

Village of Thurston  
Council Meeting Minutes  
December 13, 2011

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

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

Mary asked if any visitors wished to speak. Richard Gould of 8260 High St. was present to discuss his water situation. Current bill is \$1,214.00. His water was turned off back in the early summer due to non-payment. He turned it back on himself and he was hit with \$500 tampering fee. Meter was removed. He was wondering if Council could do anything to help him. Has asked VA and Social Services for help, but they can't help because utility is already shut off. He is asking Council to forgive the tampering fee. Rita said he should have come for help back before it was turned off, and before he tampered with it. Tampering with the meter is against the law. Mary asked if he's made any attempt to make any payments on it. He said no. He didn't understand that he could keep making payments while the water was off. Can't turn it back on until it's paid in full. Mary asked if anyone wanted to make a motion to waive the tampering fee. No one made a motion. Richard said he'll just have to make payments on the account until he can get it caught up.

Jimmy made a motion that if he starts making payments, we'll stop the late charges as of this point. Richard said he'd be able to make a payment on the account as of next month. Rita second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried. Richard said he would be making at least one payment every two weeks. Richard apologized for not making payments until now.

Garry made a motion to approve the November 2011 meeting minutes. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Rita made a motion to approve the November 2011 financial statement. Garry seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to approve the November 18 2011 special meeting minutes. Garry seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to waive council pay for the November 18 2011 special meeting. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES, except Lowell & JoAnn voting NO. Motion carried.

Rita made a motion to approve the December 1 2011 special meeting minutes. Garry seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Mary asked for a motion to waive council pay for the December 1 2011 special meeting. No motion made.

Garry made a motion to approve the December 10 2011 special meeting minutes. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES, except JoAnn voting NO. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to waive council pay for the December 10 2011 special meeting. Garry seconded. Roll call vote: all YES, except Lowell voting NO. Motion carried.

**Business from Fire Chief** – Jim Hite was present and presented his report. Garry made a motion to hire Anthony Kalisik to the fire department. Jimmy second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Mary thanked Jim for having the Christmas dinner at the Firehouse last Saturday. She said it was very nice. Mary also said the flags might need to be taken somewhere to be cleaned.

**Business from the Safety Committee** – Jimmy said we need to setup a meeting to discuss the Baltimore water contract with the residents of Thurston. Everyone agreed to wait until after Christmas to have the meeting.

**Business from the Service Committee** – No business to submit.

**Business from the Finance Committee** – Didn't meet.

**Business from the Rules Committee** – Didn't meet.

**Business from the Regional Planning Representative** – Robert said the county is working on photographing an aerial view of every home in the county.

**Old Business** –

Mary announced that CMI has signed the trash contract, so that project is completed.

**New Business** –

Mary brought up the issue with 8181 High Street, owned by Rose Robertson. A gentleman stopped at Mary's house this week and said the issue will be addressed by the end of next week. He said that we would then have access to the shutoff valves in the house for all apartments.

Mary said that Joannie Hines' position on the board of the Walnut Creek Sewer District expires 12/31/2011. Lowell & JoAnne said they feel the position should be posted before we vote on it. Mary said we'd post it.

Mary stated that the next step for the discussion on the water contract with Baltimore is to have a meeting and invite all residents of Thurston.

Mary brought up the Backflow Prevention issue. Ohio EPA has advised the village that we must implement a Backflow prevention program. Jimmy asked if everyone has to have one, or just properties with wells. Mary said she would call the EPA contact and ask. Also get quotes on getting a contractor to perform the project.

Mary brought up the issue regarding the Village's insurance company. Anything to do with the Municipal Building is being paid at "functional use" rate instead of "replacement use" rate due to the "undervaluation" of the property on the policy. The municipal building is only valued at \$160,000, but the insurance company states it should be valued at around \$850,000. Since it's under-insured, they will not pay full-payment for the roof repair or other damages. The issue had been sent to the Village Solicitor for review. He reviewed the policy and gave an opinion that it would be more costly to pursue the issue in court than to just accept what they

are willing to pay and then find a different insurance company next year. Jimmy made a motion to look for new insurance carrier next year. Garry second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Mary brought up water account # 999-4, which belongs to Angela McLaughlin. She used to own the trailer on Lot 4 in the trailer court. Back in 2010, she sold the trailer, and somewhere between the time she moved out, and the new owner moved in, there was 21,500 gallons used. Council made a motion at the November 2010 meeting that she was responsible for the bill. The new owner was allowed to move in and start the account out new. No payment has been made by Angela McLaughlin since then. We doubt we'll ever get paid. It would be just as costly to pursue in small claims court. Garry made a motion to write off the \$135.29 on account 999-4. Jimmy second. Roll call vote: all YES, except Lowell and JoAnn voting NO. Motion carried. Walnut Creek Sewer District will have to authorize write-off of sewer portion (\$120.29).

JoAnn made a motion to adjourn at 7:35 pm. Jimmy seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Mary opened an extension of the meeting due to Tiffany Cade coming in late for a special request. Tiffany said she has lost her job and her husband has left her and the children. She's applied for unemployment, but that will take a few weeks until she starts getting paid. She's also been awarded child support and should be getting money from that in January. She's asking special permission to leave water on and she'll get caught up in January.

Jimmy made motion to leave water on with agreement that she will get caught up in January. Robert Second. Roll call vote: all YES. Lowell and JoAnn had already left the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned again 5 minutes later.

Respectfully prepared by,

---

Aaron Reedy