

Village of Thurston
Council Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2010

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Mary Boring. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call: Robert Ortman – present
JoAnn Hite – present
Rita Leiendecker - present
Jimmy Barber, Jr. – absent
Garry Boring – present
Lowell Hite – present
Mary Boring – present
Aaron Reedy – present

Mary asked if any visitors wished to speak. Greg Gust from Third St. asked Council to waive the \$250 in fines against him for the junk vehicle ordinance since he took care of the problems. Aaron stated that three certified letters were sent to him informing him that cars needed to be removed from his property. The fines added up to \$250 and the cost was \$16.62 in certified mail. Lowell made the motion that since the problem has been taken care of to waive the \$250 penalty, but Mr. Gust is still responsible for the \$16.62 in costs for the violation. Garry second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried. Greg thanked Council and said he would take care of the \$16.62 this week.

Mike Betts from GGC Engineer was present. Mike said the Street Improvement project is complete. Mike said the Water Tower Recoating Project was complete except for some electrical work. He said a transformer failed and the contractor has been notified. This should be complete by the end of this week. Lowell said there was a lock at the bottom of the climb gate, but not on the top. Mike said he will check this out. Mike is asking for approval of the final payment contingent on the completion of the repair in the electric box. Garry made a motion to approve final payment contingent on the completion of the repair in the electric box (\$14,746.50). Robert second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Michael Carder from GGC was also present he explained to Council a problem they have run into with the Millersport-Thurston Water Transmission Line project. There is an agricultural security area in the area of where we wish to install the transmission line. This specifically states that no water line can be installed in that area. The area that affects our project is a small section on State Route 37 between Bickel Church Road and Canal Road. The agricultural security area was created to maintain the agricultural purposes in the area and discourage housing, commercial and industrial development. Michael says we need to meet with the lawyer for the Department of Agriculture to discuss the possibility of an exception since we aren't looking to develop in that area, simply run a water main through it to connect Thurston to water from Millersport. The possibility of running the line down Old Millersport Road was discussed, but it would add to the cost of the project and members of the Millersport Council were opposed to the idea. Council agreed it was best to meet with the Department of Agriculture to try to come up with a solution.

Robert made a motion to ask Village Solicitor Brian Zetts to participate in the discussions between GGC and the Department of Agriculture. Garry second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Rita made a motion to approve the October, 2010 regular meeting minutes. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to approve the October 2010 financial statement. Rita seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to waive the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency for Resolution 2010-34 – A Resolution of intention to participate in a watershed planning partnership to develop a balanced growth plan for the Walnut Creek Watershed and the Declaration of an Emergency. Garry seconded. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to adopt Resolution 2010-34 – A Resolution of intention to participate in a watershed planning partnership to develop a balanced growth plan for the Walnut Creek Watershed and the Declaration of an Emergency. Robert seconded. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Lowell made a motion to wave the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency for Ordinance 2010-35 – An Ordinance to create accounting codes for the Village Income Tax, to amend the 2010 Appropriations Ordinance and the declaration of an emergency. Jo-Ann second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-35 – An Ordinance to create accounting codes for the Village Income Tax, to amend the 2010 Appropriations Ordinance and the declaration of an emergency. Garry second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Aaron asked for a motion to amend the agenda to allow for the reading of another ordinance. Garry made a motion to amend the agenda to allow for the reading of Ordinance 2010-36. Robert second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to wave the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency for Ordinance 2010-36 – An Ordinance amending Ordinance 2010-10 by creating Section 181.18 (Registration of Tenants by Landlords) and the declaration of an emergency. Rita second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-36 – An Ordinance amending Ordinance 2010-10 by creating Section 181.18 (Registration of Tenants by Landlords) and the declaration of an emergency. Garry second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Business from Fire Chief – Jim Hite was present and went over the report; see attached report. Jim said Walnut Township Trustees want Thurston to assign a couple of representatives to the Budget Committee they have put together to discuss the Fire Department budget. They are meeting this Monday at 7pm.

At 7:45, Garry made a motion to take a 15-minute break. Jo-Ann second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

At 7:55, Council came out of break. Council discussed current expenses presented by Chief Hite. Garry made a motion to amend the agenda to allow for the reading of Ordinance 2010-37. Robert second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to wave the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency for Ordinance 2010-37 – An Ordinance to amend the 2010 Appropriations Ordinance and the declaration of an emergency. Garry second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-37 – An Ordinance to amend the 2010 Appropriations Ordinance and the declaration of an emergency. Rita second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Chief Hite requested money to be moved from the following Fire Fund line items to other Fire Fund line items so expenses could be paid:

2901-120-348 – Training \$ 3,500
2901-120-349 – Other \$500
2901-120-353 – Insurance \$750
2901-120-490 – Fuel \$1,750
2901-521-313 – Natural Gas \$1,500
2901-740-345 – Election Expenses \$500
2901-745-342 – Auditing Services \$1,000

Robert made a motion that money may be moved from the above line items to 2901-120-420 (Operation Supplies-EMS), 2901-120-432-0005 (vehicle maintenance), and to 2901-120-432-0006 (building maintenance). Garry second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Chief Hite said there is a program from the state that allows smoke detectors to be installed in homes by the Fire Department for anyone who can't afford them. Residents should contact the Fire Department or the Village Office if they are interested.

Mary said the fire hydrant on Oak St. needs replaced. Bob Pangborn says the stem is hard to turn. Jim said it will cost between \$3,500 and \$4,000 to replace. Rita made a motion to approve up to \$4,000 for replacement of the hydrant, to be split between the Water Fund and Street Fund. Garry second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion that Aaron Reedy and Jimmy Barber should be Thurston's representatives for fire budget talks with the township. Robert second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Business from the Safety Committee – No Business

Business from the Service Committee –

Garry said several vehicles in the Village have been identified as violating the Village's Inoperable, Disabled, Abandoned, Unlicensed, Scrapped, and/or Junk Motor Vehicles Ordinance (2009-15). Garry made a motion to send a courtesy letter and copy of the ordinance to these property owners and inform them we are giving them 15 days to take care of the violation before we begin enforcing the ordinance on their vehicle. Robert seconded. Roll Call vote: All YES, with Jo-Ann abstaining. Motion carried.

Business from the Finance Committee – Didn't meet.

Business from the Rules Committee – Didn't meet.

Business from the Regional Planning Representative – Robert said there was nothing that concerns Thurston.

Old Business – It was asked what the status of the Prather water line issue was. Mary received an e-mail from Terry Prather stating that lines were installed between the house at 8110 Elm and 8104 Elm, but never connected. This was so that if Josh Prather ever purchased the property at 8104, he could connect it to the water service at his house (8110 Elm). Terry said currently the 8104 Elm St. property is being fed water by his house on 8125 Long St. Lowell said the 8104 Elm St. property might be getting water from the meter pit at 8105 Long St. property (possibly meant 8115 Long St.). He said there used to be a trailer there. Bob Pangborn should check out the meter pit to see the status. Lowell said he would help him.

Aaron said the rubbish piles behind the municipal building and the cemetery are gone and the areas look good.

Aaron asked when Council was going to begin the discussion of possibly making Main St. “no parking”. Council decided to table until January 2011.

Aaron said there is a Records Committee Meeting on 11/11/202 at 7pm at the municipal building.

New Business –

Aaron said he had questioned several surrounding municipalities about how much they charge for utility services they own to their own offices/fire departments. Everyone he spoke to said they don’t charge themselves. Thurston charges water to its municipal building and fire department. Council discussed and decided to keep things the way they are.

Aaron mentioned the titles to the fire department vehicles. The question was raised by Township Trustee Terry Horne. All trucks are in the name of the Thurston-Walnut Twp Fire Department except the station car, 2001 Ford Crown Victoria. Council decided to keep as is.

Aaron brought up a very high water-usage issue with Acct 1-4. Council discussed the issue. Jo-Ann made a motion that the bill is the responsibility of the previous tenant, Angela McLaughlin, and the bill should be sent to her. Rita second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Aaron brought up an issue with the Ford property on First St. Council discussed the details. Garry made a motion to apply the \$50 check sent by Ford towards the removal of their water meter as the check states. Jo-Ann second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Aaron brought up a complaint by account 1-260 (Huston) of high usage and the possibility of a bad meter. Council reviewed the two-year history for the property. Garry made a motion to leave the meter as-is, that there is not an apparent problem. Jo-Ann second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Aaron brought up a very high water-usage issue with account 1-110 (Rutledge). The meter has been replaced. Council discussed the issue. Lowell made a motion to adjust the bill and charge for the November bill an estimated 5,600 gallons instead of 26,000 gallons. Jo-Ann second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

Aaron brought up a new service available from the bank called Express Deposit. Council discussed and agreed it would be too costly.

Mary said that Aaron’s position on the Walnut Creek Sewer board expires on 12/31/2010. Robert made a motion to re-appoint Aaron Reedy to the position on the Walnut Creek Sewer board. Garry second. Roll Call vote: All YES. Motion carried.

JoAnn made a motion to adjourn at 8:56 pm. Seconded by Garry. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Respectfully prepared by,

Aaron Reedy