

Village of Thurston
Council Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2013

***** SPECIAL MEETING *****

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am by Mayor Mary Boring. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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| Roll call: Robert Ortman – present | JoAnn Hite – present | Jimmy Barber, Jr. – present |
| Garry Boring – present | Lowell Hite – present | 1 OPEN COUNCIL SEAT |
| Mary Boring – present | Aaron Reedy – present | |

Mary said this special meeting was called regarding possible annexation, fire department issues, and a nuisance letter.

Mary said if Council wishes to do so, we need a motion to move forward with having the paperwork and legislation prepared to annex State Route 256 from the west side of the Village east to State Route 37.

Garry made a motion to move forward with having the paperwork and legislation prepared to annex State Route 256 from the west side of the Village east to State Route 37. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Mary said that at the February 19, 2013 meeting of the Walnut Township Trustees, Bill Yates made a motion to add an addendum to the existing Millersport Fire Department contract to change the contract from a 4 year contract to an ongoing contract. The motion was seconded by Trustee Horn. After discussion, the motion did not pass. Aaron had been at the meeting and requested that the courtesy of a discussion be given to the Thurston Council. Aaron said the Millersport Fire Chief's request was not unreasonable, but it takes the funding percentage discussion out of the picture, if it's not at least brought up every 2 – 3 years. Giving an "ongoing" contract would mean that the topic of funding for both departments could possibly never be brought up again.

Council discussed our current funding requirements, percentages and possibilities. Millersport currently gets 65%, Thurston gets 35% of the township fire levy. Chief Jim Hite said we need 40%. Council agreed that it doesn't agree with an ongoing contract. We should have the right to ask for money and have that considered periodically.

Council discussed other possibilities (that have been discussed by all entities involved over the years); Township Fire Dept, or a Joint Fire District, or just leaving things the way they are. Chief Hite said "We can't survive the way it is. Something has to be done."

Mary said she asked the Village of Baltimore for some public records regarding notifying this office of possible water loss in our line on the 19th of February, and a copy of the bid put out for the water work being done. This office did not receive a notice regarding the possible loss of pressure; however we were told later by Baltimore that they did send a notice. Mary asked Lowell if they gave him notice a week ahead of time since Lowell's been out there watching some of the construction. He said they told him on the 9th that it might be the 11th. Jimmy said that's not Lowell's place. He was there as a private resident, not on Village business. They should have notified the office, as they have in the past. Lowell said it was the contractor who said something. Jimmy said "the contractor told a resident who was out there watching them dig". Lowell said after they were doing it, he went up and told the fire department, and told our Village secretary. Everyone agreed there should have

been official notification to the village office, as there has been in the past. Council discussed some other issues regarding the lines that were done.

Mary said that a nuisance letter was sent to the property on High St. regarding the junk vehicles. The vehicles were removed, and they paid a \$50.00 fine. A note was attached stating there was a low place on their property caused by previous street improvement that needs to be fixed, but was not caused by their junk vehicles. Mary said she stopped and couldn't see a low spot she was referring to, but Mary will stop again and check with the property owners.

Jimmy made a motion to wave the \$50 fine and return the check to the property owner on High St. since the nuisance was handled in a timely manner. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES, with JoAnn abstaining. Motion carried.

Jimmy made a motion to adjourn at 11:13 am. Garry seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Respectfully prepared by,

Aaron Reedy