

VILLAGE OF THORNTON REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 6, 2026

1. Call to Order

The Regular Board Meeting of the Village of Thornton was called to order at 6:27 PM by Mayor Reynolds. The meeting was recorded by Clerk Kitakis and streamed live. All attendees were asked to silence electronic devices.

2. Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed for public service members, military personnel, the sick, and recently departed, including Matthew Kelderhouse.

3. Roll Call

Present: President Reynolds, Trustee Cunningham, Trustee Middlebrooks, Trustee Kaye, Trustee Pratscher, Trustee Piszewski.

Absent: Trustee Glaser.

Also Present: Public Works Superintendent Bryan Roberts, Park & Recreation Director Dunlop, Police Chief Wesolowski.

5. Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2025

Trustee Kaye made a motion to approve the Committee Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2025. Trustee Cunningham seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Kaye – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Piszewski – Yes

Glaser – Absent

Motion carried.

6. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2026

Trustee Pratscher made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2026 with corrections. Trustee Middlebrooks seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Pratscher – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Piszewski – Yes

Glaser – Absent

Motion carried.

7. Police Department Line Item Transfer

Trustee Kaye made a motion to approve a \$1,000 line item transfer. Trustee Pratscher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Kaye – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Pisarzewski – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Glaser – Absent

Motion carried.

8. Payment of Vouchers

Trustee Cunningham made a motion to approve vouchers totaling \$501,276.78, with \$180,570.99 from prepaid, and \$220,366.16 is from the SOS grant. Trustee Kaye seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Cunningham – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Pisarzewski – Yes

Glaser – Absent

9. Ordinance 2026-010 – Home Daycare Regulations

Trustee Pisarzewski made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-010. Trustee Cunningham seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Pisarzewski – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Glaser – Absent

Motion carried.

10. Ordinance 2026-011 – Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Trustee Pisarzewski made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-011. Trustee Pratscher seconded the motion.

Discussion clarified that the ordinance applies to commercial properties only.

Roll Call Vote:

Pisarczyewski – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – No

Glaser – Absent

Motion carried.

11. Ordinance 2026-012 – Residential Units Above Commercial

Trustee Pisarczyewski made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-012. Trustee Cunningham seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Pisarczyewski – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Glaser – Absent

Motion carried.

12. Ordinance 2026-013 – Special Use Automotive Repair

Trustee Pisarczyewski made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-013. Trustee Kaye seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Pisarczyewski – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Glaser – Absent

Motion carried.

13. Ordinance 2026-014 – Special Use Residential Units

Trustee Pisarczyewski made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-014. Trustee Pratscher seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Pisarczyewski – Yes

Pratscher – Yes

Kaye – Yes

Middlebrooks – Yes

Cunningham – Yes

Glaser – Absent

Motion carried.

14. Engineer Report

NPDES (MS4) Public Meeting

Engineer Kaminsky presented the annual public meeting regarding the **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)** program, specifically the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Program.

He explained that:

- This program is a federally and state regulated requirement
- It is administered by the:
 - United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
- The Village operates under General Permit ILR40

He clarified that the purpose of the program is to:

“Regulate how stormwater is discharged from municipal systems into rivers, streams, and other waterways, with the goal of preventing pollution.”

Purpose of the Public Meeting

Engineer Kaminsky stated that:

- This presentation fulfills the Village’s annual public meeting requirement
- The Village must also submit an annual compliance report to the IEPA, which is due June 1st each year
- Every **five years**, the Village must renew its Notice of Intent (NOI) to remain covered under the permit

He explained that maintaining compliance allows the Village to:

“Administer stormwater-related permits locally, rather than going to the IEPA for each individual project.”

Six Minimum Control Measures (Detailed Explanation)

Engineer Kaminsky outlined the **six required control measures** that the Village must implement to remain compliant:

1. Public Education and Outreach

- Ongoing efforts to educate residents about:
 - Flooding prevention

- Pollution control
 - Includes communication through Public Works and community interaction
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2. Public Involvement and Participation

- Provides opportunities for residents to:
 - Report concerns
 - Participate in discussions
- Includes meetings such as this one and outreach to the community

He noted:

“Residents are encouraged to report anything unusual, especially anything entering the storm sewer system.”

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

- Focuses on identifying and addressing:
 - Unauthorized or harmful discharges into storm systems
 - Relies on:
 - Public reporting
 - Routine inspections by Public Works
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4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

- Ensures that construction projects:
 - Implement proper erosion and runoff controls
 - Prevent debris and pollutants from entering waterways
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5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management

- Applies to larger developments
- Requires:
 - Storm water management systems
 - Volume control measures

Engineer Kaminsky explained that:

- The Village works with the **Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD)**
 - Developers must meet MWRD requirements before discharging into local systems
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6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

- Focuses on routine maintenance by Public Works, including:
 - Catch basin cleaning
 - Street sweeping
 - General system upkeep

He emphasized:

“This is about making sure the system is functioning properly and preventing pollutants from entering waterways.”

Board Questions & Clarifications

During discussion, Board members asked:

- Whether this program is currently active or still being developed

Engineer Kaminsky clarified:

- The program is already in place and ongoing
 - The Village completes and submits a compliance report annually
 - This meeting is part of that annual requirement
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Additional Clarifications

It was clarified that:

- This program is separate from deep tunnel or sanitary sewer systems
- It applies specifically to storm water systems

A question was raised regarding the format of the meeting:

- Whether a separate public hearing is required

Engineer Kaminsky explained:

- The IEPA allows flexibility
- The Village may:
 - Hold a standalone public hearing, or
 - Include the presentation as part of a regular board meeting agenda item

He confirmed that:

“This format meets the IEPA requirements.”

Conclusion

Engineer Kaminsky stated that:

- No formal action was required by the Board
- The presentation was informational and required for compliance

He concluded by reiterating that:

- The Village remains in compliance with the program
- Public awareness and participation are key components of ongoing success

15. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

16. New Business

Discussion occurred regarding enforcement of business license display requirements.

Fire Department inspections were identified as the responsible party.

Trustee Pisarzewski requested to revisit the noise ordinance; however, the majority of the Board declined further discussion.

17. Adjournment

A motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Maxine Reynolds, Village President

Nikki Kitakis, Village Clerk