

VILLAGE OF THORNTON, COUNTY OF COOK
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING – MAY 20, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Acting President Piszewski called the Meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Acting President Piszewski reported the meeting was being recorded by Clerk Piszewski and also recorded live on social media.

ROLL CALL

Present at Roll Call: Acting President Piszewski, Trustees Cunningham, Reynolds, Kaye, Glaser, Atkinson; Recreation Director Dunlop; Police Chief G. Beckman; Public Works Superintendent Roberts; Fire Chief Schweitzer.
Also Present: Administrator D. Beckman; Attorney S. Dillner; Treasurer Frye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathleen Andersen Reingold, 106 East Harriet, thanked Administrator Beckman for his service to Thornton residents. He has been extremely professional. Ms. Reingold stated she prefers the silent Memorial Day Parade. This is a funeral for a specific group of people – people who died in the military to keep our country safe. A silent parade shows respect. Make noise for the Fourth of July. Ms. Reingold commented on discussion held at the last meeting regarding library employees receiving health insurance through the Village. There is nothing that says they can't get insurance through the Village; and insurance has been provided for full-time library employees in the past.

Ms. Reingold asked about the agreement between the Village of Thornton and the Methodist Church regarding plowing their parking lot. Administrator Beckman stated he heard June 2nd is the Methodist Church's last service.

Ms. Reingold stated there was already discussion on chickens in Thornton. Money was spent on the attorney. The Board decided no. She provided a brief history of chicken farming in Thornton.

Ms. Reingold stated the business on the NE corner of Juliette and Williams was not there first. Nobody is trying to shut down that business.

Ms. Reingold commented there was a beheaded chicken found near Queens Lane. Abuse to animals is a big flag for somebody becoming a psychopath. Maybe a little bit more patrolling the streets would help.

Roger Matrotto, 406 Water Street, thanked Mayor Joe and Village Administrator Doug Beckman for fixing the street in front of his residence. Since 2016 when the street was redone, he has had a lake in front of his home. Thank you for doing the right thing.

COMMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire Department Report – Trustee Cunningham reported the department did 175 inspections and complaints, 31 tickets and fines. They responded to 113 emergency responses, including surrounding towns; and 72 hours of training. Engine 45 in the shop having repairs done; and Squad 45 is having a brake issue which is being repaired.

2024-2025 Budget – Trustee Reynolds stated the cyber-attack really set everything back; but Treasurer Frye and Administrator Beckman are working hard. It is hoped the trustees have the initial budget by Friday.

Police Department Report – Trustee Glaser reported the monthly Spellman report for the month of April included 286 incidents: Compliance issued citations 34; warning citations 70; municipal ordinance citations issued 1; 103 traffic stops conducted; 195 calls for service; 30 reports generated; 12 accident reports; 18 alarms. Also there were 22 assists to other local agencies.

Building Report – Trustee Atkinson stated the full building report is in the packet. There were a couple more building permits issued in April than March. The property at 308 Schwab has had a clean-up and demolition permit issued, but not a building permit. The Village is waiting for architect drawings.

TREASURER'S REPORT

April 2024 Financial Report – Treasurer Frye provided the April, 2024, month statement. These are not up for approval because they are still preliminary until everything is caught up with the software. The year-to-date columns should be redacted because those figures are not correct and will continue to change as stuff is added to the system. This is only to give the Board an idea of what activity transpired during the month.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Recent and Scheduled Village Closings – Attorney Dillner reported the closing on the Brown Derby land swap with Heidelberg Material Service is finished. He is hoping to close on 603 and 605 Ridge Road within the next week or so. Those are two structures at the edge of Thornton on Ridge which will be conveyed to the cemetery.

100 S. Kinzie Fence Variance – Attorney Dillner stated there is an ordinance to allow the owner of 100 South Kinzie to build a fence. Mr. Colin Lampkin appeared before the Planning Commission at their last meeting and requested a variance to build a fence along the side yard on Margaret Street. He originally asked for a six foot high fence; but after Commission discussion, they recommended a variance

for a four foot tall fence to match the neighbor's fence. Attorney Dillner provided the Commission's decision and an ordinance in the packet.

Trustee Atkinson asked Mr. Lampkin if the fence is solely for the Margaret side of his residence. He responded the plan was to put a fence on the property line of the south side; but he is worried about his pets and would first like a barrier between his house and the street to help contain his cats. Eventually he does plan to build a fence on the south side of his property.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

SOS Grant Purchase – Administrator Beckman reported on the agenda is an agreement with Motorola and the Chicago arm of the SOS Grant. There are some specific descriptions of the equipment they would like to purchase and what it would do. This is for the Board's consideration. It is grant funds; and they are asking for approval to enter into this agreement with Motorola for a total cost of \$15,993.30.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

No comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Atkinson commented, when the budget gets distributed, she would like it in a spreadsheet format. Administrator Beckman will provide that for her.

Trustee Atkinson asked if there is an anticipated date for the financial recovery to be complete. Treasurer Frye will have a better idea by the end of the week.

ADJOURNMENT

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

All in favor.

Motion carried.

Acting President Pisarzewski adjourned the Committee meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Debra L. Pisarzewski, Clerk