

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

THORN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 14, 2024

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The Board of Trustees of Thorn Township convened in regular session from 5:00 P.M. to 5:50 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, Gary Wills, Ron Baker, Renee Agriesti Young, Chase Bennett, Jason Foltz, Nathan Brown

Fiscal Officer Report:

Approval of July 10, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion: A motion was made by Trustee Blain to approve the July 10, 2024 minutes and was seconded by Trustee Boring. **Votes were:** Richie Boring; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Aye.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove provided the monthly reports: July Bank Reconciliation Report, Fund Status Report, Payment Report, Receipt Report.

Fiscal Officer Dearlove had no further business to discuss at tonight's meeting.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Boring:

Nothing new to report at tonight's meeting.

Trustee Wilson:

- Reported that he has had a request to put up Speed Limit signs on Township Road 493 because there is a B & B in that area now. Trustee Wilson stated that Gary Wills is here at meeting tonight. Trustee Wilson asked Mr. Wills if they have had a lot of speeding on that road? Mr. Wills stated that they have had one issue and there are no speed limits signs on the road. That is one potential issue that he can foresee happening, and they would like to keep the surround neighbors happy. Trustee Wilson stated that a few months ago they had several residents complaining about parties at these B & B's and people parking all over the place and being loud. He asked will parking be an issue? Mr. Wills stated no, they have plenty of parking space there. Fiscal Officer Dearlove asked Mr. Wills if he was aware of the townships Bed Tax? Mr. Wills stated yes he was and he has the form printed out. Trustee Wilson stated that he is not in favor of just putting signs in people's yards. He stated that he has received several complaints about the bike path signs that were put up. Jason Foltz asked Mr. Wills if anyone explained the criteria for a speed limit on a road? Mr. Wills stated no. He said you can't just go out and put up a speed limit sign, that is against the law. Jason said first ODOT has to do a traffic study in the area and then they determine the speed limit for that road, and most likely they would not put a speed limit on that road for less than 35 miles per hour. Mr. Wills stated that they will educate their guests as to what the speed limit is on the road.
- Trustee Wilson said back in June we discussed closing the alley down by Amvets. The map they gave us had lot 40 and 39 on it but the paper work says lots 5 & 6, which is correct. The engineer's office would like for us to have a resolution to close this alley and to have direct resolutions from now on to close alleys instead of our approved minutes.

Motion: A motion for a resolution to approve vacating the lot between 5 & 6 in Thornport; the way it currently reads on the paper work was made by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Blain.

Votes were: Richie Boring; Aye; Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Aye.

- Trustee Wilson stated that they would like to chip & seal Township Road 21 and the cost would be around \$30,000- \$32,000.00. He stated that he would also like to do Township Road 88

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and the cost will be around \$102,000.00. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that she will take a look at the numbers and get back with him.

Trustee Blain:

Nothing to report at tonight's meeting.

Zoning:

- Zoning Inspector Corns presented his monthly reports.
- Reported that he received an Air B&B complaint. Trustee Boring stated that the township has had several different complaints by different individuals over the last couple months. Inspector Corns stated that Walnut Township has banned Air B&B's all together. He stated that he is not saying our township should do that but maybe we should reach out to our zoning attorney and see if some kind of regulations can be done in zoning or something. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated she thought that might be a good idea with all the complaints we have had lately about them. Trustee Boring agreed with her.
- Reported that he received a couple calls asking about zoning rules and regulations in regards to Marijuana Dispensaries in the township. He stated currently there is nothing in the township zoning in regards to them. He stated that he called the township's zoning attorney and he said the township has three options:
 1. Take no action at all.
 2. Pass a resolution to ban them in the township.
 3. Direct the Zoning Board to put something in the zoning code to regulate them.

A brief discussion was held. Fiscal Officer Dearlove asked the trustee's what are your thoughts on this? Trustee Blain stated that it is a business opportunity for someone. Trustee Boring stated it will just bring in more traffic. Trustee Wilson stated no he is not in favor of them in township. Trustee Blain said let it go to zoning and let them regulate it. Fiscal Officer Dearlove stated that if we do not regulate or stop this now we will have issues with this just like we are have with the Air B&B's. Inspector Corns stated that if the township passes a resolution tonight it will go into effect in 30 days; if it goes to zoning it will be most likely the 1st quarter of next year before something is on the books.

- Reported that the Zoning Commission Chairperson Wayne Gniewkowski has submitted his resignation as December 31, 2024. Zoning Inspector Corns stated that Sandy Davis is the first alternate and Chad Eveland is the second alternate to the board. He will touch base with Sandy to see if see is interested in coming on the board as of January 1, 2025, if she is not he will contact Chad.

Motion: A motion to accept the resignation of Wayne Gniewkowski as of December 21, 2024 was made by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Boring. **Votes were:** Richie Boring; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Aye.

- Inspector Corns stated that is all he has and asked the trustee's what they have in mind as far as the marijuana dispensaries?

Motion: A motion for a resolution to not allow marijuana dispensaries in Thorn Township was made by Trustee Wilson and seconded by Trustee Boring. **Votes were:** Richie Boring; Aye; Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Nay.

Zoning Inspector Corns asked if anyone else had anything for him. Nathan Brown stated he does.

Nathan Brown- Stated that he has several complaints about Thad Cooperrider's property. It has always been a farm but over last few years the equipment sitting around has gotten worse. He stated that on auditor's web site there are no references for a permit for the large building that he is rebuilding. Inspector Corns stated he does not need one since he is rebuilding because it burnt down. Mr. Brown asked him if he would go out and check and make sure he is rebuilding the same foot print it was before. Inspector Corns stated he would do that. He also asked about the trailer sitting on the second parcel, the lot does not meet zoning requirements for a house trailer and you also have all the farm equipment

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sitting on this parcel. Inspector Corns stated that trailer was there before zoning and the lot is zoned Rural Residential, and agriculture does fall under Rural Residential so nothing he can do about the equipment sitting there. His third complaint was about a safety issue with equipment parked to close to State Route 204. He stated if someone has a deer come out in front of them there is not enough room for them to get over. Inspector Corns stated that is would need to go to ODOT and not zoning. Trustee Boring told Mr. Brown to file written complaints on his issues with the property.

Fire/EMS Report:

- Chief Weekly presented his monthly reports.
- Reported that calls were up again this month.
- Reported that they received a grant in the amount of \$65,251.00 for employee retention, and it has been submitted to Fiscal Officer Dearlove.
- Reported that all of the department employees have completed their fraud training.
- Reported they will be providing CPR training to all Perry County Sheriff Office Deputies.
- Reported the department received a \$200.00 donation from Harbor Freight; and they have purchased a 3-ton floor jack with the donation.
- Stated that he would like to purchase two LifePak 35 Heart Monitors to replace their current ones, which are 11 and 12 years old. He stated that he has given Fiscal Officer Dearlove a quote for the machines and the cost will be \$95,767.92. A brief discussion was held.

Motion: A motion for the purchase of two LifePak 35 Heart Monitors in the amount of \$95,767.92 (ninety-five thousand seven hundred sixty-seven dollars and ninety-two cents) was made by Trustee Blain and seconded by Trustee Wilson. **Votes:** Richie Boring; Aye, Richard Wilson; Aye, Bradley Blain; Aye.

Public Comments

Ron Baker introduced himself and stated that he is running for Perry County Auditor in the November election.

Renee Agresti-Young introduced herself and stated that she is running for Perry County Commissioner in the November election.

Meeting Adjourned:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 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.