.”

Fiscal Officer Dearlove reported that she has received the Estimate Property Tax Revenue information from the Perry County Auditor and that amount is \$442,000.00 (four hundred forty-two thousand dollars) for renewal of the fire levy. She stated that they will now need a resolution passed for the Levy, Declaring Necessity and Legal Notice.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Lyle to pass Resolution 21-3; Declaring the Necessity for the levy in excess of 10 (ten) mil limitation and was seconded by Trustee Coleman. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that Trustee Wilson asked at last meeting what the ODNR Grant balance was. She stated that the balance as of June 7, 2021 is in the amount of \$137,082.12 (one hundred thirty-seven thousand eighty-two dollars and twelve cents). She also reported that internet service has been installed at the Food Pantry because they now have to do their reporting and so forth on-line. Billie had gotten quotes from Peoples State Bank regarding the mower quote that was discussed at the last meeting. She stated that the interest rate is at 3.25 percent and based on the figure of \$144,000.00 (one hundred forty-four thousand dollars), the annual payment if financed for three years would be \$51,341.00 (fifty-one thousand three hundred forty-one dollars) and if it is financed for four years the

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amount would be \$39,121.44 (thirty-nine thousand one hundred twenty-one dollars and forty-four cents) annually. No action was taken on this item.

Trustee Coleman:

Trustee Coleman stated that he has a request from GM Contracting for the extension of their contract, which was up as of May 31, 2021. They would like to extend it until July 16, 2021, and also for a change request in the amount of \$4,550.00 (four thousand five hundred fifty dollars) for the cost for pipe for additional drainage at the park. He stated that it was necessary to eliminate soft spots. The cost for the pipe was \$35.00 per foot at 130 feet. A brief discussion was held about the contract, the \$20,000.00 payments to GM Contracting and the re-imburement from the State of Ohio.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Wilson to approve the extension of the contract for GM Contracting until July 16, 2021 and was seconded by Trustee Coleman. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Coleman for the approval for the change order in the amount of \$4,550.00 (four thousand five hundred fifty dollars) for 130 feet of pipe at the cost of \$35.00 per foot and was seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

Trustee Coleman stated that he attended a zoom meeting with BLRC about the North Shore Pier project. He stated that they discussed a new program through FEMA called BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure Communities). He said this is where they will be getting the money for the flooding issues at Blackbird Lane and Boundaries Road, and that it will all be handled through BLRC. He stated that he also attended a meeting with CIC (Perry County Community Improvement Corporation) and he asked Commission Dereck Householder about the additional CARES money. He said that Commissioner Householder said that he didn't know how far this would go, because the rules and regulations keep changing. He stated that Melissa Jolick from Ohio University gave an update on the Labor Market and recovery for the county. Trustee Coleman said that he also attended a meeting with the Honey Creek Round Table Group and the discussion was about the flooding in the Honey Creek area and possible solutions. He advised that he met with Scott McComb from the Heartland Bank, with discussion about the developments around the Buckeye Lake area. Trustee Coleman stated that he received a call from Chris Parks, and that Mr. Parks wanted to know what the township was going to do about the issue of the junk cars that his neighbors have parked along the property line. This matter was brought before the Board awhile back. Mr. Parks stated that no one has gotten back with him about what the township intends to do on this issue and a brief discussion was held. Zoning Inspector Corns stated that he has discovered that the ORC that they have in the current zoning book is no longer valid and there is a new ORC and they have to update the zoning book. Zoning Inspector Corns stated that he did send letters to the residents about the issue and has had no response. He stated that the process to change the zoning code book could take a while. He said since the Covid mandates have been lifted, he will stop by and try and talk to the residents in person. Trustee Coleman asked if they would try to do special zoning meetings to try and speed up the process for the changes to the code book.

Trustee Richard Wilson:

Trustee Wilson reported that the salt water tank is in and now just needs filled. Trustee Wilson asked Fiscal Officer Dearlove if she had come up with an amount they can spend on chip and seal for the roads? She asked Trustee Wilson if he had an idea on how much with will cost? Trustee Wilson stated around \$90,000.00, Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she would take a look at the numbers and get back with him on the chip and sealing for the roads. He also reported that they had a drainage issue down around Fireman's Park and put down 600 feet of drain tile. Trustee Wilson said that he would like to thank Trustee Lyle for all his help with the mowing this spring and the other various things he has helped them out with.

Trustee Lyle:

Trustee Lyle asked about the culvert that ODOT is putting in at their property on Zion Road and if they would need to sign a form or something since they would be going across Township Road 1061?

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Trustee Coleman stated no, they moved back south for the installation of the culvert, so they will not be traveling on our township road or the Billings property. Trustee Lyle said that he has been questioned in regards to an article that was on Facebook about our last meeting. He stated that the minutes were not yet approved for that meeting until tonight, and that whoever put that article out there was simply going on hearsay. He stated that this is the second time something like this has happened and he is not happy about it. A brief discussion was held on this topic.

Fire & EMS:

The monthly reports and updates were present by Captain Larry Thomas for the month of May. He asked for the approval of hiring Tyler Lister.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Wilson for the approval of hiring Tyler Lister as part-time to the department and was seconded by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

He also reported that they received a check from South Central Power for the Fire Gear Grant and are in the process of applying for a grant from OTAMARA for new firefighter boots. He stated that Chief Weekly will be attending classes at the Ohio Firefighter's Academy and that he also attended a meeting with BLAST about safety procedures for the upcoming fireworks display for the 4th of July. He stated that the chief will also be working on the upcoming Fire Levy Renewal along with the fiscal officer.

Zoning:

Zoning Inspector Corns provided his monthly reports to the board. He reported that a cell phone tower went in out on Township Road 87 and this will be an annual fee for that tower. He also reported that he had complaints about boat rentals on Township Road 403. He stated that they had 3 violations, all without a zoning permit: a dock updated, a sign erected for the business and running a business from a residential home. He stated that he shut them down as of 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 since it was a holiday weekend and they had boats already in the water. He stated that he has received word that they are still operating the business so he will be sending a letter out to them with no grace period this time. He stated that he explained to the business owners that they can have a business and run it on-line and deliver the boats to the customers, they just cannot have the people coming to their residence and parking and taking the boats out. He also received a complaint for a business at State Route 204 and State Route 13 regarding a job site trailer that had been put in, and the issue has been taken care. He stated that he has nothing new to report regarding the projects on Township Road 496 or on State Route 13 at the car lot. He also reported that all of the zoning meetings will continue as zoom meetings until the ending of the year.

Public Comments:

Chip McNeer: Mr. McNeer stated that the Township Road 496 project has a lot of infrastructure leg work to do before it will involve coming to zoning and that is why Inspector Corns has not heard anything from them on the project. He also reported that ODNR has purchased a new dredge. He also stated that he had some concerns about why the donation for the park was returned and he hopes this problem gets worked out.

T.P. Jenkins: Mr. Jenkins stated that he is just here because of the scuttle on the Facebook page. He said that he thinks Trustee Lyle nailed it when he said that a lot of it is hearsay or a misunderstanding of what was said.

Chris Parks: Mr. Parks stated that he would like for the Trustees, Zoning Inspector and himself to get together and get his issue taken care of.

Kathy Barr: Ms. Barr stated that she was here tonight to get information on the boat rental issue, and she asked if maybe there might be an alternative on the \$50,000.00 donation and maybe it could go for something else than the park. Trustee Wilson stated that he will be getting back with Mr. Finta about an alternative for the donation.

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Marty Finta: Mr. Finta stated that he was here tonight to try and help but not to cause problems or create issues. He asked Fiscal Officer Dearlove if she would attach the paper work he submitted from the previous meetings to the township minutes as a public record. She stated that she would do that. Mr. Finta gave a brief discussion regarding the donation money and stated that he hopes that they can work this out. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she will check with the State and County auditor to make sure we are compliant with any donations.

Meeting Adjourned:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 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