
THE VILLAGE OF THORNTON
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE
NUMBER 2026-020

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF THORNTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS,
AMENDING CHAPTER 3-6 (“EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY”) OF TITLE 3
 (“BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS”) OF ITS MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO THE
VILLAGE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

MAXINE REYNOLDS, Village President
NIKKI KITAKIS, Village Clerk

ROSEMARY CUNNINGHAM
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PHILLIP MIDDLEBROOKS
DEBRA PISARZEWSKI
MARTIN PRATSCHER
Trustees

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WHEREAS, the Village of Thornton, Cook County, Illinois (the “*Village*”) is a home rule municipality pursuant to Section 6(a), Article VII of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois, and as such may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs (the “*Home Rule Powers*”); and

WHEREAS, the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village (the “*Corporate Authorities*”) may from time to time amend the text of the Thornton Municipal Code (the “*Code*”) when it is determined to be in the best interests of the residents of the Village; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 3-6 (“*Emergency Management Agency*”) of Title 3 (“*Boards and Commissions*”) of the Code currently establishes the Village of Thornton Emergency Management Agency (“*EMA*”) and provides for the appointment and duties of the EMA Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities desire to amend Chapter 3-6 of the Code to remove provisions related to the prior member-based operational structure of the EMA while retaining the Village’s emergency management framework and EMA Coordinator position pursuant to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/1 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities have determined that the following changes to the Code are in the best interest of the Village’s emergency management functions and are in the best interests of the Village.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Thornton, Cook County, Illinois, by and through its Home Rule Powers as follows:

Section 1. That the above recitals and legislative findings are found to be true and correct and are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof, as if fully set forth in their entirety.

Section 2. Chapter 3-6 (“*Emergency Management Agency*”) of Title 3 (“*Boards and Commissions*”) of the Thornton Code is hereby amended by deleting the stricken language and adding the underlined language to read, as follows:

ARTICLE A – GENERAL PROVISIONS.

§ 3-6A-1 - Established.

- A. There is hereby created the Village of Thornton Emergency Management Agency (EMA) to prevent, minimize, repair and alleviate injury or damage resulting from disaster caused by enemy attack, sabotage or other hostile action, or from natural or man-made disaster, in accordance with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/1 et seq.
- B. The EMA shall consist of the Coordinator, ~~and such additional members, who must be 18 years of age and over, as may be selected by the Coordinator.~~
- C. ~~The Village President is authorized to designate space in a Village building, or elsewhere as may be provided for by the Village President, for the Village EMA as its office.~~

§ 3-6A-2- Powers and duties; functions.

A. General function. The Village EMA shall perform such EMA functions within the Village as shall be prescribed in and by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) plan and program prepared by the Governor, and such orders, rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the Governor, and, in addition, shall perform such duties outside the corporate limits as may be required pursuant to any mutual aid agreement with any other political subdivision, municipality or quasi-municipality entered into as provided in 20 ILCS 3305/1 et seq.

~~B. — Mobile support team. All or any members of the Village EMA organization may be designated as members of a mobile support team created by the Director of the State IEMA as provided by law.~~

~~1. The leader of such mobile support team shall be designated by the Coordinator of the Village EMA organization.~~

~~2. Any member of a mobile support team who is a Village employee or officer, while serving on call to duty by the Governor or the State Director of IEMA, shall receive the compensation and have the powers, duties, rights and immunities incident to such employment or office. Any such member who is not a paid officer or employee of the Village, while so serving, shall receive from the state reasonable compensation as provided by law.~~

~~€. B.~~ Mutual aid agreements. The Coordinator of EMA may negotiate mutual aid agreements with other villages or political subdivisions of the state, but no such agreement shall be effective until it has been approved by the Village President and by the State Director of IEMA.

~~Đ. C.~~ Cooperate in emergency. If the Governor proclaims that a disaster emergency exists in the event of actual enemy attack upon the United States, or the occurrence within the State of Illinois of a major disaster resulting from enemy sabotage or other hostile action, or from man-made or natural disaster, it shall be the duty of the Village EMA to cooperate fully with the State IEMA and with the Governor in the exercise of emergency powers as provided by law.

~~§ 3-6A-3- Compensation.~~

~~A. Members of the EMA who are paid employees or officers of the Village, if called for training by the State Director of IEMA, shall receive for the time spent in such training the same rate of pay as is attached to the position held; members who are not such Village employees or officers shall receive for such training time such compensation as may be established by the Village President.~~

~~B. Members will be compensated for planned events within the Village or at the request of another municipality (i.e., parades, 5k runs, fests, etc.), emergencies, training, and mutual aid assistance. Members' compensation will be set by the annual appropriation ordinance. Members will receive payment biweekly.~~

~~§ 3-6A-4- Oath.~~

Prior to assuming the duties of EMA Coordinator, the Coordinator shall take and file any oath required pursuant to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/1 et seq.

~~Every person appointed to serve in any capacity in the Village EMA organization shall, before entering upon his duties, subscribe to the following oath, which shall be filed with the Coordinator:~~

~~"I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend and bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the territory, institutions and facilities thereof, both public and private, against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter, and I do further swear (or affirm) that I do not advocate, nor am I, nor have I been, a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or of this state by force or violence; and that during such time as I am affiliated with the Village of Thornton, I will not advocate nor become a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or of this state by force or violence."~~

~~§ 3-6A-5- Financial provisions.~~

~~A. Purchases and expenditures.~~

1. The Village President may, with the consent of the Board, on recommendation of the Village Coordinator of EMA, authorize any purchase or contracts necessary to place the Village in a position to combat effectively any disaster resulting from the explosion of any nuclear or other bomb or missile, and to protect the public health and safety, protect property and provide emergency assistance to victims in the case of such disaster, or from man-made or natural disaster.
2. In the event of enemy-caused or other disaster, the Village EMA Coordinator is authorized, on behalf of the Village, to procure such services, supplies, equipment or material as may be necessary for such purpose, in view of the exigency, without regard to the statutory procedures or formalities normally prescribed by law pertaining to Village contracts or obligations, as authorized by 20 ILCS 3305/1 et seq., provided that if the Village Board of Trustees meets at such time he shall act subject to the directions and restrictions imposed by that body.

~~B. Reimbursement by state. The State Treasurer may receive and allocate to the appropriate fund any reimbursement by the state to the Village for expenses incident to training members of the EMA as prescribed by the State Director of IEMA, as compensation for services and expenses of members of a mobile support team while serving outside the Village in response to a call by the Governor or State Director of IEMA as provided by law, and any other reimbursement made by the state incident to EMA activities as provided by law.~~

~~C. B. Appropriation; tax levy. The Village Board may make an appropriation for EMA purposes in the manner provided by law, and may levy, in addition, for EMA purposes only, a tax not to exceed \$0.05 per \$100 of the assessed value of all taxable property in addition to all other taxes, as provided by 20 ILCS 3305/1 et seq.; however, that amount collectable under such levy shall in no event exceed \$0.25 per capita.~~

ARTICLE B – EMA COORDINATOR

§ 3-6B-1- Appointment.

The Coordinator of the Village EMA shall be appointed by the Village President and shall serve until his or her successor has been appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed by the Village President. ~~removed by same.~~

§ 3-6B-2- Acting Coordinator.

In the event of the absence, resignation, death or inability to serve as the Coordinator, the Village President, or any person designated by him, shall be and act as Coordinator until a new appointment is made as provided in this chapter.

§ 3-6B-3- Powers and duties.

The Coordinator shall have direct responsibility for the ~~organization~~, administration, training and operation of the EMA, subject to the direction and control of the Village President as provided by statute.

Section 3. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance.

Section 4. All ordinances, resolutions, motions or orders in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

(Intentionally Left Blank)

ADOPTED by the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Thornton,
Cook County, Illinois this 18th day of May 2026, pursuant to a roll call vote, as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CUNNINGHAM				
GLASER				
KAYE				
MIDDLEBROOKS				
PISARZEWSKI				
PRATSCHER				
VILLAGE PRESIDENT REYNOLDS				
TOTAL				

APPROVED by the Village President of the Village of Thornton, Cook County, Illinois
on this 18th day of May 2026.

MAXINE REYNOLDS
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

NIKKI KITAKIS
VILLAGE CLERK