

MINUTES
CITY OF THORP REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011 AT 7:00PM

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

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

ROUTINE BUSINESS

2. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

Bob Hmielak (406 E. School St., Thorp) again spoke regarding the dog park. He believes that if built the City would end up mowing it a lot more than twice per year.

Brad Ceranski (502 W. Lawrence St., Thorp) spoke to confirm that G&C Country Developments wanted to have the Shire Crest streets north of the creek blacktopped in 2012 and were prepared to pay their portion per existing agreements.

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 August 8, 2011 Regular City Council meeting
- b. Approval of Operator's License—Angela M. Macdonald
- c. Approval of Operator's License—Julie E. Saumier
- d. Approval of Operator's License—Brittany D. Thomas

M/M/S (Abramczak, Teclaw) to approve all. Carried unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible action relating to monthly reports:

a. Police Department monthly report

In addition to the printed report, Chief Verges noted that the radar trailer was in Neillsville and need 2 new batteries (~\$100 each) to be operational. Because it was jointly owned by Thorp, Neillsville, Owen and Withee, how the repairs would be paid for needed to be determined.

Verges also noted that she was putting a survey in the next water bills and was going to host an open meeting on the PD later in October.

b. Public Works/Utilities monthly report

In addition to the printed report, McCredden noted that the railroad crossing on N. Church Street was apparently scheduled for repair.

c. Administrator's Report, Financial Report, Vouchers, Payroll Register & Journal Entries

M/M/S (Blume, Skibbie) to approve the vouchers, payroll registers, and journal entries. Carried unanimously.

d. Library monthly report

None.

e. Alderperson Ward Reports

Alderperson Skibbie reported some trees possibly blocking the traffic visibility triangle at Clark and Stanley St.

Alderperson Teclaw reported that the Fire Dept. had recently sealcoated the parking lot, and were investigating premature rusting of siding on the building.

OLD BUSINESS

5. Resolution 2011-08-4 "Resolution Approving Establishment of Dog Park at Old City Dump on E. Stanley St. with Initial Improvements to be Funded by Donations and Fund-Raising"

Jason Hazuga appeared as requested in August. He had quotes for fencing a 2-acre area with 1 3-foot gate and a 1 12-foot double swing gate 6 feet high. This was ~\$14,000. Revised quotes for 4 foot high fencing with

smaller gates were suggested. Alderperson Abramczak suggested inquiring with Tourism if they may contribute.

M/M/S (Blume, Skibbie) to adopt the resolution. Carried 4-1 with Alderperson Teclaw as the lone no vote.

6. Adoption of 2012-2016 5-Year Capital Plan

M/M/S (Skibbie, Blume) to remove projects 2012.8 and 2012.9 (since they were now being completed in 2011) and to switch the funding source for the compost bin in 2012 to the bond issue and approve the plan as amended. Carried unanimously.

7. Review and approval of job description for Public Works Director

M/M/S (Skibbie, Lawcewicz) to approve. Carried unanimously.

8. Resolution 2011-09-1 “Resolution Establishing Employee Grievance Procedure for Inclusion in Employee Handbook”

This was still being worked on by the City Attorney and was not available for action. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Election of City Council President

M/M/S (Skibbie, Blume) to elect Blume as the City Council President. Carried unanimously.

10. Resolution 2011-09-2 “Resolution Approving Conditional Use Permit as Recommended by Planning Commission”

M/M/S (Teclaw, Abramczak) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.

11. Discussion of proposed Operator’s License Decision Matrix

Reeg noted that this was for discussion only at this meeting, as the business owners had been told that it would be on the City Council agenda twice before final approval to provide them with ample opportunity for final commentary.

No action taken.

12. Approval of Additional Scope of Services Agreement with SEH for W. Main Street

Due to some of the issues that arose on the project, McCredden had needed some additional hours of inspection time from SEH. The agreement was for extra services not to exceed an additional \$3500.

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Abramczak) to approve the agreement. Carried unanimously.

13. Resolution 2011-09-3 “Resolution Requiring the Repair of the Canadian National Railroad At-Grade Crossing at N. Church St. in the City of Thorp”

M/M/S (Abramczak, Blume) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.

14. Resolution 2011-09-4 “Resolution Approving Pay Application #2 from Haas Sons Inc. for 2011 Street & Utilities Project”

M/M/S (Blume, Teclaw) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.

15. Discussion and possible action relating to renewal of Wallace Wireless water tower lease

M/M/S (Abramczak, Lawcewicz) to give Wallace Wireless until the end of October get caught up on payments, and to extend their lease on a month-to-month basis thereafter so long as they stay current on payments. Carried unanimously.

16. Preliminary 2012 Operating Budget considerations including but not limited to:

- a. Possible bidding out of health & dental insurance, liability & worker’s comp insurance, and auditing services

It was agreed by general consensus to get proposal from Schenck, the current auditors, before bidding it out.

- It was agreed by general consensus to bid out health insurance.
- b. Switching of legal services for police department to Bratcher Law Office
It was agreed by general consensus to get proposals from both Bratcher and Salm.
 - c. Establishment of additional fees and/or services for revenue generation
There were mixed feelings on raising fees. Some possible new fees were discussed. Verges proposed the idea of the PD performing vehicle inspections for a fee. It would require equipment, training, and officer time. More details were needed.
 - d. Other expense reduction considerations
Each department should look to reduce as possible.

CLOSING BUSINESS

17. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items
None.

18. Adjournment
M/M/S (Blume, Skibbie) to adjourn at 8:55pm. Carried unanimously.

Date of Publication

Ray Stroinski
Mayor

Randall D. Reeg
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer