

VILLAGE OF THORNTON, COUNTY OF COOK  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING – JULY 15, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Acting President Pisarzewski called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:28 p.m.

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

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

Acting President Pisarzewski led the pledge to the flag, followed with a moment of silence for our public servants, our military, our recently deceased, and our sick.

ROLL CALL

Present at Roll Call: Acting President Pisarzewski, Trustees Cunningham, Reynolds, Kaye, Glaser, Atkinson; Recreation Director Dunlop; Deputy Police Chief Wesolowski; Fire Chief Schweitzer.

Also Present: Administrator Wiak; Attorney S. Dillner.

Absent: Public Works Superintendent Roberts.

MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Kaye, to approve the Committee meeting minutes of March 4, 2024, as presented.

All in favor.

Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Kaye, seconded by Trustee Reynolds, to approve the Board meeting minutes of March 4, 2024, as presented.

All in favor.

Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Kaye, to approve the Committee meeting minutes of July 1, 2024, as presented.

All in favor.

Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Cunningham, seconded by Trustee Glaser, to approve the Board meeting minutes of July 1, 2024, as presented.

All in favor.

Motion carried.

VOUCHERS

Acting President Pisarzewski asked for a motion to approve the payment of the prepaid vouchers in the amount of \$300.00, vouchers in the amount of \$349,361.77 for a total of \$349,661.77 of which \$267,758.88 is from the SOS Grant.

Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Kaye, for the warrants to be drawn and vouchers be paid and placed on file for audit.

Trustee Atkinson stressed, when the American Express card is used, receipts must be provided for those charges.

Ayes: Trustees Reynolds, Kaye, Glaser, Atkinson, Cunningham, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, to approve the May and June, 2024, Treasurer's reports as provided by Treasurer Frye.

Ayes: Trustees Reynolds, Cunningham, Kaye, Glaser, Atkinson, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Acting President Pisarzewski asked for public comment on any item not already listed on this evening's agenda. There were no comments.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**FY'25 Village Budget** – No public comment.

Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, to approve the FY'25 Village operating budget.

Ayes: Trustees Reynolds, Cunningham, Atkinson, Glaser, Kaye, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

#### POLICE PRESENTATION

Acting Police Chief Wesolowski read a letter formally commending Officer Todd Bennett for his exemplary performance and bravery during an incident that occurred on June 29, 2024, in Ford Heights. His quick thinking and dedication to duty were instrumental to insuring the safety and well-being of his fellow officer.

Acting Police Chief Wesolowski awarded Officer Todd Bennett the Thornton Police Department Commendation for outstanding service and heroism. Also present was the Lynwood Police Chief who thanked Officer Bennett for his actions on June 29, especially coming to the aid of a fellow officer.

On behalf of the Board, Acting President Pisarzewski congratulated Officer Bennett, and thanked him for his service.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

**SOS Grant Purchase (Chicago)** – No public comment.

Administrator Wiak asked for approval to allow the purchase of five vehicles from North Riverside Ford in the amount of \$183,577.15 as a SOS Grant Purchase for the City of Chicago. There is \$200,000 allotted in this fiscal year for these vehicle replacements.

Motion by Trustee Atkinson, seconded by Trustee Reynolds, to approve the purchase of five vehicles from North Riverside Ford through the SOS Grant for the City of Chicago in the amount of \$183,577.15.

Ayes: Trustees Atkinson, Reynolds, Kaye, Glaser, Cunningham, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

**Code Enforcement Officer's Schedule** – Administrator Wiak reported the Code Enforcement Officer's schedule is going to be adjusted for him to work for a couple hours on Thursdays and Saturdays. After Board discussion regarding ongoing code violations in the Village during the weekends, it is hoped this will help prevent these violations from occurring so often.

Administrator Wiak commented doing this would bring this employee to roughly 24 hours per week which would make him eligible for IMRF. This would cost the Village about \$1,400/year. This may be something for discussion during the next budget cycle.

Administrator Wiak would like to monitor his hours for the year, due to the fact that code enforcement is not as busy during the winter months. There is \$18,000 in the Building budget for this part-time staff member.

#### ATTORNEY'S REPORT

**Backyard Chickens Referendum** – No public comment.

Attorney Dillner reported before the Board is an ordinance directing the County Clerk to submit the following question to the voters of Thornton at the November 5 election: "Shall the Village of Thornton, Cook County, Illinois, enact an ordinance allowing and regulating the keeping of backyard chickens in the Village of Thornton."

Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Atkinson, to approve an Ordinance directing the Cook County Clerk to place the above question on the November 5 ballot as a referendum.

Trustee Reynolds is curious as to what the public decides as far as backyard chickens.

Ayes: Trustees Reynolds, Atkinson, Glaser, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: Trustees Kaye, Cunningham.

Motion carried.

**E-COM Board of Directors Appointments** – No public comment.

Motion by Trustee Kaye, seconded by Trustee Reynolds, to approve the Resolution appointing Administrator Wiak and Acting Chief Wesolowski to the E-COM Board of Directors.

Ayes: Trustees Kaye, Reynolds, Atkinson, Glaser, Cunningham, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

**Denial of Special Use Request** – No public comment.

Motion by Trustee Atkinson, seconded by Trustee Kaye, to approve the Ordinance denying a Special Use at 533 North Williams, as recommended by the Planning and Development Commission.

Ayes: Trustees Atkinson, Kaye, Cunningham, Reynolds, Glaser, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Summer Recess** – No public comment.

Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Kaye, to cancel the Committee and Board meetings scheduled for August 19, 2024, to allow for a “summer recess.”

Ayes: Trustees Reynolds, Kaye, Glaser, Cunningham, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: Trustee Atkinson.

Motion carried.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Acting President Pisarzewski asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing property acquisition with a possible recommendation to be made afterwards.

Motion by Trustee Glaser, seconded by Trustee Atkinson, to proceed into Executive Session for the purpose of possible property acquisition with possible action afterwards.

Ayes: Trustees Glaser, Atkinson, Reynolds, Cunningham, Acting President Pisarzewski.

Nays: Trustee Kaye.

Motion carried.

Acting President Pisarzewski proceeded into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

Acting President Pisarzewski continued the Regular Board meeting at 8:27 p.m.

## OLD BUSINESS

No comments.

## NEW BUSINESS

No comments.

## ADJOURNMENT

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

All in favor.

Motion carried.

Acting President Pisarzewski adjourned the Regular Board meeting at 8:28 p.m.

---

Joseph Pisarzewski, Acting President

---

Debra L. Pisarzewski, Clerk