

VILLAGE OF THORNTON, COUNTY OF COOK
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING – FEBRUARY 18, 2025

Attorney Dillner started the meeting by stating Acting President Pisarzewski and Administrator Wiak would not be present this meeting due to illness. Attorney Dillner asked the board to elect someone to run the committee and board meeting. Trustee Reynolds nominated Trustee Atkinson.

Trustee Reynolds made the motion to have Trustee Atkinson run the committee and regular board meeting. Trustee Cunningham seconded that motion.

Ayes: Trustee Reynolds, Cunningham, Glaser.

Nays:

Abstain: Trustee Atkinson

Absent: Acting President Pisarzewski, Trustee Kaye.

Motion Carried

Trustee Atkinson called the committee meeting to order at 7:02 PM

Roll Call:

Trustee Reynolds, Trustee Cunningham, Trustee Atkinson, Trustee Glaser. Recreation Director Dunlop, Public Works Supt. Roberts, Police Chief Wesolowski. Also in attendance Attorney Diller and Treasurer Frye.

Absent: Acting President Pisarzewski, Trustee Kaye, and Administrator Wiak.

Public Comment

None

Committee Reports

Trustee Cunningham: Fire department has completed 160 training hours. 129 emergency calls were received. 3 new fire fighters were hired January 2nd, 2025. The Thornton Fire Department will also be hosting a citizen's fire academy that will begin March 7th. A minimum of 5 citizens are needed to hold the academy.

Trustee Reynolds: None

Trustee Atkinson asked Treasurer Frye if there was anything outside of her report that needed to be discussed. Treasurer Frye informed the board that the budget worksheets will be sent out soon to the department heads.

Trustee Kaye: Absent

Trustee Glaser: in the month of January, the police department received 401 calls and had 92 traffic stops.

Trustee Atkinson: Building department issued 7 permits and completed 170 inspections.

Treasurer Frye

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Frye reviewed the treasurer's report.

Trustee Atkinson requested that several departments get their line item transfers in order. Several departments are over budget due to overtime.

Attorney Dillner

Attorney Dillner explained his only item on the agenda tonight is for the Thornton Historical Society lease extension, and given the many absences on board this evening, this item should be tabled and put on the March 3, 2025 agenda.

Administrator Report

FY 25 line item transfers for public works. Treasurer Frye suggested to only do the transfers that are in the board packet.

Contract extension: Scavenger services – Flood Brothers

Attorney Dillner explained that the Village's contract with Flood Brothers expires March 31st, and rather than bid the contract out, it would be in the village's best interest to extend their (Flood Brothers') contract.

Attorney Dillner informed the board that Kevin and Michael Flood were in the audience and available for any questions the board might have for them.

Trustee Cunningham questioned as to how much it would be to have leaf pick up added as service. Micheal Flood informed the board that curb side leaf pick up is a “dying service”, and it is very expensive. However, they will provide the Village with a quote.

Trustee Atkinson praised Flood Brothers’ work done in town, but said it would be in the best interest of the Village to look at other bids. Trustee Glaser commented inquired as to the bids the Village received in 2020. Interim Clerk Kitakis stated the bids were composed of Homewood Disposal, Tristate, and Flood Brothers. Interim Kitakis also went on to explain that Tristate was at nearly thirty dollars a home. Kevin Flood interjected and explained that the Village is spending less on scavenger services than it did five years ago. Mr. Flood reminded the board that during COVID, Flood Brothers was the only waste company disposing white goods, and if the Village of Thornton does seek other bids, the next bid received from Flood Brothers will be adjusted and more competitive with the other companies’ bids. Trustee Reynolds commented that her place of business uses a different disposal company, and that company charges her work \$50 a month to pick up 2 garbage cans. Trustee Reynolds also commented that Flood Brothers was the only company that offers every week recycle pick up. Flood Brothers also does the Village’s e-cycle and shredding events twice year, and the big clean out day, which are all included in the current bid, and is no extra cost to the Village. Trustee Reynolds questioned the benefit of renewing for 5 years as opposed to 7 years. Mr. Flood explained that it locks the price in, and Flood Brothers will be purchasing new equipment in the next 2 years, so that could affect the price of renewal in 5 years.

Trustee Atkinson mentioned that given the time frame of current contract’s expiration, the Village should extend Flood Brothers’ contract.

Trustee Reynolds agreed, and reiterated to Flood Brothers to send over an estimate for the leaf pick up.

Trustee Glaser inquired asked for clarification on the length of the proposed contract. Trustee Reynolds confirmed the contract would be for 7 years.

Attorney Dillner advised that during the regular board meeting, the board should vote to do the extension with Flood Brothers, and have Flood Brothers add an additional proposal for leaf pick up.

ISATT vehicle purchases: ISATT has requested \$120,000 from their budget to purchase two vehicles.

Trustee Atkinson requested that ISATT do a line-item transfer so their budget line item is not over for the purchase. Treasurer Frye questioned if Trustee Atkinson would not approve purchase without the line-item transfer. Trustee Atkinson said she would approve the purchase, before the line-item transfer, but that the line-item transfer be completed before the purchases are final.

Thornton Police Department capital fund purchase request: Chief Wesolowski asked for these funds to help get Thornton PD in compliance with the Safe-T Act and also give the department some more non-lethal options.

Old & New Business:

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for the good and welfare of the Village, a motion was made by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, to adjourn the Committee meeting.

All in favor.

Motion carried.

Trustee Atkinson adjourned the Committee meeting at 7:33 p.m

Nikki Kitakis, Interim Clerk