

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

THORN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 11, 2021

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The Board of Trustees of Thorn Township convened in regular session from 5:00 P.M. to 6:18 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: See attached list

Trustee Coleman advised the board members and audience at the beginning of the meeting that he received a letter from Gerald Hecker, that Mr. Hecker would be in attendance at tonight's meeting and would be taping and broadcasting the meeting.

Motion: A motion to approve the July 14, 2021 regular session minutes was made by Trustee Lyle and seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye

Fiscal Officer Report:

- Fiscal Officer Dearlove submitted her monthly Reports: Bank Reconciliation for the month of June and July, Fund Status Report, Receipt and Payment Report, Fire Department Payroll Report for July.
- She reported that she applied for the American Rescue Plan Act Opportunity Grant and the township was approved the grant. She stated that the grant can only be used for infrastructure in the township. She is waiting on more details to follow to see what this will entail.
- Track hoe update: she still has a couple invoices to pay for the recent road work repairs and paving and once she has those paid and knows how much money is left in those funds, she will get with them to discuss it.

Fire Department/EM Report:

- Chief Weekly provided his reports for the month of July.
- He reported that the engine was out of service with issues with the turbo, they picked it up today and now it has a water leak, so it will be going back in on Tuesday for those repairs.
- 2016 Medic: Will be getting the corrosion damaged fixed. He stated that the company that they purchased the vehicle from is going to pay 50% (fifty percent) of this bill, so the department will only have to pay \$4000.00 towards this repair. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that the funds were there for this to be done.
- Shift Changes: Chief Weekly stated that the shift change for the department has been changed from 8:00 to 8:30, and this seems to be working out better for the employees.
- Approval of two employee hires: Chief Weekly said that he has two appointments to department that he would like to have the board approve tonight; Ethan Walters as a part-time Firefighter/EMT and Jarrett Munyan as a part-time Firefighter.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Lyle for the appointment of Ethan Walters as a part-time FF/EMT and Jarrett Munyan as a part-time FF and was seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, David Lyle; Aye.

- Ethan Walters and Jarrett Munyan were sworn into duty by Chief Weekly at the meeting.

Trustee Reports:

Trustee Coleman:

- Attended a meeting with CIC (Community Improvement Corporation) topic of the meeting was on Covid-19 money available for area restaurants and food service businesses, this information was presented by Bryn Stepp from the Lt. Governor's Office. Trustee Coleman distributed the information to the local restaurants.

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- Received an invitation from Terry Fisher of the BLRC-Hiking, Biking and Trails Committee to sit on the committee. The committee will meet once a month.
- Reported that Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow has installed three aeration systems in the channels to fight algae and help with water clarification.
- Attended a meeting with Dave Snider from the Perry County Soil & Water Conservation District and George Cenky, who is a local farmer about concerns of flooding that feeds into Honey Creek. Mr. Cenky stated that he is aware of the problem and has been trying to clean it up himself. Mr. Snider said there may be state money available to help him with this.
- Met with Jenny LaRue and her supervisor, Debbie. They are still talking about the bike path along Township Road 358 and they are in the process of writing grants for next year. He also introduced her to Mark Bush from ODNR and they discussed the possibility of having a staging area for local events on the property that the state purchased on Zion Road.
- Reported that GM Contracting is done with the park except for the railing installation on the concrete in front of the boat launch. This will be done after the installation of the boat dock. He also said that the contractor has agreed to leave his gate systems there until the park is opened up to the public.
- Received a Progress Report from the bonding company and he has filled the report out.
- Reported that manual dredging has begun in front of where the boat dock will be located.
- E-mail from Mr. Eberts: about a water issue at Township Road 1071 & 1073. Trustee Coleman explained that a parking area that the resident put in is higher than the road and they also have the drain covered up with bricks and this is causing the water issues. A brief discussion was held on this issue. Trustee Lyle said they need to go out look at the area where the issue is occurring, do some measuring of the road and find the townships right-a-ways, etc.; and they may want to touch base with their legal counsel to see what their legal rights are and options on this issue.

Trustee Wilson:

- Received a phone call about an issue with the bank on the curve on Township Road 1062. He stated that they will go out tomorrow and take a look at it.
- Sealing of Township drive way: he had Kent Cannon come up and seal the driveway as it was breaking up pretty bad.
- Foster Cemetery on Ridenour Road: received a call from David Blaise, he wanted to know how to enter into this cemetery or who the adjoining property owners were and how to contact them to get permission to get back to the cemetery. He asked Zoning Inspector Corns who lives next door to the cemetery? Zoning Inspector Corns said it is Gary and Debbie Schmidt, but he explained there is an easement that they can use to go into the cemetery, it would be the third drive way past his house. Trustee Wilson will call Mr. Blaise back tomorrow with this information.

Trustee Lyle:

- Jackson Township Packet: asked if they had looked over the information he gave them from Jackson Township on legalizing riding four wheelers and golf carts on the township roads. A brief discussion was held about the liability issues for the township if they allowed this. Zoning Inspector Corns stated that the township would have no liability issues, that the vehicles must be licensed and registered and have insurance just like an automobile, and he suggested that they get with Jackson Township and see if they are having any issues. This item was tabled for now.
 - Trustee Lyle said that he saw someone at the park on top of the dirt that is piled up down there, and asked Trustee Coleman if they were supposed to be in there. Trustee Coleman stated yes, they were there cleaning up the mess that was piled there.
- Park Hours of Operation: Asked what the hours of the park are going to be, will it be 24/7 or have restricted hours and closed at night, will there be a lock on the gate? Trustee Coleman

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- stated that since this is not a state park, this is something the township will have to discuss and come up with operational hours before the park opens.

Zoning Report:

- Zoning Inspector Corns presented his monthly reports for July 2021.
- Boat dock issue on Regal Road: He said that ODNR is currently dealing with this issue and once they have it under control; Mark from ODNR will contract him and then he will follow up on it.
- Zoning Code Standards update: Zoning Attorney Pete Griggs is currently working on bringing the zoning code up to standards and working on a couple things for the zoning board.
- Junk Vehicles: He spoke with Pete Griggs about the junk vehicle issue brought to them by Chris Parks. Zoning Attorney Griggs says that junk cars should not be in zoning, that it would fall under property maintenance, which we do not have; so therefore this issue would fall under the trustees, and be handled just like we did with the trailers that we had removed a few years ago over on Township Road 87. It would be same process and you would need to appoint someone to handle it. He stated that he wanted to officially say he is not interested in handling the junk car issues, he wants to stay with zoning only.
- Cloud Zoning: Fiscal Officer Dearlove asked him to explain what cloud zoning is. Zoning Inspector Corns asked Brad Blain if he would explain what it is. Brad Blain stated that it is a particular area that has a list of things that can be done, or changes for that particular area, and there would be specific steps in this process to allow the changes to occur without coming back in and doing a development plan, or asking for a variance or conditional use. Zoning Inspector Corns stated that cloud zoning would stream line the process for development for a developer for a particular area with cloud zoning. Inspector Corns said the Zoning Attorney is going to explain cloud zoning in further details to the board. He said that the zoning commission would set the parameters for cloud zoning. He also stated that they are looking at some changes for temporary pools in the zoning code
- Chris Parks: requested a copy of the letter(s) sent to his neighbors about their junk cars. Zoning Inspector Corns said that he would get him the copies.

Jenny LaRue:

- Update on Projects for next year: Jenny LaRue from the Perry County Health Department stated that they are current working on their projects for next year and that Bike/Walk path on Township Road 358 will be one of those projects and maybe applying for a Nature Works Grant for a small pedestrian bridge for this project. She will provide updates on this as and if it moves forward.
- Advised there will be a meeting at 10:00 A.M. on Friday with ODNR about trails around the lake.

Public Comments:

Gerald Hecker:

- Wanted to know what the park completion date will be? Trustee Coleman stated that they must first pay all the contractor invoices, then purchase the dock, get water up to the dock, and then install the dock itself.
- Wanted to know if the parking spaces at the park will accommodate a vehicle and a trailer? Trustee Coleman stated that there are twenty- two parking spaces, with two of those being handicapped parking and one space is marked reserved, and he said yes they will accommodate a truck or vehicle with a trailer. These will be kayak and canoe trailers so there should be ample room to park.
- Asked about operational hours of the park. Trustee Coleman stated that this will be addressed by the township at a later date.
- Asked if they have ever discussed may an area for a farmer's market in the township. Trustee Coleman said that several local farmers do sell local produce at their homes, but he does not see

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- any reason why someone could not have a stand and sell produce, they would need to check with zoning on this first.
- He asked if they had considered having exposure of the township meetings to accommodate the public, maybe on a website so it can be viewed by the public. He stated that some people may not be able to attend a 5:00 meeting but would like to hear what was discussed at the meeting. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that the township is set up for zoom meetings and maybe this is something they could look at for the public if there is enough interest in this.

Richard:

- Asked if James Harris has contacted the township or zoning about installing boat docks in the Thornport Area. Trustee Coleman stated that he is not aware of him contacting anyone with the township or zoning about installing docks.
- He thanked the township for the paving of the roads.

Trustee Lyle:

- Asked if they could possibly get Mark from ODNR to attend one of their meetings and give them a time frame on the projects they have going on around the lake. He stated that he is getting a lot of questions about this. Fiscal Officer Dearlove said maybe Mark has a schedule of work dates or time frames on the projects that he could share with them. Trustee Coleman said he would get with him and see what he could do.

Meeting Adjourned:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 P.M. by Trustee Coleman 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.