

## VILLAGE OF THORNTON, COUNTY OF COOK

### MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE BOARD MEETING – AUGUST 4, 2025

President Reynolds called the Committee Meeting of August 4, 2025, to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### Roll Call:

President Reynolds, Trustee Cunningham, Trustee Middlebrooks, Trustee Kaye, Trustee Pratscher, Trustee Glaser, Trustee Pisarzewski, Recreation Director Dunlop, Public Works Superintendent Roberts, Rick Triemstra (for Fire Chief Schweitzer), and Police Chief Wesolowski. Also in attendance: Administrator Payne, Attorney Dillner, and Engineer Kaminsky.

#### Public Comment:

- Kim Atkinson commented regarding the certificate of payment listed for discussion.
- Giselle Breski commented on the illegal dumping of garbage in the forest preserve on Leverette.

#### Committee Reports:

Trustee Pisarzewski: None

Trustee Cunningham: None

Trustee Kaye: None

Trustee Middlebrooks: None

Trustee Pratscher: None

Trustee Glaser: Trustee Glaser announced that the Police Department is seeking approval for the purchase of a 2025 Dodge Durango. Trustee Pisarzewski questioned whether Chief Wesolowski had obtained the standard three quotes or if his word was simply being trusted. Chief Wesolowski explained that he had researched prices for three weeks, contacting dealerships and checking the state procurement website. Bettenhausen Ford provided the Thornton Police Department a quote nearly \$8,000 below the lowest listed price on the state program website.

Trustee Pisarzewski expressed concern that, even though the purchase was budgeted, the Police Department should hold off on it. She also noted that her mother had purchased a vehicle from Bettenhausen and received a \$5,000 price reduction. Trustee Pisarzewski stated the Police Department has been spending a lot of money, and the village is not yet a quarter of the way through the fiscal year.

**Engineer Kaminsky:**

None

**Attorney Dillner:**

None

**Administrator Payne:**

Administrator Payne presented a proposed certificate of payment ordinance, explaining that it would ensure the village collects any outstanding water bills, fees, and citations when a property is sold. Properties would still be lienied, but only after fees reach a minimum of \$5,000. He recommended no fee for the certificate of payment.

Administrator Payne clarified that the Village will not begin charging residents for ambulance fees. Trustee Cunningham suggested adding garbage, sewer, and capital improvement fees to the certificate of payment to ensure all are covered. Trustee Cunningham also proposed that the Administrator be the one to decide judgment in certificate of payment hearings, since board involvement would require a special meeting.

The board agreed and requested Administrator Payne keep them informed. Attorney Dillner also recommended that Administrator Payne handle judgments for efficiency. It was decided that the Village Administrator—whoever holds the position at the time—will make the judgment. If a resident disagrees, a special hearing before the Village Board will be held.

**President Reynolds:**

President Reynolds thanked Sharhianna Fulce for organizing the diaper drive. President Reynolds reminded residents about National Night Out on August 5, 2025, from 5:00–7:00 p.m. at Nason Park, and about “Coffee with the Mayor” on Saturday at Village Hall from 9:00–10:30 a.m., which will include a representative from Nicor.

President Reynolds also announced that, for the rest of the year, Village Hall will be open on the first and third Saturdays of the month.

**Adjournment:**

President Reynolds requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Kaye made the motion, seconded by Trustee Cunningham.

All in favor – motion carried.

The Committee Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

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Village Clerk Nikki Kitakis