

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

THORN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

Held: April 10, 2019

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The Board of Trustees of Thorn Township convened in regular session from 5:00 P.M. to 6:55 P.M. in the Township Hall. Trustee Coleman called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Members:

Billie Dearlove	Present	Robert Coleman	Present
Richard Wilson	Present	David Lyle	Present

Visitors: Anna Cox, Aaron Holman, Jeremy Weekly, Anna George, Floyd George, Paul George, Jackie Fields

Reports:

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: A motion to approve the March 13, 2019 Regular Session Minutes was made by Trustee Dave Lyle and seconded by Trustee Robert Coleman. **Votes were:** David Lyle, Aye; Robert Coleman; Aye.

Fiscal Officer Billie Dearlove:

Fiscal Officer Dearlove provided the monthly financial reports, payroll reports and back reconciliation for February, 2019. Fiscal Officer Dearlove provided copies of articles that Zoning Inspector Ed Corns has obtained about Quasar Energy Group that she would like for them to review.

Fire/EMS

Chief Jeremy Weekly stated that he would like to promote Aaron Holman as the townships official Fire Prevention Officer. He stated that Aaron has been doing the business inspections for the township; he would just like to make it official. A brief discussion was held.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Coleman to promote Aaron Holman as the Fire Prevention Officer to do the business fire inspections for all of Thorn Township and was seconded by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman, Aye; Richard Wilson, Aye; David Lyle, Aye.

Chief Weekly also said that the township needs to look into having a resolution for fines collected for citations; fire code has set fines but with nothing in place for the township any fine money collected would go to the state. Chief Weekly also discussed a matter involving a recent burning complaint received from a resident. He stated that the complainant was upset over the fire department entering his property and putting out the fire. The complainant made a public records request for information as to who lodged the complaint against him. Chief Weekly stated that the call was made to his personal cell phone and therefore he did not have to provide the information as a public record. Trustee Wilson elaborated on this, he stated that the call was made to a private cell phone, therefore it is not a call of record per the townships attorney, and since it was done on a private cell phone it is not a public record. Trustee Wilson advised that in the future all calls should be made to the fire department and not to personal cell phones and he would like for this to be on record. Chief Weekly stated that he would check and make sure that the web site is accurate with the correct phone number. Chief Weekly said he would like to request money to update the phones at the fire station. He stated that the cost to update the phone system would be \$1550.00.

Motion: Trustee Lyle made a motion to approve the purchase for a new phone system at the fire department and was seconded by Trustee Coleman. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman, Aye; Richard Wilson, Aye; David Lyle, Aye.

Chief Weekly advised that the bumper on the medic has been repaired and that prevented maintenance on the vehicles is currently going on.

Zoning: Zoning Inspector Ed Corns provided a zoning report and update on fees collected for March. Inspector Corns reported that he had spoken with the zoning attorney regarding Quasar Energy Group and his official determination is that they do not fall under agricultural exemption and would be considered business/commercial. His recommendation is that this would be a non-permittable use. Zoning Inspector Corns stated that if they deny Mr. Young and Quasar Energy Groups request that they could appeal thru BZA and then the next step would be thru the Court of Common Pleas Court. A brief discussion was held. The consensus of the board members is to have Zoning Inspector Ed Corns to

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deny the request from Mr. Young and Quasar Energy Group. Inspector Corns also stated that he spoke with the attorney regard Mr. Horvath and his proposal and the entrance onto the alley way. He stated that the property that he proposes to have his entrance on is currently platted as an alley. A brief discussion was held. Resident Anna George who is an adjacent property owner stated that Mr. Horvath did speak with her and her husband, but there is conflicting stories about this business. She stated he told them that he was putting in a coffee shop with a drive thru window and he planned to sell wine also. However she has seen information on social media (Facebook) which states that he plans to sell beer, and liquor in addition to wine and will have a patio with live music. She stated that she and her husband are not pleased that he miss lead them by leaving out that information. She also stated that he did inform them that they would have to remove their fence. Mrs. George also stated that she feels Mr. Horvath should not be allowed to have his entrance on the alley way, it should be on his property. A brief discussion was held. Inspector Corns stated that the zoning attorney did say that the township could enter into a land agreement with Mr. and Mrs. George and Mr. Horvath, and set stipulations, a set time frame and maintenance agreement for the alley way at the cost of Mr. Horvath, and this would be up to the trustees to decide if they would allow this agreement. Inspector Corns said that right now a permit has not been issued to Mr. Horvath because the property in question is still not in Mr. Horvath's name. Trustee Coleman stated that once the property changes hands that Mr. and Mrs. George should be in attendance at a meeting along with Mr. Horvath to discuss the issue. Mr. George stated that he does not want another bar with loud music playing, and he asked if the township had a noise ordinance in place. Trustee Coleman stated that yes; there was a noise ordinance in place. Resident Jackie fields asked about building on vacant lots in Thornport. Zoning Inspector Ed Corns stated that Thornport is zoned commercial. Inspector Corns asked the trustees if they had looked over the proposed new zoning fees and proposed raises for the zoning secretary and the commission and BZA. He stated he would like to move forward with these and have the zoning fees go into effect on July 1, 2019.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Wilson to raise the zoning fees for Thorn Township and have them be effective July 1, 2019 and to raise the salary of the zoning secretary from \$450.00 per month to \$550.00 per month and increase the per meeting attendance pay for the zoning commission and the BZA from \$25.00 per meeting to \$35.00 per meeting. A second was received by Trustee Coleman. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman, Aye; Richard Wilson, Aye; David Lyle, Aye.

Zoning Inspector Corns also stated when the zoning board has the public hearing on the fencing proposal he would like the zoning attorney present along with a stenographer to take the minutes. He feels that this meeting will generate a lot of public attendance and a stenographer is needed to keep up with all the comments and concerns of the public. Trustee Coleman asked the zoning inspector if he had talked to the zoning attorney concerning the Bed Tax and the ins and outs of how the tax would operate. Inspector Corns stated no, he has not had time to do this yet, but he would get the information for them.

Trustee Robert Coleman:

Trustee Coleman advised the other trustee that he had received a call from Village Council member Kristina Roshon that she would be at the next meeting to present the offer of \$10,000.00 from the Village for the purchase of the township's half of the old firehouse. Ms. Roshon was not in attendance at this meeting, therefore no further discussion was held. Trustee Coleman asked the other trustee's about the Bed Tax resolution, and if they were ready to make a motion and vote on it. He stated that he felt they need to move on this now. A brief discussion was held.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Coleman that they pass a resolution for a Bed Tax for Thorn Township. No second was received and the motion was not passed.

Trustee Coleman also stated that Jason Foltz had advised him that the grindings from the road work that will be done on State Route 204 will be available for the township to purchase and the price would be \$7.50 per ton delivered. A brief discussion was held. Trustee Wilson stated that he would talk with Jason about the grindings. Trustee Coleman also asked the other trustees about whether a resolution would be needed when the final plans are done for the park or whether the board will just look them over and make the approval. The board members said they would just look over the final plans and approve them. Trustee Coleman advised the board that Kevin Shanan; Special Council for Thorn Township has resigned due to health issues.

Trustee Richard Wilson:

Trustee Wilson stated that he is going to check with the county on the road mileage for Thorn Township, he said he thinks the county might be missing some roads for the township. He also advised there was a drainage issue at Township Road 494. The fire department sent a truck down and pumped out the water and that the drain is open and working. Trustee Wilson presented the signed petition for the township to

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take over the road in front of Champs pizza. A brief discussion was held on bringing the road up to county standards, having the road surveyed and parking requirements along the right-of-way. Trustee Wilson stated that he talked with county engineer Kent Cannon and he told him that in order for the county to take the road over, that the township first has to have a resolution to talk to the county engineer about agreeing to take over the road with their stipulations and requirements. A brief discussion was held.

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Wilson for a resolution to talk to the County Engineer with our requirements to take over the road in front of Champs pizza before it goes to the County Commissioners and was seconded by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman, Aye; Richard Wilson, Aye; David Lyle, Aye.

Trustee David Lyle:

Trustee Lyle asked if the township was going to sell the 2005 dump truck. A brief discussion was held. Trustee Lyle also asked if the township was going to put bids out this year for road work. Trustee Wilson stated yes. Trustee Coleman stated that they have to advertise this for two weeks in the paper. Trustee Wilson said to just have Fiscal Officer Dearlove use the advertisement from last year and change the dates and change the mileage to "no more than 12 miles".

Public Comments: Public comments were all regarding the Horvath property and were made during the Zoning segment of the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 P.M. by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Lyle. **Votes were:** Robert Coleman, Aye; Richard Wilson, Aye; David Lyle, Aye.

Billie Dearlove

David Lyle

Richard Wilson

Robert Coleman

All of the formal actions of Thorn Township concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/ or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.