

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
3 South Main Street
Thornville, OH
October 25, 2021

Council Members:

Lynne Snider
Gina Kaetzel
Sterling Krout
Josh Hultgren

Other Village Officials:

Mayor Dan Harmon
Traci Sturgill, Village Administrator
Dan Williams, Chief of Police
Melissa Tremblay, Fiscal Officer
Stephanie Reyher, Council Clerk

Guests Present: Lisa Sharpe

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Dan Harmon called the Village of Thornville Regular Council Meeting to order on October 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Roll Call was taken with Council President Josh Hultgren, Councilmember Sterling Krout, Councilmember Lynne Snider and Councilmember Gina Kaetzel present. Councilmember Erica O'Neill was absent.

Motion to Approve Business Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on October 25, 2021:

Mayor Dan Harmon requested a **Motion** to approve the Business Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on October 25, 2021. A **Motion** was made by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel and was seconded by Councilmember Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren - aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Lynne Snider - aye
Motion passed 4-0

Motion to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on September 27, 2021:

Mayor Dan Harmon requested a **Motion** to approve the minutes from the Regular Council meeting on September 27, 2021. A **Motion** was made by Councilmember Sterling Krout and was seconded by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren - aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Lynne Snider - aye
Motion passed 4-0

Presentation of Bills:

Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to pay the bills for September 2021. A **Motion** was made by Council President Josh Hultgren and was seconded by Councilmember Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren - aye
Sterling Krout– aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Lynne Snider- aye
Motion passed 4-0

Bank Reconciliation: Mayor Dan Harmon presented the Bank Reconciliation for September 30, 2021.

With no further discussion held Councilmember Lynne Snider made a **Motion** to receive the bank reconciliation for September 30, 2021 and was seconded by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel. A roll call vote was taken.

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Josh Hultgren - aye
Lynne Snider - aye
Sterling Krout -aye
Gina Kaetzel - aye

Motion passed 4-0

Fiscal Officer's Report- Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay – Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay said that Councilmembers should have received the report for September and asked if there were any questions. Councilmember Gina Kaetzel said that she had questions about appropriations. She asked if the report states that year to date expenditure is at 100%, does that mean we will have to borrow from somewhere else to help pay for anything additional. Melissa answered that it depends which line it is. Some things are paid once or twice per year. Gina mentioned she saw that for the electricity. Melissa answered that we moved money in the pool fund for the telephone and we also moved money for parks and rec for electricity. Gina asked if that is something that is just done when needed. Melissa answered yes, if we have money in another line that we can take it from then yes. Councilmember Lynne Snider asked Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay if she had final numbers for the pool. Melissa answered she didn't bring that information. She said that we could look at the revenue status and the appropriation status and subtract that to know where we ended.

Lisa Sharpe – Downtown Revitalization Grants – Lisa shared that she had joined the Perry County Planning Committee. They are looking at revitalization and some grants that look at revitalization for Thornville itself. There are some grants coming up that we could apply for with Buckeye Hills that could help with this revitalization. She said that we need to bring in revenue, like a grant that would help with the park and the pool because we know that is a big drain for the Village. The other is looking at downtown. We have a lot of businesses that are residential status. We could get a grant that say, for instance would buy a residential property out for a business. She said she has been talking with Tom Johnson from Somersset and he has done some great things for downtown Somersset. He knows a lot of sources that we could look into. We are looking at a grant that could bring in park trails and hiking parks. Township Road 358, the Village owns a small portion of that, the rest is owned by the trustees. She said that she has a meeting with them the beginning of November. She added that this trail will tie into all of the Buckeye Lake projects and it will bring a lot into the community. She said that we need to discuss who would be the governing body. There's a small portion of the Village that this is a part of. She said that at the meeting, she had talked to Village Administrator Traci Sturgill about who should take ownership of this because we need to know who will run it. She said that basically there is a construction grant only for this project. Mayor Dan Harmon said that he had talked to Judge Cooperrider and the Perry County Parks Board about this and what they want to do is build a multi-purpose trail from Columbus Street to all the way down to what in the future will be trails all around Buckeye Lake. He said that our portion of that in the Village will be super small. He also said they were talking about building a parking lot, but none of this would be in the Village. Lisa said that is a separate entity but with that in mind and that planning starting to go forward, we really need to look at revitalization for the Village. If we're going to start getting people in, we need to know where they're going to park and what we're going to feed them. We need to build this up and that is something that we are starting to look at. Is the Village going to be interested in pursuing possible grants and how they would like that to look. Mayor Dan Harmon said there is no way to get down to Thornport on foot or bike safely from the Village. We need to work on whether we build a sidewalk like we have in other places in the village or how do we connect to down there. If this is built and it starts to draw people in, there will be no safe way to get up to Thornville. Lisa shared that it's going to tap into two locations, off of 13 and State Street, by Coop's Corner. When they did the economic study, they looked at what young people want. They found that they want places that they can bike, hike and places to take their kids. This is one of the fastest growing places in the Midwest and we're either going to be with the game plan or we're going to be behind, then we'll lose out. It will have to go hand and hand with what that grant will look like. We could do a survey with the community to see what their priorities are for growth in the Village of Thornville. It is more like a 5-6 year plan on when this will start happening. There are great things going on. Mayor said his first thought when moving to the Village was that he didn't understand why we didn't have more businesses in Thornville. Lisa said that we did used to have businesses. Mayor said yes, but they are gone. He wondered if the council was doing anything or if they were discouraging business. He said that he thinks there are some problems that are obvious, but we need to figure out what the rest are. Parking is of course an issue. Another problem is that a lot of the buildings that would be appropriate for a business are owned by private entities that have no interest in selling. Village Administrator Traci Sturgill said that she had brought that up as well. Mayor said there are also quiet businesses, like what Shelly uses for storage. The property is kept up, but it is not bringing anyone in. We do need to keep exploring this and figure out what we can do to improve. Lisa said with that in mind, and the fact that a lot of these properties are owned by residents of Thornville, there are grants available that are very beneficial to that property owner. Tom Johnson has done a great job of this in Somersset, buying the run-down buildings. They don't

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have a lot of parking either, but they are figuring it out. We just need to figure out where we want to start. She said she moved here from Columbus because she loved the feel of Thornville. People want to come out here. Mayor said polling the community is the way to go. Lisa said we should talk to the property owners and business owners as well. Councilmember Gina Kaetzel asked what needs to happen with Council. Mayor suggested forming an ad hoc committee for development. Typically, there is a member of Council who heads up the committee and then we have to recruit people from the Community. Do we feel there is interest? Village Administrator Traci Sturgill said we had not had luck with participation for the events committees, but this may be different. Mayor asked how to start an ad hoc committee. Traci said we would need a motion to start the committee and then a member of Council would have to be president of the committee. Mayor said he would address this in his section of the agenda. Lisa asked if anyone had questions. Councilmember Gina Kaetzel asked if they would need anything from Council. Lisa shared that process for the grants starts by putting in a letter of intent. Right now, because of how we are fiscally in the state, what is normally a 20% match, right now is only 5%. We don't have to come up with the 5% either, we can get a grant that covers the 5%. Fiscally this won't be a burden on the Village. There are a lot of resources to help us get that 5% match, so it won't be a burden, because we know the Village doesn't have any money. Fiscal Officer Melissa Tremblay said that we do have some money. Lisa said that we don't want to spend it that way, we would get it from investors.

Police Report for October 2021 – Chief Dan Williams – Chief Dan Williams said that he sent the report out today. He had 25 traffic stops, 9 charges. Country Fair went well, with no issues, except for parking on Church Street and Park Street. He met with the new Principal at Thornville Elementary to improve school safety preparedness.

Administrator's Report: Village Administrator Traci Sturgill – Village Administrator Traci Sturgill said that Trick or Treat is Thursday October 28. Leaf pick up will be November 3 – 19. She said the we had a service line break Saturday night on Church Street. This was the resident's responsibility to repair and they are aware of what they have to do. She shared that when they did appropriations for Finance Committee, it was asked if Council would be interested in doing \$15,000 extra in funds for anything we may need in parks. For example, a security system for the pool, playground equipment, bleachers, volleyball parking lots paved. Mayor Dan Harmon asked where this money was. Traci answered that it is extra money in Parks. Melissa suggested that if we wanted to use it, we could. Melissa said she asked if there were any projects. She said we don't have to put it in, if something comes up next year, we could put it in then. Mayor said it would be a good subject for the Parks and Rec Committee to discuss.

Village Administrator Traci Sturgill said that she received an email from Fed Ex, they are hiring for a new facility that they will have in Etna. They asked if they could park a hiring van in the Village for a day. Councilmember Lynne Snider suggested the bowling alley. Mayor suggested using the lot in front of the salt building. All agreed on the salt building. Traci asked if Council wanted to continue to have the two food truck rallies next year. Mayor said everyone he has talked with would love to have it every weekend. Gina said the food truck owners asked if we could advertise it earlier, with bigger signs around the area. Traci said that she put it out on Facebook. Melissa asked if we had entertainment. She said there are individuals who may come and play just for tips. Mayor said we should find out where we can get tables to use. Melissa suggested the fire department or the churches.

Public Hearing

Mayor Dan Harmon opened the public hearing for Ordinance #21-11 at 7:30 pm.

- **ORDINANCE #21-11 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW COMPENSATION AND PAY SCHEDULE FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE, REPEALING ALL PRIOR SALARY ORDINANCES**
2nd Reading

Mayor Dan Harmon closed the public hearing for Ordinance #21-12 at 7:31 pm.

Mayor Dan Harmon opened the public hearing for Ordinance #21-13 at 7:31 pm.

- **ORDINANCE #21-13 AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND ESTABLISHING FUND NUMBER 2081 (STATE OF OHIO'S OPIOID LITIGATION)**
2nd Reading

Mayor Dan Harmon closed the public hearing for Ordinance #21-13 at 7:32 pm.

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Mayor's Report for September 2021: Mayor Dan Harmon presented the Mayors Report

- **Monthly Water Report to Perry County Commissioners for September 2021:**

Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to receive the monthly water report to Perry County Commissioners for September 2021. With no discussion held, a **Motion** was made by Council President Josh Hultgren to receive the Monthly Water Report to the Perry County Commissioners for September 2021 and was seconded by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren - aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Lynne Snider- aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Motion passed 4-0

- **Monthly Water Report to Council for September 2021:**

Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to receive the monthly water report to Council for September 2021. With no discussion held, Council President Josh Hultgren made a **Motion** to receive the Water Report to Council for September 2021 and was seconded by Councilmember Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren - aye
Sterling Krout - aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Motion passed 4-0

Mayor's Court Report for September 2021: Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to receive the Mayor's Court Report for September 2021. A **Motion** was made by Councilmember Sterling Krout and was seconded by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren - aye
Gina Kaetzel -aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Motion passed 4-0

Mayor Dan Harmon said that he had a letter from Lisa Sharpe expressing interest in the open Council position. Lisa Sharpe shared that she is a resident of Thornville, residing in Thornville Estates. She has lived there since 2006. Her kids went through school here. She said she has a vested interest in this community. Her son is Tyler Sharpe who was killed 5 years ago next month. The community was wonderful to her family. She said they have done a lot of give back to the community because of that. They have given scholarships, almost \$10,000 in four years. She said retired from teaching and is now a guardian ad litem for the County. She is a voice for kids. She renewed her law license to do that. She loves this community and she wants to see it grow. She tried to stay behind the scenes but she feels that she has some things she can offer.

Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to appoint Lisa Sharpe as the next member of Council for the Village of Thornville. A **Motion** was made by Councilmember Lynne Snider and was seconded by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel. A roll call vote was taken.

Lynne Snider – aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Josh Hultgren – aye
Motion passed – 4-0

Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to create an Ad/Hoc Committee for development. A **Motion** was made by Councilmember Lynne Snider and was seconded by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel. A roll call vote was taken.

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Lynne Snider – aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Josh Hultgren – aye
Motion passed – 4-0

Mayor Dan Harmon said that he is getting a lot of emails asking that we make proclamations for various causes. He asked if Council wanted him to bring all of those to them for consideration or if Council prefers he filter them. All agreed to have Mayor filter them out.

Committee Reports for October 2021

- Finance Committee – Held a Finance Committee meeting to discuss scheduling a Special Finance Committee meeting for 2022 appropriations.

Old Business:

- **ORDINANCE #21-12 APPROVAL AND GRANTING CONSENT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TO, APPLY, MAINTAIN AND REPAIR STANDARD LONGITUDINAL PAVEMENT MARKINGS AND ERECT REGULATORY AND WARNING SIGNS ON STATE HIGHWAYS INSIDE VILLAGE CORPORATE LIMITS**
3rd Reading

Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to adopt Ordinance #21-12. A **Motion** was made by Council President Josh Hultgren and was seconded by Councilmember Sterling Krout. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Motion passed 4-0

- **RESOLUTION #21-11 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN UPDATED VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE PERSONNEL MANUAL**
3rd Reading

Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to adopt Resolution #21-11. A **Motion** was made by Council President Josh Hultgren and was seconded by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren – aye
Sterling Krout – aye
Lynne Snider – aye
Gina Kaetzel – aye
Motion passed 4-0

- **ORDINANCE #21-11 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW COMPENSATION AND PAY SCHEDULE FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE, REPEALING ALL PRIOR SALARY ORDINANCES**
2nd Reading
- **ORDINANCE #21-13 AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND ESTABLISHING FUND NUMBER 2081 (STATE OF OHIO'S OPIOID LITIGATION)**
2nd Reading

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New Business:

- ORDINANCE #21-14 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
1st Reading
- ORDINANCE #21-15 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION WHEN NO NEWSPAPER IS PUBLISHED IN THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION AND DESIGNATING A NEW PUBLIC PLACE IN THE VILLAGE FOR PUBLISHING ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS OR SUMMARIES OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, AND PUBLICATION OF ALL STATEMENTS, ORDERS, PROCLAMATIONS, NOTICES AND REPORTS, REQUIRED BY LAW OR ORDINANCE TO BE PUBLISHED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
1st Reading

Council Comments: None

Citizens Comments: None

Announcements: None

Adjournment:

Mayor Dan Harmon asked for a **Motion** to adjourn. A **Motion** was made by Councilmember Lynne Snider and was seconded by Councilmember Gina Kaetzel. A roll call vote was taken.

Josh Hultgren - aye
Lynne Snider - aye
Gina Kaetzel - aye
Sterling Krout - aye
Motion passed 4-0

Meeting concluded at 7:46 p.m.



Mayor Dan Harmon



Stephanie Reyher, Council Clerk