

Village of Thurston
Council Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2017

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

There were no visitors who wished to speak. James Mako was present from Fairfield County Regional Planning to present Fair Housing Training to the Council. James made his presentation, left brochures, and asked if anyone had any questions. No one did. Aaron said the brochures would be made available in the Village office for any interested takers.

Robert made a motion to approve the November 2017 meeting minutes. Garry seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES with Jimmy abstaining. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to approve the November 2017 financial statement. Robert second. Roll call vote: all YES with Jimmy abstaining. Motion carried.

Garry made a motion to approve the December 6, 2017 special meeting minutes. Robert seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES with Jimmy abstaining. Motion carried.

Mary asked for a motion to waive Council pay for the December 6, 2017 special meeting. No motion was made.

Final Reading – Ordinance 2017-13 – An Ordinance to Increase the Salaries of Council Members. This will increase the pay from \$60 to \$80 per meeting. Garry made the motion. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES with Jimmy abstaining. Motion carried.

Business from Fire Chief - Chief Jim Hite was present and presented his report. Robert made a motion to approve the hiring of 5 employees to the fire department as volunteers: Gary Anderson, Donald Carmeron, Aaron Poland, Joseph Gallo and Richard Beline. Garry second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Chief Hite discussed the issue with the engine in the station car, Ford Excursion. Will cost about \$2,000 to repair. Instead would like council to consider buying the Ford Explorer from Millersport, which they bought from Violet Twp Fire. He thinks he can work out a deal with Millersport for around \$6,000. The truck is 14 years old. Council would rather look at buying a newer vehicle than spending money on the older. More information would be needed on this matter.

Chief Hite said Evan Martin will be at the firehouse on Saturday December 16th for the Santa event from noon to 2pm. Chief Hite says that even though the insurance company and our solicitor signed off on allowing rides on the Engine to kids, he would rather give them rides in the grass truck for safety concerns. Council agreed that would be okay, but a waiver must be signed by the parent or guardian. If no parent or guardian present, then no ride.

Chief Hite said they've been trying to get in contact with our solicitor regarding the MECC agreement. He said Chief Little will try to contact him. Aaron said he would follow up with our solicitor.

Robert made a motion to approve the 8 PO's as presented and allow new vendor of Robert Fann Auto Repair. Garry second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Chief Hite presented his request for payment for the Volunteer Point-to-Pay process for the year. Aaron reviewed and said that his calculations were not correct. After taking a couple of short breaks, Aaron recalculated the amounts correctly and presented to Council and the Chief. Chief said he wanted himself removed from the Point-to-Pay system because he gets a salary. Aaron gave Chief Hite he chance to make any changes to the final calculation, such as giving officers a set amount for the year. This could be considered and approved by Council while we were all present. Chief Hite chose not to make any changes. Robert made a motion to approve the Final Volunteer Point-to-Pay numbers as present, with \$56.12 per point, total of \$5,499.76 for the year. Garry seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Business from the Safety Committee – No business to present.

Business from the Service Committee – No business to present

Business from the Finance Committee – Didn't meet.

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

Old Business – Aaron informed Council that a letter was sent to Trudy Johnson about the property nuisance on her property. If not cleaned up by December 15th, Council will have it cleaned up and costs assessed to her property taxes.

Aaron informed Council that we should look closer into taking legal action against those residents who have never filed income tax returns over the last 6 years. There is between \$22,000 and \$40,000 in past due that should be collected.

Aaron present an invoice for Elite Network Computers for \$337 for updates done to fire department computers back in August. There was misunderstanding of the original PO request and what the PO was actually used for. Jimmy made motion to approve the payment for \$337 to Elite Network Computers. Heather seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

New Business – Council agreed to have an Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, January 2nd at 5:30 p.m.

Robert wished to thank Garry Boring for all the work he's done for the village as a councilman over the past several year. Garry's term ends 12/31/2017.

Mary said that since Scott Whited will be taking Garry's place on Council as of 1/1/2018, she's like to recommend that Garry take Scott's place on the Walnut Creek Sewer District board as of 1/1/2018. Heather made a motion to appoint Garry Boring to the board of Walnut Creek Sewer District as of 1/1/2018, replacing Scott Whited. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES with Garry and Jimmy abstaining. Motion carried.

Mary would like to see Council hire Garry to do part-time work around the village – basically what he's been doing all these years without pay. It was decided that it would be best to talk about this in committee meeting first. Aaron will consult with the solicitor on the subject.

Aaron asked if Council wished to retain GGC as engineers for the Village. Jimmy made a motion to retain GGC Engineers to provide engineering services for the Village. Heather seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Chief Hite said that he can't make some Committee or Council meetings on all Wednesday nights because he has to take his daughter to gymnastics and sometimes his wife travels for her job. That's why he sends Jamie Carroll in his place.

As there was no further business to discuss, JoAnn made a motion to adjourn. Jimmy seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried. Time is 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully prepared by,

Aaron Reedy