

MINUTES  
CITY OF THORP REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 AT 6:30PM  
IN THORP CITY HALL

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. In attendance were Mayor Stroinski; Alderpersons Cowley, Lawcewicz, Rosemeyer, and Wnek; DPW McCredden; Police Chief Schneider; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Pogodzinski; Library Director Beloungy; and City Administrator Reeg. Alderperson Abramczak arrived a few minutes late (at the start of the public hearings).

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

2. Public Hearing on Special Assessment for Water & Sewer Replacement on W. School, E. Rusch, and S. Conway Streets

a. Open Public Hearing

Mayor Stroinski opened the public hearing at 6:31pm.

b. Project Information/Background

Reeg provided a financial summary of the project, noting the projected cost per household in the report prepared by McCredden was \$6835.23. Because this figure was significantly higher than the last full utility assessment done in 2013, Reeg had compared the numbers to the sewer-only assessment from 2016 (\$2862.31 per household) and water-only assessment from 2014 (\$4537.77 per household) and extrapolated that this figure was not unduly high. Despite that discovery, staff had looked into possible alternate calculations, eliminating some portions without any residential service connections (similar to the way the 2014 assessment had been reduced). Two alternate figures had been calculated: Alternate #1 at \$6689.88, and Alternate #2 at \$6348.63.

c. Public Commentary

Jim Bryan (107 E. Rusch St., Thorp) inquired as to why the assessments were required when residents were paying water bills. Reeg explained the ordinance and the rationale behind it. Dan Hull (206 E. Rusch St., Thorp) had registered to speak, but noted that his questions had been answered.

Chris Konieczny (301 S. Conway St., Thorp) asked about the purpose of the special assessment, and if her property (on a corner lot) would be assessed again if a project on Financial Street was ever undertaken. Reeg explained that a corner property only gets assessed for one side.

Jimmy Lane (502 E. Rusch St., Thorp) asked whether his property was affected by this assessment (it was not).

Michelle Goodman (105 E. Rusch St., Thorp) stated that Thorp had some of the highest water rates in the state (which it does not).

Tyler Brock (107 N. Lincoln St., Thorp) inquired if his (recently-purchased) property would be assessed again (since it had been in 2007 for Lincoln St.). Reeg explained it would not.

d. Close Public Hearing

M/M/S (Wnek, Lawcewicz) to close the public hearing. Carried unanimously.

3. Public Hearing on Special Assessment for Stormwater Improvements on E. Rusch Street Affecting Drainage Basin C

a. Open Public Hearing

Mayor Stroinski opened the public hearing.

b. Project Information/Background

With this being the first special assessment under the new Stormwater Management Plan (SMP), Reeg explained the Urban Non-Point Grant that the City had received a few years ago to study stormwater management in the city, the resulting ordinances, and the development of the SMP. He then briefly described how the drainage basins had been developed and how the Equivalent

Runoff Units (ERU's) had been calculated. Jeff Nussbaum from SEH reiterated, at a more technical level, the information Reeg provided on the drainage basins and ERU's.

c. Public Commentary

Jimmy Lane (502 E. Rusch St., Thorp) inquired if the estimated fees were set in stone. Reeg explained they were estimated costs, but that they should be fairly accurate.

Brian Grendzinski (204 N. Washington St., Thorp) inquired about future stormwater management projects, specifically mentioning S. Clark Street.

Mike Luzinski (N14926 Wilderness Ave., Thorp) noted that water from his street entered the ditch in front of his house, and often entered his pond, and that his property rarely produced any runoff because of his pond.

Bob Hmielak (406 E. School St., Thorp) made some general inquiries about the assessment.

d. Close Public Hearing

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Wnek) to close the public hearing. Carried unanimously.

### **ROUTINE BUSINESS**

4. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

None.

*Items #13, 12, 8, 9, and 7 were taken out of order at this time. Minutes will be kept in numerical order for record-keeping purposes.*

5. 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 March 13, 2017 Regular City Council meeting

b. Approval of Operator's License for Cynthia J. Wojcik

c. Approval of Operator's License for Angel A. Winchel

M/M/S (Wnek, Lawcewicz) to approve the consent agenda. Carried unanimously.

6. Discussion and possible action relating to monthly reports:

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

b. Police Department monthly report

c. Public Works/Utilities monthly report; approval of monthly budget allocation

d. Library monthly report

e. Reports from various committees

f. Reports from elected officials

### **OLD BUSINESS**

7. Discussion and possible action relating to pending debt issue for 2017-2018 capital projects including:

a. Resolution 2017-04-1 "Initial Resolution Authorizing \$1,130,000 General Obligation Bonds for Street Improvement Projects"

M/M/S (Wnek, Rosemeyer) to adopt the resolution. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

b. Resolution 2017-04-2 "Initial Resolution Authorizing \$70,000 General Obligation Bonds for Acquiring and Developing Sites for Industry and Commerce as will Expand the Municipal Tax Base"

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Cowley) to adopt the resolution. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- c. Resolution 2017-04-3 “Initial Resolution Authorizing \$35,000 General Obligation Bonds for Sewerage Projects”  
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Wnek) to adopt the resolution. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.
  - d. Resolution 2017-04-4 “Initial Resolution Authorizing \$675,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds”  
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Wnek) to adopt the resolution. Carried by unanimous roll call vote
  - e. Resolution 2017-04-5 “Resolution Directing Publication of Notice to Electors Relating to Bond Issues”  
M/M/S (Rosemeyer, Lawcewicz) to adopt the resolution. Carried by unanimous roll call vote
  - f. Resolution 2017-04-6 “Resolution Providing for the Sale of \$1,910,000 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2017A”  
M/M/S (Wnek, Lawcewicz) to adopt the resolution. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.
8. Resolution 2017-04-7 “Final Resolution in Accordance with Wisconsin Statute Section 66.0703 Authorizing the Levying of a Special Assessment Against Benefitted Properties in the 2017 W. School, E. Rusch, and S. Conway Water & Sewer Utility Assessment District”  
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Wnek) to adopt the resolution with Alternate #2 pricing (\$6348.63 estimated cost). Carried unanimously.
9. Resolution 2017-04-8 “Final Resolution in Accordance with Wisconsin Statute Section 66.0703 Authorizing the Levying of a Special Assessment Against Benefitted Properties in the 2017 Drainage Basin C Stormwater Assessment District”  
M/M/S (Wnek, Rosemeyer) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.
10. Discussion and possible action relating to enforcement of Sec. 8-1-4(1)(a) of the City of Thorp Code of Ordinances regarding discharge of stormwater into the sanitary sewer system and potential amendment to Title 5-2 of the City of Thorp Code of Ordinances regarding the drainage location of downspouts, eaves, and sump pumps  
It was agreed by general consensus to begin more strict enforcement of 8-1-4(1)(a) by inspecting for sump pumps discharging into the sanitary sewer as part of the routine cross connection control and meter testing site visits as residences.  
It was also agreed by general consensus that an ordinance amendment should be drafted altering Section 5-2-8 and/or 5-2-11 to prevent downspouts, eaves and sump-pumps from discharging onto the sidewalk or street, but should also acknowledge that certain areas (like the downtown business district) may not be able to completely adhere.
11. Discussion and possible action to authorize purchase of new street lights for downtown business district  
Three different proposals had been received and reviewed for the purchase of new decorative streetlights for the downtown business district. The least expensive had also been the most helpful and easiest to work with. The committee was recommending purchasing the Sternberg Lighting through Viking Electric.  
M/M/S (Rosemeyer, Cowley) to approve the Sternberg/Viking purchase currently estimated at \$43,106. Carried unanimously.
12. Discussion and possible action relating to sale of 4.15 acres in the West Side Industrial Park to Brian Grendzinski  
The City Council had previously approved the sale in concept, but wanted to ensure that a minimum of a 40’ x 80’ storage building be built within a year. Reeg discussed the potential sale with City Attorney

Salm, who felt the best way to do this was through an economic development agreement in addition to the sale documents.

M/M/S (Wnek, Lawcewicz) authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to execute an economic development agreement in association with this land sale. Carried unanimously.

M/M/S (Wnek, Cowley) authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to convey the real estate to Grendzinski in association with the economic development agreement.

13. Quarterly update on Odor Response Plan from Holland's Family Cheese

Kim Rabuck and Marieke Penterman were on hand to provide a quarterly update on the Odor Response Plan. They reported no direct odor complaints in the first quarter of 2017, with one formal complaint to the city during an extremely windy period. They reported on a new additive being used, as well as a permanent solution for whey removal from the pit. They were also working with the City to determine if their wash water could be accepted at the STP. They also noted their weather station should be installed in May. Finally, they noted that odor complaints should be directed to their team so that they could investigate them in a timely manner.

**NEW BUSINESS**

14. Award bid for 2017 Concrete Replacement Program

Two bids had been received, with the lowest being from Area Wide Concrete. There was discussion on if they would buy their concrete from Haas. It had not been a requirement of the bid, but all agreed that it would be ideal if they did. It was further discussed that it could become a requirement in future bids if the City Council felt it was appropriate.

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Wnek) to award the bid to Area Wide. Carried on a 4-1 vote with Alderperson Abramczak voting no.

15. Award bid for 2017 Blacktop Patching Program

Two bids had been received, with the lowest being from Senn Blacktop.

M/M/S (Wnek, Rosemeyer) to award the bid to Senn. Carried unanimously.

16. Discussion and possible action relating to repainting of cardinals on water tower during routine water tower maintenance

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Cowley) to approve up to \$3000 to have the cardinals repainted during otherwise scheduled work on the tower. Carried unanimously.

**CLOSED SESSION**

17. Consider moving into closed session per Wis. Stats. 18.85(1)(f) to discuss the following:

a. Review recent human resources action

M/M/S (Abramczak, Lawcewicz) to move into closed session. Carried unanimously.

18. Reconvene into open session for any action required as the result of closed session

M/M/S (Wnek, Cowley) to reconvene into open session. Carried unanimously.

No action taken as the result of closed session.

**CLOSING BUSINESS**

19. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

Nancy Maslowski (305 Wall St., Thorp) noted that there was an invalid telephone number on the ad for bids for concrete and blacktop placed by McCredde and expressed concern that it could have limited the responses.

She also expressed concern over Holland’s Family Cheese self-monitoring their odor complaints. Reeg noted that constant dialogue was bring help with the City, that records would be shared, and that the City could require a different program as needed.

20. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items  
Brief discussion was held regarding the construction schedule for the upcoming projects.

21. Adjournment  
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Abramczak) to adjourn at 8:41pm. Carried unanimously.

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Date of Publication

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Ray Stroinski  
Mayor

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Randall D. Reeg  
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer