**Council Members:**  **Other Village Officials:**

Ashley Moore Dan Harmon, Mayor

Kim Billman Traci Sturgill, Village Administrator

Lynne Snider Dan Williams, Chief of Police

Sterling Krout

Erica O’Neill

Gina Kaetzel

**Guests Present:** Judge Luann Cooperrider, Julia Cooperrider, Tom Wilson, Margel Wilson, Craig Tedrow, Roger Tedrow, Mike Kaetzel, Wendy Vessels, Rick Miller, Tasia Savage

**Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mayor Dan Harmon called the Village of Thornville Regular Council Meeting to order on December 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

Roll Call was taken with Council member Erica O’Neill, Council member Kim Billman, Council member Sterling Krout, Council member Ashley Moore, Council member Lynne Snider and Council President Gina Kaetzel all present.

**Motion to approve the Business Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on December 19, 2022:**

Mayor Dan Harmon requested a **motion** to approve the business agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on December 19, 2022. A **motion** was made by Council member Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

**Roll Call**

Gina Kaetzel- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Motion to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting on November 28, 2022**: Mayor Dan Harmon requested a **motion** to approve the minutes from the Regular Council meeting minutes November 28, 2022. A **Motion** was made by Council member Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Erica O’Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

**Roll Call**

Lynne Snider- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Police Report for November 2022:** Chief Williams presented the police report for December 2022 and advised his report was sent out for review and since then a crash report has been added. We have 2 trials scheduled for January at Perry County Courts. The body cams are being tested out and will be in full force for January 1, 2023. Council President Gina Kaetzel asked Chief Williams if he was still moving forward with hiring part-time officers in 2023. Chief Williams advised yes. Auxiliary Officer Rick Miller will be our first hire. He has been doing a great job for the Village. He will also be advertising for a couple additional new hires and is hoping for experiences officers.

**Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for November 2022:**

Mayor Harmon advised he needs a **motion** to receive the monthly water report to the Perry County Commissioners for November 2022. **Motion** made by Council member Kim Billman and seconded by Council member Erica O’Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Sterling Krout- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Monthly Water Report to Council for November 2022:**

Mayor Harmon advised he needs a **motion** to receive the monthly water report to Council for November 2022. **Motion** made by Council President Gina Kaetzel and was seconded by Council member Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call**

Ashely Moore- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Administrator’s Report:** Village Administrator Traci Sturgill provided an update on the Letherman account investment. It did increase by $12,600. The current balance is $161,000.10. She put an updated Shelly donation expenditure report in everyone’s file since it is the end of the year. It breaks down all expenditures as of December. Traci advised she received an invoice from BLRC (Buckeye Lake Region Corp) in the amount of $400. This is the yearly membership fee from them. She will need council to approve this as we do every year. We have been members for the past 4 years.

Council President Gina Kaetzel made a **motion** to approve the payment of $400 for the membership for the BLRC for 2023. **Motion** seconded by Council member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Kim Billman- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill advised council the bills are on the table for review. Mayor Harmon stated if there are no questions on the bills, he will need a **motion** to pay the bills. **Motion** made by Council member Sterling Krout and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Gina Kaetzel- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Fiscal Officer’s Report:** Village Administrator Traci Sturgill advised council that Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem was in the office earlier in the day to get all the reports prepared for tonight but did have to leave sick.

Mayor Harmon asked for a **motion** to receive the bank reconciliation for November 2022. **Motion** made by Council member Lynne Snider and was seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Erica O’Neill- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Unfinished Business:**

* ORDINANCE #22-14 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW COMPENSATION AND PAY SCHEDULE FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE, REPEALING ALL PRIOR SALARY ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

3RD Reading

Mayor Harmon advised this is the 3rd reading for Ordinance #22-14 and he will need a **motion** to adopt Ordinance #22-14. **Motion** made by Council President Gina Kaetzel and seconded by Council member Erica O’Neill. A roll call vote was taken with 5 council members voting aye and 1 council member voting no.

**Roll Call:**

Sterling Krout- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Lynne Snider- no

Ashley Moore-aye

**Motion passed 5-1**

**New Business:**

* RESOLUTION #22-09 A RESOLUTION TO HONOR AND COMMEND POLICE OFFICER WENDY VESSELS OF THE THORNVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

1ST Reading

Mayor Harmon advised this is the 1st reading for Resolution #22-09 and he will need a **motion** to suspend the three-reading rule and pass it as an emergency. **Motion** made by Council President Gina Kaetzel and seconded by Council member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Sterling Krout- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

Police retiree Wendy Vessels was also presented with a retirement badge from the Thornville Police Department along with a big thank you for all her time and service from the Village Council. It has been very much appreciated. Officer Vessels said she will miss everyone here at the Village especially the residents she has became close with over the past 8 years.

Mayor Harmon asked for a **motion** to adopt Resolution #22-09 and pass it as an emergency. **Motion** made by Council President Gina Kaetzel and seconded by Council member Erica O’Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Gina Kaetzel-aye

Kim Billman- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

* RESOLUTION #22-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO REQUEST PERMISSIVE TAX FUNDS FROM THE PERRY COUNTY ENGINEERS TO PAY FOR THE PAVING OF LONGVIEW DRIVE, BRADLEY STREET, GRANDVIEW DRIVE AND NORTH MAIN STREET AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

1ST Reading

Mayor Harmon advised this is the 1st reading for Resolution #22-10 and he will need a **motion** to suspend the three-reading rule and pass it as an emergency. **Motion** made by Council member Sterling Krout and seconded by Council member Kim Billman A roll call vote was taken with all Council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Ashley Moore- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

Kim Billman- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

Mayor Harmon asked for a **motion** to adopt Resolution #22-10 and pass it as an emergency. **Motion** made by Council member Sterling Krout and seconded by Council member Erica O’Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Lynne Snider-aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

Mayor Harmon wanted to express how awesome it has been getting involved in local government which he feels is the best kind of government because it is the most effective. He saw the Facebook post for council years ago and decided to apply but never expecting to get vested in what we are doing here and serving the community, moving on to being President of Council, Chair of the Finance committee and eventually being appointed as Mayor and then running and being elected as Mayor. He stated it has been a fantastic experience and highly recommends the experience to everyone. He has enjoyed the good times and also the times where we felt very validated in our decision making. Members of the community have donated funds and trusted us with the spending which is very satisfying. He has also had a lot of satisfaction from the challenges that we have faced together. We have had some tough decisions, tough personnel changes that all of us have struggled with and tried to do the right thing for the Village. Mayor Harmon has found that very fulfilling and he feels they have all made very good, hard decisions that we all put a lot of thought into all of them prior to making a decision. He added that his family is building a house at the lake so he won’t be far but it is outside the Village so he regretfully can’t continue to serve as Mayor of Thornville.

Mayor Harmon asked for a **motion** to accept the resignation of Mayor Dan Harmon effective December 19, 2022. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Ashley Moore- aye

Lynne Snider- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill thanked Mayor Harmon for all his work and time at the Village. All council members wished him good luck in his future.

**Appointment of the New Mayor:** Village Administrator Traci Sturgill introduced Judge Luann Cooperrider and stated she was here for the swearing in of Council President Gina Kaetzel as our newly appointed Mayor of Thornville. Judge Cooperrider said she had gotten to know Gina from her involvement in the TAC Committee along with Dan Harmon & Ashley Moore. She feels great things have been and will continue to happen for the Village. She thanked Village Administrator Traci Sturgill for her hard work on getting the Appalachian funding grant submitted prior to the deadline of December 9th for the Village downtown revitalization. She encourages everyone to try to attend a BLRC meeting and also the TAC and Economic Development meetings.

**Motion** made by Council member Sterling Krout to appoint Council President Gina Kaetzel as Mayor of the Village of Thornville effective immediately. Seconded by Council member Kim Billman. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Lynne Snider- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Gina Kaetzel- aye

**Motion passed 6-0**

Judge Luann Cooperrider performed the swearing in ceremony of Mayor Gina Kaetzel.

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill explained to council that due to the Council President being appointed to the mayor’s position we would now need to appoint a new Council President until January 2023’s organizational meeting.

Council member Erica O’Neill and Sterling Krout expressed their interest in the Council President seat.

Council member Lynne Snider made a **motion** to appoint Sterling Krout as the new Council President. **Motion** seconded by Council member Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken with 3 council members voting aye and 2 council members voting no.

**Roll Call:**

Ashley Moore- no

Kim Billman- aye

Erica O’Neill- no

Lynne Snider- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

**Motion passed 3-2**

Council member Erica O’Neill made a **motion** for herself as Council President. **Motion** seconded by Council member Ashley Moore. A roll call vote was taken with 2 council members voting aye and 3 council members voting no.

**Roll Call:**

Ashley Moore- aye

Kim Billman- no

Lynne Snider- no

Sterling Krout- no

Erica O’Neill-aye

**Motion failed- 2-3**

**New Council Applicants:** Village Administrator Traci Sturgill advised Mayor Kaetzel we currently have 3 interested council applicants. She has put all 3 of the applicant’s information in all council members files for review. 2 of the applicants are currently here in the audience so they can introduce themselves to council and then council can have a discussion at the next committee meetings on the applicants.

Applicant Tasia Savage introduced herself to council. She’s lived in the Village for approximately 1.5 years and her husband grew up here along with his family who still reside here. She is the band director at Millersport schools. She is also who has been to council in regards to the cemetery clean up project and is in charge of that. The project has been started and she is hoping in the Spring to start re-building it.

Applicant Tom Wilson introduced himself to council. He stated he moved to the Village in the 1970’s. He volunteered for the EMS and Police force. He is currently retired and has gotten involved with the TAC committee. He is interested in making the Village better.

Council member Sterling Krout asked both applicants what some of their focuses are that they would want to bring to the Village council. Ms. Savage is looking to get more involved and find more ways that she can get more involved with the community. Mr. Wilson said when he first moved to the village, Thornville was one of the most beautiful communities around and he would like to help keep it that way.

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill thanked both applicants for coming in tonight.

**Comments and Announcements:** Mayor Kaetzel asked council members if they had any other comments or announcements. Council member Sterling Krout thanked former Mayor Harmon for all his time at the Village and keeping the ship on a good, straight course during his time here.

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill introduced Julia Cooperrider to council members since some of them are new to the Village. Julia runs the food pantry and does an amazing job. We appreciate her. Tom & Margel Wilson also volunteer there.

Mayor Gina Kaetzel also thanked former Mayor Dan Harmon for all he has done for the Village. She added we had a very tough year and he led them all through it.

**Citizen Comments**: Judge Luann Cooperrider asked if there was an update on the swimming pool repairs? Traci stated we are currently working on getting quotes from the engineers. She had a meeting at the pool with a couple different engineers today to go over everything that needs repaired so they can put together an estimate of costs and we can keep moving forward with the project. She did find out today that the Ohio State Dept of Health is running 7-8 months to even get permit approvals to start.

If this is the case, it will be impossible to have the pool upgrades and repairs complete by this summer to open. The engineers do not feel anyone would be able to meet that deadline with construction either. We will move as quickly as we can to get it completed.

**Adjournment:** Council President Gina Kaetzel asked for a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. **Motion** made by Council member Ashley Moore and was seconded by Council member Erica O’Neill. A roll call vote was taken with all council members voting aye.

**Roll Call:**

Lynne Snider- aye

Kim Billman- aye

Sterling Krout- aye

Ashley Moore- aye

Erica O’Neill- aye

**Motion passed 5-0**

Adjourned at 7:55 pm

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Mayor Gina Kaetzel Traci Sturgill, Council Clerk