

VILLAGE OF THORNTON

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 18, 2026

The Regular Board Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Thornton was held on Monday, May 18, 2026, at Village Hall, 115 East Margaret Street, Thornton, Illinois.

President Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:09 P.M.

The meeting was recorded by Clerk Kitakis and streamed live on the Village's Facebook page.

President Reynolds requested all electronic devices be silenced and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed for public servants, military personnel, and the sick and recently departed.

ROLL CALL

Present:

President Reynolds
Trustee Cunningham
Trustee Middlebrooks
Trustee Glaser
Trustee Pratscher
Trustee Piszczewski

Absent:

Trustee Kaye

Also Present:

Public Works Superintendent Bryan Roberts
Park & Recreation Director Dunlop
Police Chief Wesolowski
Fire Chief Schweitzer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MAY 4, 2026

President Reynolds stated the corrected version of the Committee Meeting Minutes from May 4, 2026 had been provided to the Board.

Motion to approve the Committee Meeting Minutes as written was made by Trustee Cunningham and seconded by Trustee Middlebrooks.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Cunningham – Yes
- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes
- Trustee Pratscher – Yes
- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Piszewski – Yes

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 4, 2026

President Reynolds reminded Trustees that if they were absent from a meeting but reviewed the minutes, they still had the option to abstain if they wished.

Motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2026 as written was made by Trustee Middlebrooks and seconded by Trustee Cunningham.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes
- Trustee Cunningham – Yes
- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Pratscher – Yes
- Trustee Piszewski – Yes

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Motion to approve payment of the vouchers dated May 18, 2026 in the amount of:

\$408,812.27

of which:

- \$278,343.58 was from SOS Grants

- \$63,227.63 was from prepaid checks

was made by Trustee Pratscher and seconded by Trustee Glaser.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Pratscher – Yes
- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes
- Trustee Cunningham – Yes
- Trustee Piszewski – Yes

Motion carried.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-018

AMENDING MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING APPOINTMENT TERMS OF THE VILLAGE HEALTH OFFICER

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2026-018 was made by Trustee Pratscher and seconded by Trustee Glaser.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Pratscher – Yes
- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes
- Trustee Cunningham – Yes
- Trustee Piszewski – Yes

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-019

AMENDING SECTION 2-4A-1 OF CHAPTER 2-4 OF TITLE 2 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO THE APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CHIEF

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2026-019 was made by Trustee Pratscher and seconded by Trustee Glaser.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Pratscher – Yes
- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes

- Trustee Cunningham – Yes
- Trustee Piszewski – Yes

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-020

AMENDING CHAPTER 3-6 OF TITLE III OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO THE VILLAGE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2026-020 was made by Trustee Glaser and seconded by Trustee Middlebrooks.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes
- Trustee Cunningham – Yes
- Trustee Pratscher – Yes
- Trustee Piszewski – Yes

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-012R

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF THORNTON AND SOUTHLAND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSE SERVICES

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-012R was made by Trustee Glaser and seconded by Trustee Pratscher.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Pratscher – Yes
- Trustee Piszewski – Yes
- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes
- Trustee Cunningham – Yes

Absent:

- Trustee Kaye

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-013R

APPOINTING DEPUTY CHIEF DAVID DUVALL AS THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY COORDINATOR FOR THE VILLAGE OF THORNTON

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-013R was made by Trustee Glaser and seconded by Trustee Pratscher.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Pratscher – Yes
- Trustee Piszczewski – Yes
- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes
- Trustee Cunningham – Yes

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Reynolds opened the floor for public comment regarding agenda and non-agenda items.

Robert Enright – 116 North Wolcott

Mr. Enright addressed the Board regarding the proposed battery storage facility discussed during the Committee Meeting.

Mr. Enright expressed concern regarding the use of lithium-ion batteries and referenced incidents in California involving lithium battery fires that burned for extended periods of time.

He questioned whether required setback distances existed between the proposed battery storage site and residential areas or schools.

Mr. Enright also expressed concern regarding:

- Cooling system backup procedures
- Noise generated by industrial cooling systems
- Potential toxic gases in the event of a fire
- Emergency response preparedness
- Whether the site could eventually become a battery disposal or dumping location

Mr. Enright stated he personally opposed the project and thanked the Board for allowing him to speak.

President Reynolds thanked Mr. Enright for his comments.

A resident asked for clarification regarding the Memorial Day Parade start time.

President Reynolds confirmed:

- Parade start time: 1:00 P.M.
 - Line-up time: 12:30 P.M.
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OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Piszewski referenced a suggestion brought forward by students during Youth Night regarding installing basketball hoops near Pawnee Park within the subdivision area.

Trustee Piszewski stated the area was currently underutilized and suggested the Board consider adding recreational equipment for neighborhood children.

No formal action was taken.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

President Reynolds thanked Village employees, elected officials, and residents for their continued support and service to the Village.

President Reynolds apologized for several procedural mistakes made during the meeting and commented that it had been a particularly long and difficult day.

President Reynolds thanked everyone in attendance for their patience and participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Cunningham and seconded by Trustee Middlebrooks.

Roll Call Vote:

- Trustee Cunningham – Yes
- Trustee Middlebrooks – Yes
- Trustee Glaser – Yes
- Trustee Pratscher – Yes

- Trustee Pisarzewski – Yes

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

Maxine Reynolds Village President

Nikki Kitakis Village Clerk