

Village of Thurston
Council Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by Mayor Mary Boring. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call: Robert Ortman – present	JoAnn Hite – present	Jimmy Barber JR - absent
Garry Boring – present	Lowell Hite – present	Heather Baker - present
Mary Boring, Mayor – present	Aaron Reedy, Clerk – present	

There were no visitors who wished to speak.

Robert made a motion to approve the December, 2015 meeting minutes. Heather seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to approve the December 21, 2015 special meeting minutes. Robert seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Heather made a motion to waive Council pay for the December 21, 2015 special meeting. Robert seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES with Lowell & JoAnn voting NO. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to approve the December 2015 financial statement. Robert second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to waive the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency for Ordinance 2016-2 – An Ordinance Authorizing The Mayor And Clerk-Treasurer To Execute A Memorandum Of Agreement For Deposit Of Public Funds And Declaring An Emergency. Robert second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Heather made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-2 – An Ordinance Authorizing The Mayor And Clerk-Treasurer To Execute A Memorandum Of Agreement For Deposit Of Public Funds And Declaring An Emergency. Garry second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Business from Fire Chief - Chief Jim Hite was present and presented his report. Chief Hite began asking for permission for purchases like he did last month. Aaron asked why Chief Hite was coming to Council for specific approval on purchases when they already discussed last month that Council didn't want to do that. Chief Hite said some "issues have come up" as to whether we're a Township Fire Department or a Village Fire Department. He said when they did the Worker's Comp claims some issues came up regarding different rules that we have to follow depending on what type of Fire Department we are. He said the BWC started asking some questions. Chief Hite said he was asking approval from the Trustees and asking approval from Council on purchases. He said he was going to be asking this for every charge "until we can figure out if we're a Township Fire Department or a Village Fire Department." Aaron asked if the person Chief Hite is talking to spoken with the Trustees or Council about their concerns. Chief Hite said he was going through the state. Aaron said he was changing the procedures. Chief Hite said he was covering himself. Aaron said the appropriations for the Fire Department have been approved, and that includes a set amount for training and other items that he's allowed to spend. Chief Hite said it depends on what type of Fire Department they are as to how they can spend the money. Aaron said no one has come to the Council or to the Township telling us that there are issues on how we are doing the process. Chief Hite said he was covering himself. Council agreed that the money they approved in the appropriations for the Fire Department by line item are allowed to be spent by the Fire Chief. Aaron said there is no reason to spend time each meeting going over each little request for

expenses. Chief Hite asked Mayor Boring how she wants it ran. Mary said not to change anything. Jim said he needed a board member to sit on the VFDDF board. Garry Boring volunteered. Chief Hite went through the rest of his report.

Chief Hite said he was moving the volunteers to part-time pay on-call. Aaron said that last year Council said they didn't want to move the volunteer pay processing responsibilities to the Township, but asked if this new process was changing the way they are going to pay volunteers. Chief Hite said other than paying at the end of the year, they will be paid at the end of the month; they'll be able to track their hours and what they're working. He said there were some volunteers that said they never got a check this year, cause there was no way to track the runs they showed up for. He said this way it's a better way to track it. Aaron asked how they were going to track things now verses how they used to do it. Chief Hite said he could not answer that question because Jamie Carroll is in charge of that. He said this year, if it's approved, the crew would have to sign off on a form in the radio room and the officer of the day would have to initial that they were on that run. Aaron said someone has to document the new process of paying the volunteers. Chief Hite said there would be no more point-to-pay system; everyone would be paid per-run. Mary said that Chief Hite told her the BWC said we couldn't have 2 BWC policies covering the guys. Aaron said we have nothing in writing stating that. No one from BWC has come to Council or Trustees about this, and they are aware of it because we've explained it to them twice when a BWC rep has come to the Village office. If we're going to be making huge process changes, we need to have something in writing from them. Heather agreed we should get something in writing. Aaron said we could move the entire pay process to the Township if Council approves, but the decision shouldn't be made unless we have something in writing from BWC, or the state, stating that it has to be this way. Council discussed how the process might work. Mary said we need to get with BWC about this. Council can discuss at Safety Committee. Aaron asked Chief Hite for the contact he's been speaking with @ BWC. Jim said he would call him tomorrow. Aaron asked him to get the information to us in writing (or e-mail).

Mary reminded Chief Hite that they can't "suck" from the fire hydrants, and we can't turn the pressure up. The pressure comes from the tower, we can't turn that up.

Business from the Safety Committee – No business to bring forward.

Business from the Service Committee – No business to bring forward.

Business from the Finance Committee – Didn't meet.

Business from the Regional Planning Representative – Robert wasn't able to attend.

Old Business – Aaron said a letter was sent to the resident regarding keeping the basketball hoop out of the road and off the sidewalks.

New Business – Aaron said the Mayor sent a letter to water customers along SR 256 regarding Baltimore annexation requirements with their sewer line. We sent the information about the meeting on February 10th at 3pm that we plan on attending and others plan on attending regarding this annexation issue. The Board of Health can force them to get on to a sewer line, but they cannot force them to annex into Baltimore.

As there was no further business to discuss, JoAnn made a motion to adjourn. Heather second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried. Time is 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully prepared by,

Aaron Reedy