

Village of Thurston  
Council Meeting Minutes  
November 8, 2016

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                      Jimmy Barber JR – present  
                 Garry Boring – present                      Lowell Hite – present                      Heather Baker - present  
                 Mary Boring, Mayor – present                      Aaron Reedy, Clerk – present

Charlie Miller was present with his mother, Edith of Main St. He first wanted to comment that senior citizens in the village should get a 5% discount off their water bill. He then went on to explain that his mother had some leaks that have since been fixed. This caused her total bill to increase about \$500 over a couple of months. She can't pay that size of bill. After much discussion, council asked if she could afford to make payments over time to get it paid off. She said she could. Jimmy made a motion to let Mrs. Miller pay her minimum bill along with \$50 extra each month until it's paid off, not to shut off her water service, and to waive the late fee. JoAnn second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Corey Lewis from the trailer court was present to discuss his bill over the last several months. They moved in around April of 2015 and had what they felt were higher than normal bills. The meter was replaced in April of 2016 and feels the problem was resolved. He's asking for a credit for previous high reads. After much discussion, Jimmy made a motion to credit acct #1 for each month from May 2015 to May 2016 so that each month is billed for 3,325 gallons of usage (which is the average over the last 7 months since the new meter has been in place). JoAnn second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to approve the October, 2016 meeting minutes. Heather seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES with JoAnn and Jimmy abstaining. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to approve the October 2016 financial statement. Robert second. Roll call vote: all YES with Jimmy abstaining. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-15 - A Resolution Expressing Approval And Support For The Development Of State And Us Bicycle Routes, And Requests That The Appropriate Officials See To It That The Route Is Officially Designated By AASHTO And The Ohio Department Of Transportation. Jimmy second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

**Business from Fire Chief** - Chief Jim Hite presented his report. Robert made a motion to approve Brett Holt and Austin Thompson to be hired to the fire department. Jimmy second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to approve \$3,500 purchase order for boots, set gear, gear repair and gate valve to Fire Safety Service. Heather second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to approve \$2,000 purchase order for EMS Spplies to Heritage. JoAnn second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Council discussed moving payroll processing from the Township to the Village. The clerk-treasurer would begin processing it at the first of the year. An ordinance will be prepared to increase the clerk-treasurer's salary due to the new responsibilities.

JoAnn made a motion to enter into a joint fuel purchasing venture with the Walnut Township Trustees, Village of Millersport and the Walnut Township School District for fuel purchases for the fire department and street vehicles. Garry second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Chief said the township is making a deal with the School District to purchase fuel together. He would like fire department to be able to buy, also. He will get information and discuss at Service Committee meeting.

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

**Business from the Service Committee** – A request had been made by a potential buyer of a property that the Village had assessed water, sewer and mowing charges to over the past several months. The potential buyer wanted the penalties and interest waved on the account. Garry made a motion to NOT waive the penalties on the property at 8103 Elm St. as requested by Owen Keller. Robert second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

The property at 8109 Elm St. had gone uncharged for base water charges for several years. It was recently uncovered that this property has a meter and pit, but it's gone unused. The location is subject to the same base charges as any other property. Garry made a motion to begin charging the proper charges for an account at 8109 Elm St. as of the next billing cycle. Heather second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

It has recently come to the attention of Council that the appropriate base meter rate has not been charged to account 230 for several years. They have 2", 6", and ¾" meter connections. Garry made a motion to have the account charged the correct amount of \$45.00 per month effective immediately. Robert second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

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

**Business from the Regional Planning Representative** – Robert said there was nothing that concerned the Village.

**Old Business** – Mary said the catch basin at Maple & High Streets needs repaired. It can't be raised, but it can be "cemented up" for \$1,200 according to Sureshot. Robert made a motion to fix it for \$1,200. Heather second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

**New Business** – Council discussed having a Christmas / Employee Recognition dinner in December. After much discussion, Garry made a motion to approve an expense of up to \$1,200 for a Christmas / Employee Appreciation Dinner. Heather second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to hire Gary Kern as snow plow driver for the Village on a 90-day probationary status at a rate of \$15.00 per hour. Garry second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

As there was no further business to discuss, Heather made a motion to adjourn. JoAnn second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried. Time is 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully prepared by,

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Aaron Reedy