

MINUTES
CITY OF THORP REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2011 AT 7:00PM

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. In attendance were Acting Mayor Stroinski; Alderpersons Blume, Skibbie, and Teclaw; DPW McCredden; Police Chief Verges; and City Administrator Reeg. Alderperson Abramczak arrived at 7:03pm.

ROUTINE BUSINESS

2. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

Dave Korn (204 N. Jackson St., Thorp) invited the City Council to come check out the solar panels he was having installed on his garage in the coming weeks. No action taken.

3. Consent Agenda—The City Council, with a single vote and without debate, may act upon the following items. Any council member wishing to debate an individual item may request that it be considered separately

- a. Approval of minutes from May 9, 2011 Regular City Council meeting
- b. Approval of Temporary Class “B” License—Thorp Area Chamber of Commerce (June 15)
- c. Approval of Temporary Class “B” License—Thorp Lion’s Club (June 25,26)
- d. Approval of Temporary Class “B” License—Thorp Area Chamber of Commerce (July 2,3)

Alderperson Teclaw requested that item a) be considered separately.

M/M/S (Skibbie, Abramczak) to approve items b) thru d). Carried unanimously.

Alderperson Teclaw noted that he wanted item 10 in the May 9, 2011 minutes to read that he wanted that compost bin moved due to odors during hot weather.

M/M/S (Skibbie, Teclaw) to amend to minutes as recommended and approve as amended. Carried unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible action relating to monthly reports:

a. (Police Department) Monthly activity summary

Verges reported that Officers Schneider and Johnson were back or returning shortly from respective leaves, and that Officer Kuechenmeister would be taking leave in about a month.

She reported some issues with Dairy Days parking.

She also reported that she would be traveling to Texas for a week later in the summer to work on a cold case.

b. (Public Works/Utilities) Monthly activity summary

McCredden reported that there had been two recent incidences of vandalism in the bathrooms at YST Park. It was not damage to property, but more of making and leaving a nasty mess.

c. (Administration) Administrator’s Report, Financial Report, Vouchers, Payroll Register & Journal Entries

M/M/S (Blume, Skibbie) to approve all as presented. Carried unanimously.

d. Alderperson Ward Reports

Alderperson Abramczak noted that he felt we needed a single point of contact for all media inquiries.

OLD BUSINESS

5. Discussion and possible action relating to strategy for adjusting ward boundaries due to redistricting as the result of the 2010 census

Reeg noted that Clark County had passed their preliminary plan for County Board Supervisor seats. There was no change to these boundaries in the City of Thorp. However, the City was required to redistrict to have populations between 300 and 1000 per ward. With the layout of the County Board seats, the only practical solution was to reduce the number of wards to 4. However, Reeg noted that the number of Alderperson could remain at 5 if the City Council created an Alderperson-at-Large position (a city-wide position) running in the opposite year as the Mayor. Brief debate on this option was held. The general consensus was that 5 was the right number of Alderperson and the Alderperson-at-Large strategy should be the one brought forward for final approval in July. No action taken.

6. Discussion and possible action relating to monument sign in TID#5

The City Council had previously agreed in concept to Keller Inc. placing some “Will-Build-to-Suit” development signs around town, but the specifics had never been discussed. In discussion with Reeg, Keller had agreed to potentially pay for a portion of a decorative monument sign which could promote both businesses adjacent to the highway and

downtown businesses. Reeg noted that TID#5 could likely cover the City's share of the sign. There was tepid reception to this at best, but the council did agree to revisit the concept at a future date with more information. No action taken.

7. Approval of new CSM for Old School Court and adjacent parcels
Denzine Surveying had prepared a CSM which creates an outlot that encompasses the remaining portion of Old School Court that needs dedication, and created a lot encompassing the remaining portion of the current Olsen parcel. M/M/S (Teclaw, Abramczak) to approve the CSM. Carried unanimously.
8. Discussion and possible action relating to parking of boats/campers/trailers on streets
Spirited debate again ensued with little consensus on resolution. Some properties simply can't accommodate any such accessories, others can, and some people simply have too many of such items. The only real agreement was that the problem would be minimized if people acted with common sense and in a neighborly fashion. Those that don't will likely drive stricter controls and enforcement for all—even in areas where problems don't currently exist. Few people will be happy with this. Reeg was asked to survey neighboring communities to see how they handle it. The subject would be reviewed in July. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Approve issuance of annual new and renewal Liquor, Operator's, and Cigarette licenses
M/M/S (Abramczak, Teclaw) to approve all pending the clearing of any delinquencies by licensees. Carried unanimously.
10. Resolution 2011-06-1 "2010 Compliance Maintenance Resolution"
M/M/S (Blume, Abramczak) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.
11. Discussion and possible action relating to 2011 Street & Utilities Project including:
 - a. Request for removal of sidewalk from 1 block of N. Lincoln St.
The exact extent of the request was not clear prior to these discussions. The property owner apparently wanted the sidewalk removed only to the north of his driveway where it dead-ends. The property would then still be connected to the sidewalk on W. Main Street to the south of the driveway. There would still be additional costs and some Alderpersons wondered if it was necessary at the moment, or if it could be removed at a later time. McCredden noted that the largest part of the expense would not be in removal but in restoration. Others thought if the property owner would pay for the restoration costs then it might be okay. It was agreed by general consensus to table this until next month when McCredden and/or Alderperson Teclaw could confer with the property owner regarding restoration expenses. No action taken.
 - b. Extension of deadline for installation of blacktop
McCredden noted that this request was his idea and not a request of the contractor. He felt that it was in the best interest of the City to let the street settle as long as possible before blacktopping.
M/M/S (Blume, Abramczak) to extend the deadline for blacktopping to September 15th, but to keep all other deadlines at July 15th. Carried unanimously.
12. Discussion and possible action relating to possible land donation to city by Ted Hendzel (Parcels 286.0026.000 and 286.0027.000)
This land was reported to have been sold to a private party. No action or discussion needed. No action taken.
13. Discussion and possible action to approve Park & Recreation Board recommended expenditures for Thorp Aquatic Center including:
 - a. 2 back-up filters
 - b. New vacuum
 - c. Pool room shower repairs
McCredden had provided costs estimates for these projects of \$2216 for the filters, \$1365 for the vacuum, and \$10,900 for the shower repairs including a new water heater.
M/M/S (Skibbie, Blume) to approve the expenditures. Carried unanimously.

14. Discussion and possible action relating to claim for restitution by Bob Pease on behalf of Theresa Pease
Reeg provided a copy of a letter received from Mr. Pease demanding \$2 million in restitution for sewer back-ups happening years ago and ending about 15 years ago. Reeg also noted a recent complaint Mr. Pease filed with the PSC and that the PSC ruling had not been in Mr. Pease's favor.
M/M/S (Abramczak, Blume) to reject the claim. Carried unanimously.
15. Discussion and possible action to establish the date of the Mayoral Recall Election
M/M/S (Skibbie, Blume) to establish Tuesday July 19 as the date for the Mayoral Recall Election. Carried on a 3-1 vote with Alderpersons Blume, Skibbie and Teclaw voting aye and Alderperson Abramczak voting no.

CLOSED SESSION

16. Consider moving into closed session per Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) and (e) to discuss the following:
a. Pay rate for seasonal DPW employee G. Voelker
b. Possible developments in TID#4 and TID#5
M/M/S (Teclaw, Blume) to move into closed session. Carried unanimously.
17. Reconvene into open session for any action needed as the result of closed session
M/M/S (Blume, Abramczak) to reconvene into open session. Carried unanimously.
M/M/S (Skibbie, Teclaw) to increase Voelker's pay rate by 1% to \$12.02 per hour effective June 1, 2011. Carried unanimously.

CLOSING BUSINESS

18. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items
Alderperson Skibbie noted that the LWM training she and Alderperson Blume had attended had been fabulous with many great ideas.
Alderperson Teclaw had concerns over the library landscaping. He asked McCredden to contact SEH regarding the specifications.
19. Adjournment
M/M/S (Blume, Teclaw) to adjourn at 9:50pm. Carried unanimously.

Date of Publication

Ray Stroinski
Acting Mayor

Randall D. Reeg
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer