



VILLAGE OF THORNTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 34
THORNTON, ILLINOIS 60476

Village Board
Village of Thornton, Illinois
115 East Margaret Street
Thornton, IL 60476

April 3, 2025

Dear Members of the Village Board,

On behalf of the Village of Thornton Historical Society (the "Society"), please accept this letter as a formal request to address several matters of importance regarding the Society's relationship with the Village.

1. Lease Agreement and Rent Increase

It has come to the Society's attention that the rent charged to us by the Village was increased. We respectfully request a fully executed copy of the updated lease agreement for our review and signature.

Additionally, several months ago, the Society submitted a written request asking the Board to reconsider the rent increase. Mayor Pisarzewski informed Society member Tom Ellis that this request would be reviewed. At a later time, the Mayor relayed that the Board had reviewed the matter and decided not to revise the increase. We respectfully request a written response from the Board confirming that the matter was reviewed and stating the Board's decision regarding the rent adjustment.

2. Liability and Insurance Coverage

Given today's heightened concerns around liability, the Society seeks to clarify its current risk exposure. Our public meetings, which include historical presentations, are held at Village-owned property on Hunter Street. In addition, the Society hosts occasional social gatherings and sponsors two annual tours of Heidelberg Materials' Thornton Quarry. Heidelberg requires signed liability waivers from all tour participants, and the Society will be implementing the same practice starting this year.

To help further protect the Society and its volunteers, we request that the Board obtain a quote from the Village's insurance provider regarding the potential addition of the Society as an additional insured party under the Village's liability policy. It is our understanding that this may be feasible with minimal or no additional cost.

We have summarized the key points here for the sake of brevity. However, the Society is more than willing to provide any further information or clarification the Board may require to assist with these considerations.

Thank you for your time and attention to these matters. We appreciate your continued support of the Historical Society's mission and activities within the Village.

Sincerely,

Tom Ellis, Society Member at Large, Village of Thornton Historical Society