

Village of Thurston
Council Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2018

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
 Scott Whited – present Lowell Hite – present Heather Baker - present
 Mary Boring, Mayor – present Aaron Reedy, Fiscal Officer – present

Mary asked if any visitors wished to speak. Max Miller was present and asked for a credit on his bill that Council voted on last negatively last month. He's been charged for the minimum rate when he has not used any water and didn't request water. This property is outside of the corporation limits, just north of town. He said he's sold property to the Village in the past at greatly discounted prices and done a lot for this Village over the years and doesn't feel it's fair not to be granted this small request. He insisted Council vote to go out and check how poorly the water well area has been mowed and kept up. After several minutes of discussion, Jimmy made a motion to credit the account \$314 (account 113), accept the tap abandonment form, and close the account. Heather seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried. Mr. Miller was told he'll have to make sure the tap has been removed from the main and our water operator has to inspect it to make sure it's been done acceptably. Mr. Miller acknowledged. Mr. Miller still wants Council to go out. Jimmy said he' go out and check it out. Jamie Carroll said he's been mowing where he was told to mow.

Robert made a motion to approve the October 2018 meeting minutes. Scott seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES, with Jimmy Abstaining. Motion carried.

Scott made a motion to approve the October 2018 financial statement. Robert seconded the motion. Roll call vote: all YES, with Jimmy Abstaining. Motion carried.

Jimmy made a motion to wave the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency for Ordinance 2018-29 – An Ordinance to amend the 2018 Appropriations Ordinance and the declaration of an emergency. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Jimmy made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-29 – An Ordinance to amend the 2018 Appropriations Ordinance and the declaration of an emergency. Heather seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to wave the 3-reading rule and declare an emergency for Ordinance 2018-30 – An Ordinance to amend the 2018 Appropriations Ordinance and the declaration of an emergency. Jimmy seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Heather made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-30 – An Ordinance to amend the 2018 Appropriations Ordinance and the declaration of an emergency. Scott seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Business from Fire Chief - Chief Jim Hite was present and presented his report. Robert made a motion to allow the hiring of Troy Kurtz and Chaise Wohrer to the department. Scott seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Jimmy made a motion to allow Chief Hite to apply for the Marcs Radio Grant for the fire department. Heather seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Robert made a motion to approve the PO's as requested in the Chief's reports and approve Edwards Reel and Quality Rubber Stamp as new vendors. Scott seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Business from the Safety Committee – didn't meet

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 said there was nothing that concerned the Village.

Old Business – Aaron said the leak on account 104 caused the usage rate to increase due to a faulty meter, as reported by the water operator. Aaron is asking for a \$181.70 credit on the account. Jimmy made a motion to approve \$181.70 leak credit on account 104. Scott seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Aaron shared the status of the Delinquent Municipal Income Tax project. 65 letters went out; about 5 came back as bad address from people who had moved out of the Village. Heard back from about 5 other people. Aaron has been in contact with the City of Lancaster Asst. Law Director and she is ready to accept the data to begin the prosecution process once she gets them. She'll give them another 30 days to respond, and then the court action will begin.

Since Cemetery Rules were already set in Ordinance 2014-3, Robert made a motion to rescind the motion from last meeting setting new Cemetery Rules. Scott seconded. Roll call vote: all YES, with Jimmy abstaining. Motion carried.

Aaron said that the meter pit was cleared for Lot 4 at the trailer park, but there is still an issue at Lot 19. Council agreed to pay Jamie to take care of the issue and we'll charge the property owner for the work. Jamie will get with Bob Pangborn to help identify the location of the pit.

Mary said that we gave Bennett Masonry a check for \$3,800 (check # 12891) back on 4/15/2018 to pay for work to be done at the Municipal Building. He needed half the amount to buy the supplies he needed. He's never done the job. Mary has been in constant contact with him for 6 months, and Mr. Bennett has continuously made promise after promise to get the job done. Mary has all texts documented. Heather made a motion to send the matter to the Solicitor for legal recovery. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Jimmy asked about the status of the old pile of corn at the grain mill. He said there's still about 30 semi loads that need removed, and the odor issue is getting worse. Mary said she's been working closely with the County Health Department and will follow up with them again.

New Business – Mary said Bev Reese's term on the Walnut Creek Sewer District ends this year, yearend. She would like to remain on the board. Scott made a motion to re-appoint Bev Reese to the Walnut Creek Sewer District when her term ends. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES, with Heather voting NO. Motion carried.

Aaron asked if Council wanted to create the Cemetery Committee as discussed during the last Service Committee meeting. Jimmy made a motion to table the issue for further discussion. Heather seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried. Aaron asked if anyone wanted to make a motion to increase the cemetery plot price from \$200. No motions were made.

Aaron brought up the topic of selling bulk water from the water plant. He said Pleasantville stopped doing it long ago and Baltimore has a coin-operated deliver system for smaller amounts of bulk water; but does not fill tankers. Bob Pangborn, the Village water operator, said we would have to get a meter that costs about \$1,200 to meter the usage. It would have to be installed/uninstalled each time someone wanted it. He would have to be present for that to happen, and would have to wait while the tanker is filled. The issue of billing and giving credit to any potential bulk customers was an issue, too. Scott made a motion to make it a policy that Thurston doesn't sell bulk water. Robert seconded. Roll call vote: all YES, with Jimmy and Heather abstaining. Motion carried.

Aaron said he would like Council to approve a proposal from Julian & Grube, the Village's recent auditors, for the preparation of the Village's Annual Financial Report and Hinkle Notes. The quote is \$500. Robert approved the \$500 proposal from Julian & Grube. Scott seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Jackie Lama came in late, apologized and wished to address Council. She just moved into 8095 High St, Apt. C. She asked permission from Council to have the water turned on before she could pay her \$200 deposit. She gave the reasons and discussed with Council. Though Council was touched by the situation, Council agreed they couldn't take on the liability of turning the water on, and leaving the property owner stuck with the bill if Ms. Lama was not able to pay. Aaron suggested she speak with the landlord, Mike Daubenmire, and see if he'll just request the water be turned on, since it's already in his name.

Chief Hite said he needed a last minute PO approved for upgrade of lights on the Engine from Red Public Safety. Jimmy approved the PO request for \$533. Scott seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Chief Hite said he was also working with the County Health Department regarding 60-70 tires that are just sitting on Lot 50 in the trailer court. They have 14 days to remove them.

Mary asked Chief Hite to have the fire department take the flags down around town and give him a count of flags and poles. Mary asked when Council wanted to have the Council Christmas Dinner. It was agreed to be on December 15th at 5pm.

As there was no further business to discuss, Jimmy made a motion to adjourn. Heather second. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried. Time is 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully prepared by,

Aaron Reedy, Fiscal Officer