

VILLAGE OF THORNTON

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 18, 2025 – 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The Committee meeting was called to order by President Reynolds at 7:00 p.m. Clerk Kitakis recorded the meeting. Attendees were reminded to refrain from using electronic devices.

ROLL CALL

Present:

- President Reynolds
- Trustee Cunningham
- Trustee Middlebrooks
- Trustee Kaye
- Trustee Glaser
- Trustee Pratscher
- Trustee Pisarzewski
- Public Works Superintendent Roberts- Absent
- Recreational Director Dunlop
- Police Chief Wesolowski
- Fire Chief Schweitzer

Also in attendance Attorney Dillner, and Village Administrator Payne

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)

Robert Enright, 116 N. Wolcott – Commented on the proposed public comment policy. Stated that the Open Meetings Act and Robert's Rules already provide sufficient guidance. Suggested requiring all remarks to be addressed to the Chair, enforcing time limits, avoiding back-and-forth exchanges, and encouraging courtesy and respect while prohibiting disruptive behavior.

No further public comments were offered.

REPORTS

Building Department – Trustee Pisarzewski

- 16 permits issued in July totaling \$1,100 in fees.

- Value of work: \$86,416.51.
- 516 inspections completed.

Finance – Trustee Cunningham

- July cash position: \$11,326,225.57.
- August cash position: \$17,793,945.24.
- Treasurer's Report for July to be presented for approval at next board meeting.

Discussion:

- Trustee Pisarzewski questioned negative balances in funds.
- Treasurer Frye (via telephone) explained issues were due to pending grant reimbursements and misallocated expenses, including an \$80,000 Robinson invoice.
- Adjustments, transfers, or loans may be required for Downtown TIF and other funds.

Recreation – Trustee Middlebrooks

- Reported on summer activities and preschool readiness programs.
- Upcoming events: Aug. 22 – Fun Friday; Aug. 27 – Free Chair Yoga (Library); Aug. 29 – Summer Movie Minecraft at Mason Park; Sept. 1 – Recreation Center closed; Sept. 10 – Senior Bingo; Sept. 26 – Movie Night

Public Works – Trustee Kaye

- No formal report. Superintendent Roberts on vacation.

Legal – Attorney Dillner

- No report.

Police Department – Trustee Glaser

- July activity: 666 calls, 214 traffic stops, 91 citizen assists, 53 assists to other agencies, 10 theft/burglary/robbery.
- Reminder: school begins tomorrow; drivers urged to use caution.

Fire Department – Trustee Pratscher

- July activity: 35 inspections, 106 emergency responses, 190 hours of training.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Administrator Payne

- Public Comment Policy Ordinance – Codifies current practice with a five-minute limit.
- Certificate of Payment Ordinance – Updates include appeal process to Village Board.
- Rules of Order Ordinance Amendment – Updates trustee departmental responsibilities.

- Grocery Tax Ordinance Amendment – Housekeeping update to code references.
- Bank Resolution – Approves authorized signers for Village accounts.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thornton received a \$9,000 ComEd Powering Safe Communities Grant for pedestrian and bicycle crosswalk safety improvements at Margaret & Hunter.
- Thanks to all departments and volunteers for National Night Out.
- Community updates: Aug. 22 – Friday Fun (Community Center); Aug. 27 – Coloring Night (Library); Aug. 29 – Movie Night (Minecraft at Mason Park); Sept. 1 – Village Hall & Community Center closed; Sept. 2 – Next Board Meeting (Tuesday); Sept. 7 – Historical Society 50th Anniversary (2–4 p.m., cake & ice cream); Sept. 13 – Coffee with the Mayor (10:00 a.m.)
- Resident commendation to Brian Roberts (Public Works) for prompt street debris removal.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Trustee Pratchett moved to adjourn. Trustee Glaser seconded.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27PM

Village Clerk Nikki Kitakis