

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

THORN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

Held: October 9, 2024

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The Board of Trustees of Thorn Township convened in regular session from 5:00 P.M. to 5:39 P.M. in the Township Hall. Trustee Boring called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Members:

Billie Dearlove	Present	Richie Boring	Present
Richard Wilson	Present	Bradley Blain	Present

Visitors: Anna Cox, Tammy Sands, Rob Sands, Gloria Hockingberry, Madison Sands, Pete Sands, Linda Sands, Nathan Brown, R. Sands, John Ulmer, Thad Cooperrider, Dale Brussee

Fire/EMS Report:

Kyle Sands was sworn in to the Rank of Lieutenant at tonight's meeting. Congratulations Kyle.

Chief Weekly presented his monthly report:

Fire Prevention is being complete with Thornville Elementary.

Inspector Holman completed a fire inspection at the Thornville Elementary. The State is no longer doing school inspections, it is now up to the local Fire Departments to do.

Reported the department received new heart monitors and are working on set up and training.

Reported Thorn Township Fire Fighters Association is buying 4 containers for a training facilities.

Thorn Township will be only the second department in this area to have this type of facility. The other being West Licking.

Reported as of 10/9/2024 the department has surpassed 2023 call volume and only 32 calls away from 2022.

Zoning Report:

Zoning Inspector Corns presented his monthly report.

Reported he has completed his Investigative Report for the property located at 7351, 7450 & 7956 State Route 204, Thornville, Ohio 43076 for a written complaint filed for alleged violation of the Thorn Township Regulations of; Trash, Tires, Fire Code Violations, Unlicensed Motor Vehicles and Illegal Use of Property (Commercial in a Residential Zoning District).

Inspector Corns stated that he met with the property owner on September 15, 2024. He stated that the property/business has been in operation for a minimum of 45 years. He said that Thorn Township follows the Ohio Historical Society Records Retention Policy and Guidelines of seven years' records retention, therefore no documents are currently available to prove/disprove the conditional use other than the current Thorn Township Zoning Map which shows the property in question to have been zoned as "Conditional Use". He stated that his conclusion based on the lack of documents supporting the claim that the property is not permitted to operate commercially (conditional use) within the Zoning District in which it is situated (Rural Residential), the claim is unfounded and without merit and his investigation terminated.

He stated that the other complaints of Trash, Tires, Fire code Violations and Unlicensed Motor Vehicles do not fall under the authority of the Zoning Inspector and should be referred to the Perry County Health Department and the State of Ohio Fire Marshall.

Trustee Wilson asked if anyone had a copy of the report from the Perry County Health Department? Zoning Inspector Corns stated that the copy of that report was present at the last meeting.

Thad Cooperrider:

Stated that he has started working on getting rid of the tires and the Health Inspector has been back out to check on the progress. He said that the Health Department will continue to come check on the progress and give continuances until the tires are all removed.

He stated as of today his building is an agricultural building on a commercial lot. He stated he can submit plans and get them approved and it can become a commercial building but as of today it is an ag building. Zoning Inspector Corns ask if they submit plans to get building approved as commercial would it have to meet current zoning standards. Mr. Cooperrider stated anything they added would.

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Zoning Inspector Corns stated that any new structure on that property would have to meet current zoning standards and requirements.

Mr. Cooperrider stated as far as fire suppression, any building under 10,000 square feet does not require fire suppression and his building is under 10,000 square feet. Mr. Cooperrider asked that the report be submitted to the townships records for future use for his property.

Nathan Brown:

Stated that the Ohio Revised Code Section 505.871 gives the trustee's authority to deal with the removal of junk motor vehicles and Section 505.87 authority on Abatement, control, or removal of vegetation, garbage, refuse, and other debris. He presented the trustee's a copy of both of the revised codes.

Trustee Blain asked Zoning Inspector Corns if they need to have a property maintenance code to address these issues? Zoning Inspector Corns stated no, the zoning attorney said the trustees have the authority to address these issues. He stated that there is a process to go thru in doing this that they must follow. Trustee Blaine stated that he thinks before they start moving forward or not moving forward, they should touch base with the attorney. The other trustees were in agreement with that.

Motion: A motion to table this until they get with the attorney on this issue and do further investigation was made by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Boring. **Votes were:** Richie Boring; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Aye.

John Ulmer asked Zoning Inspector Corns what they need to do or if anything is being done regarding the partial torn down house around Bruno. Zoning Inspector Corns stated that two letters have been sent out on that property. He stated that he is working on the issue.

Thad Cooperrider stated that he will have the Perry County Health Department cc the township on their reports.

Trustee Reports:

Trustee Blain

Trustee Blain told Zoning Inspector Corns that he needs an unincorporated township map for the Perry County Commissioners for the Large Scale Solar Resolution that we submitted to them. Zoning Inspector Corns said he could try and do something for them; and he stated that the zoning maps needs updated (digital). He is going to be getting quotes for the cost to have this done. Thad Cooperrider suggested that Brad get with the engineer's mapping office and see if they could do a map for him. Trustee Blain will reach out to the engineer's office to see if they have or can do a map of the unincorporated area of Thorn Township.

Trustee Blain reported that TJ Rugg and Scott Owens are creating a resolution on the large scale solar and will e-mail the trustees about a meeting date regarding this.

Trustee Wilson

Reported that The Shelly Company has finished Township Road 88.

Trustee Boring

Nothing new to report at tonight's meeting.

Public Comments:

All public comments and questions were done during the Zoning Report

Fiscal Officers Report:

Approval of September 11, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes and September 25, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes

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Motion: A motion to approve the September 11, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Boring. **Votes were:** Richie Boring; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Abstained.

Motion: A motion to approve the September 25, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes was made by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Blain. **Votes were:** Richie Boring; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Aye.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove present her monthly reports: September Bank Reconciliation, Fund Status Report, Payment Report, and Receipt Report.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove gave the trustees a copy of the proposed 2025 township budget for the them to review. She asked if they had any questions regarding the budget and if they do not, she needs it approved so she can take it to the auditor's office. No one had any questions.

Motion: A motion to approve the 2025 Thorn Township Budget was made by Trustee Boring and seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes were:** Richie Boring; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Aye.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she received a phone call from Tatum Dennis's wife regarding health insurance for township employees. Currently Tatum is on his wife's health insurance plan. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she told her they have done Healthcare stipends/reimbursement - payment in lieu of benefits for fire department employee's but they have never done so for the road workers since they have always been on the townships healthcare plan. She stated she will discuss with the trustees and let Mr. Dennis know before the end of November when open enrollment starts.

Meeting Adjourned:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 P.M. by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Boring. **Votes were:** Richie Boring; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Aye.

Billie Dearlove

Richie Boring

Richard Wilson

Bradley Blain

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.