

VILLAGE OF THORNTON

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2026 – 6:27 PM

1. Call to Order

President Reynolds called the Regular Board Meeting of the Village of Thornton to order on March 2, 2026 at 6:27 PM. The President stated the meeting was being recorded by Village Clerk Kitakis and clarified that the meeting was not being streamed live on the Village's Facebook page. Attendees were asked to silence all electronic devices.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

3. Moment of Silence

President Reynolds asked that all present observe a moment of silence in honor of public servants, members of the military, those who are ill, and recently departed members of the community.

4. Roll Call

Clerk Kitakis called the roll.

Present: President Reynolds, Trustees Cunningham, Middlebrooks, Kaye, Glaser, Pratscher, and Piszczewski.

Village Officials Present: Public Works Superintendent Roberts, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Potwin, Police Chief Wesolowski, and Fire Chief Schweitzer.

5. Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2026

Trustee Cunningham made a motion to approve the Committee Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2026. Trustee Middlebrooks seconded the motion.

Brief discussion occurred confirming that the minutes accurately reflected the discussions and actions taken at the previous meeting. No amendments or corrections were requested by the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – Abstain

Glaser – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Pisarczyewski – Yes

Motion carried.

6. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2026

Trustee Pratscher made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2026. Trustee Cunningham seconded the motion.

Trustees briefly reviewed the distributed minutes and confirmed that the document accurately reflected the official actions taken by the Board at that meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Pratscher – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – Abstain

Glaser – Yes

Pisarczyewski – Yes

Motion carried.

7. Payment of Vouchers

Trustee Cunningham made a motion to approve payment of vouchers dated March 2, 2026 in the amount of \$299,322.62, including \$195,617.65 from the SOS Grant and \$113,654.83 from prepaid checks. Trustee Kaye seconded the motion.

Trustees discussed the composition of the voucher total and confirmed that the grant funds reflected approved expenditures related to the SOS program. Board members also confirmed that the prepaid checks represented routine Village operational expenses and vendor payments.

Roll Call Vote:

Cunningham – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Glaser – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Pisarczywski – Yes

Motion carried.

8. Resolution 2026-003R – Redevelopment Agreement Amendment

Trustee Cunningham made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-003R authorizing the execution of the First Amendment to the Redevelopment Agreement between the Village of Thornton and Ken Zamparelli for the property located at 110 South Williams Street. Trustee Glaser seconded the motion.

Discussion occurred regarding the redevelopment project and the purpose of the amendment to the original agreement. Board members asked questions about the project timeline and expectations associated with the redevelopment of the property. It was explained that the amendment updates certain provisions of the agreement while maintaining the original intent of the redevelopment plan.

Roll Call Vote:

Cunningham – Yes

Glaser – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Pisarczywski – Yes

Motion carried.

9. Resolution 2026-005R – Financial Variance Policy

Trustee Cunningham made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-005R adopting an Immaterial Variance and Bank Reconciliation Tolerance Policy. Trustee Glaser seconded the motion.

Discussion focused on the purpose of establishing a defined tolerance level for small reconciliation differences during financial reviews. Trustees discussed the importance of maintaining accountability in financial reporting while allowing administrative staff to address minor accounting discrepancies efficiently.

Roll Call Vote:

Cunningham – Yes

Glaser – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Pisarczyewski – No

Motion carried.

10. Resolution 2026-006R – IMRF Authorized Agent

Trustee Cunningham made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-006R appointing Treasurer Jackson as the Village of Thornton’s Authorized Agent with the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF). Trustee Pratscher seconded the motion.

Discussion included explanation that the Authorized Agent position requires frequent interaction with IMRF reporting systems and oversight of employee retirement reporting. Trustees expressed support for assigning the responsibility to the Treasurer due to the financial and administrative nature of the role.

Roll Call Vote:

Cunningham – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Pisarczyewski – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Glaser – Yes

Motion carried.

11. Resolution 2026-004R – HERA Property Registry Agreement

Trustee Pisarczyewski made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-004R authorizing an agreement between the Village of Thornton and HERA Property Registry for services related to foreclosure and vacant property registration. Trustee Glaser seconded the motion.

Trustee Pisarczyewski requested clarification regarding how the registry program would operate and whether it would affect homeowners who temporarily leave their homes vacant while preparing them for sale or managing estates. Administration explained that exemptions were added to the ordinance to ensure the program targets abandoned or

foreclosed properties rather than residents legitimately managing their homes. The HERA registry system would assist the Village in identifying vacant properties and ensuring compliance with registration requirements.

Roll Call Vote:

Pisarzewski – Yes

Glaser – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Motion carried.

12. Ordinance 2026-007 – Vacant Property Registration

Trustee Pisarzewski made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-007 creating Chapter 7-12 of the Village Code establishing the registration of foreclosing mortgages and vacant properties. Trustee Glaser seconded the motion.

Discussion continued regarding how the ordinance provides the legal authority for the registration program previously discussed and how it would assist the Village in monitoring vacant properties that may create maintenance or safety concerns within the community.

Roll Call Vote: All Trustees voted Yes.

Motion carried.

13. Ordinance 2026-006 – One Way Traffic Near School

Trustee Glaser made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-006 amending traffic regulations to designate certain streets near the school as one-way. Trustee Cunningham seconded the motion.

A lengthy discussion occurred regarding traffic patterns near the school and concerns raised by residents about student safety and congestion during drop-off and pick-up times. Police Chief Wesolowski explained that the proposal was intended to reduce cut-through traffic and improve safety conditions for students in the school zone.

Trustees discussed the possibility of implementing the configuration on a trial basis and monitoring its effectiveness. Additional topics included notification to residents,

coordination with the school district, and the potential need for police presence during the initial implementation period to help direct traffic.

Roll Call Vote:

Glaser – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – No

Pratscher – No

Pisarczyewski – No

The vote resulted in a tie. President Reynolds cast the tie-breaking vote in favor of the motion.

Motion carried.

14. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

Shellie Beno addressed the Board regarding the proposed traffic changes and expressed concern that students exiting vehicles could be required to cross traffic depending on the direction vehicles are traveling. The Board acknowledged the comment.

15. New Business

Clerk Kitakis announced Youth Night scheduled for April 20. Trustees briefly discussed logistics for the event including rehearsal timing and the possibility of providing pizza for participants prior to the meeting. Details will be finalized at a later date.

16. Adjournment

Trustee Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Middlebrooks seconded the motion. All in favor responded Aye. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:02PM.

Maxine Reynolds Village President

Nikki Kitakis Village Clerk

