

VILLAGE OF THORNTON, COUNTY OF COOK
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE BOARD MEETING – MARCH 3, 2025

Acting President Pisarzewski called the committee meeting of March 3, 2025 to order at 7pm

Roll Call:

Skipped

Public Comment

Brian Reynolds made a public comment regarding information about S. Hubbard St., and inquired about what the Village of Thornton's plan is for that street.

Angie Enright made a public comment regarding her IMRF account. Ms. Enright's IMRF account was over a year behind on her IMRF recordings. Ms. Enright also brought documents to support that she is a village employee, and asked the board to reconsider and accept her into the medical group coverage.

Committee Reports

Trustee Cunningham: None

Trustee Reynolds: None

Trustee Kaye: T-ball registration begins March 5th, and ends April 5th.

Trustee Glaser: Thornton police department received a letter of praise for their assistance from the Lynwood Police department.

Trustee Atkinson: none

Engineer Kaminsky

2025 CDBG application resolution certification. This year the county updated the grant amount to \$500,000. We did not apply for the 2024 grant since Thornton was wrapping up the 2023 project. Typically the the CDBG grant funds run a year behind. Once the application is completed the grant listing will come out in August, the agreements will be completed throughout the winter, and the work will begin in the spring of 2026.

Attorney Dillner

Resolution 2025-003: Village of Thornton Historical Society Lease Extension:

Attorney Dillner explained that a year ago the Village verbally authorized the extension of the lease with the option of two 10 year extensions. The Historical society did request a 10 year term. Before the board tonight is a formalization of that. In the lease the historical society will pay rent and the village will pay the utility bills at the historical society.

Resolution 2025:005: Scavenger Services: Flood Brothers Contract Renewal:

Attorney Dillner summarized the contract stating this contract is for 7 years. Trustee Reynolds inquired about the dumpster and the methodist church. Trustee Reynolds questioned if the church closes are we able to move

that dumpster to another location since we are paying for it? Interim Clerk Kitakis said she would look into that.

Trustee Cunningham asked about the leaf collection quote. Administrator Wiak informed the board to add the leaf service it would add about \$36,000 to the contract and leaf pick up would only be for 3 days.

Administrator Report

Finance director/treasurer job advertisement:

This will be posted tomorrow 3/04/2025. The hope is to have them hired by April so they will have a month to work with Treasurer Frye. Trustee Cunningham asked if the treasurer would be part time, or full time.

Administrator Wiak confirmed the position will be full time. Trustee Atkinson stated she would be comfortable with the title treasurer. Trustee Atkinson also recommended 2.5 people in the office. That being a full time collector, a full time treasurer, and a part time deputy. Administrator Wiak deferred to interim Clerk Kitakis. Interim Clerk Kitakis was not on board with the idea of a part time deputy. It would be counter productive to cut the deputy to part time and have the treasurer up front for half the day. Two people need to be in the front office at all times. How would a treasurer be efficient if they spent half their day up front? Administrator Wiak also informed the board the building commissioner Habecker is retiring this year, and the interim deputy clerk will be taking on more responsibility with taking over some of the building department. Deputy Clerk Brozowski has been immensely helpful with taking on the tasks, and learning the new responsibilities.

FY 25 line item transfers: No discussion

2025 Employee Manual:

Trustee Atkinson commented that the board should hold off voting on the employee manual because not everything has been addressed yet. Trustee Atkinson also questioned the part time employees getting time off. Administrator Wiak explained that, that is the paid leave for all act, that is state mandated law. Trustee Atkinson requested on when the part time employees should have to wait 90 days to use PTO. Administrator Wiak said she'll reach out to the labor attorney. Trustee Atkinson also inquired about the mandatory doctors note. Trustee Atkinson went on to explain that if the village is requiring a doctor's note to return to work, wouldn't the village then be responsible for the cost? Administrator Wiak said she will also check with the labor attorney on this as well.

Rescheduling the March 17, 2025 to Tuesday March 18, 2025:

No discussion

SSMMA vendor appreciation dinner event:

The event is March 20th from 4pm to 9pm at Glenwoodie golf course the village receives two free tickets, and tickets are \$65. If trustees are interested in going please email administrator Wiak.

Old Business:

Trustee Reynolds asked for an update on the tank removal. Administrator Wiak explained she had continued to reach out to SSMMA, and has not received a response. Administrator Wiak and SDA have a meeting with Cook County to discuss a grant for their removal.

Trustee Cunningham requested to revisit the public comment about the IMRF being behind. Trustee Cunningham also stated that a past employee informed her that the BCBS coverage was also late. Trustee Cunningham commented this shouldn't have happened under the former clerk and this is very unprofessional. Trustee Cunningham stated she asked multiple times how everything was going with the inputting and updating and she was continually told everything was good, so this should not have happened. Interim Clerk Kitakis responded that when the former clerk left it did take some time to get the IMRF resolution passed, and again access. Once access was granted it was then discovered that IMRF was missing several payments from 2024. It took quite sometime to resolve the issues with IMRF and begin to make the past due payments. Interim Clerk Kitakis also went on to explain that if the back dated payments were not resolved this month that IMRF would be forced to action and IMRF would take it from the village's tax payments.

Trustee Reynolds inquired how far behind was the village on their BCBS coverage. Interim Clerk Kitakis explained that BCBS has never been cancelled while she held the position of clerk.

Trustee Reynolds asked what was the amount IMRF was going to be taking if the payments were not brought current. Administrator Wiak replied \$184,000. Trustee Atkinson inquired as to why we are not able to make one payment. Interim Clerk Kitakis explained that we are doing payment this way so we are able to match them to payroll transmittal checks. Trustee Cunningham inquired about how long would it be until employees are up to date, and they're able to accurate information. Interim Clerk Kitakis stated hopefully by the end of March things will be up to date.

Trustee Atkinson asked for the e-cycle and shred days. Interim Clerk Kitakis said the date is tentatively scheduled for April 26, 2025. Trustee Glaser asked that once we have all the dates available for the garage sales, dump your junk day, and the e-cycle/shred days that they be posted.

Acting President Piszewski asked for a motion to adjourn the committee meeting.

Trustee Atkinson made the motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by trustee Kaye.

All in favor

Motion carried

Committee Meeting was adjourned at 7:48PM.

Interim Clerk Nikki Kitakis