

MINUTES
CITY OF THORP REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 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, Abramczak, Rosemeyer, and Wnek; DPW McCredden; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Pogodzinski; Library Director Beloungy; and City Administrator Reeg. Chief Schneider arrived later.

PUBLIC HEARING

2. Public hearing on proposed amendment to 2017 General Fund Operation Budget

a. Open public hearing

Mayor Stroinski opened the public hearing at 6:30pm.

b. Public commentary

Reeg explained that this amendment was to accurately reflect the final amount of the new debt issues for capital projects and the allocation of the proceeds to various reserve accounts, and that it did not affect the bottom line of the budget or the tax levy in any way.

No public comments.

c. Close public hearing

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

ROUTINE BUSINESS

3. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

Ed Barth (204 W. Hill St., Thorp) spoke on two topics. First he complimented the city's contracted lawn mower for excellent customer service in ensuring that the park was in good shape for the Barth family reunion. Secondly he complimented the Holland's Family Cheese odor reduction efforts. He felt there was a 50-75% improvement from last year, and that when it was smelly the duration was much shorter. He did note there was still room to improve, but he was pleased.

Pauline Haas (N14584 Cty. Rd. M, Town of Withee) expressed that she felt there was no odor improvement as Holland's Family Cheese. She lives across the road, and due to the higher elevation of HFC any west wind resulted in a horrible smell at their home. She wasn't sure what else to do but put their property up for sale if an answer wasn't found.

Phil Haas (N14582 Cty, Rd. M, Town of Withee) also expressed that he felt the odor had not improved, also specifically noting west and northwest winds as the worst. He stated that what they are doing to reduce odor is not working. He noted that his family's company would not be drug into the discussion this time, but that we would handle round 2 personally. He also noted that if there was a round 3, Ray Stroinski and Randy Reeg would personally be unhappy with the result.

Steve Frankewicz (108 W. Elm St., Thorp) expressed that he felt no changes to material sales should be made. He asked if the public was complaining about people taking too much sand, expressing that it shouldn't be that big of a deal. He said if you put up a payment drop box people would pay extra and the city could make a profit. He noted he wouldn't return to comment on this topic again and that the City Council could vote on it every month if it's that big of a deal.

Items #9-11 were taken out of order at this time. Minutes will be kept in numerical order for record-keeping purposes.

4. 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 June 5, 2017 Regular City Council meeting
 - b. Approval of Operator’s License for Julie E. Saumier
 - c. Approval of Operator’s License for Kyle M. Alger
 - d. Approval of Operator’s License for John M. JezuitM/M/S (Wnek, Cowley) to approve the consent agenda. Carried unanimously.

5. Discussion and possible action relating to monthly reports:
 - a. Administrator’s Report, Financial Report, Vouchers, Payroll Register & Journal Entries

Reeg noted that in renewing SeeClickFix for a third year, it was agreed that a significant increase in usage would be required to consider a fourth year. He reported an increase from 24 to 43 for the number of reports in the first 6 months of 2017 versus 2016.
M/M/S (Wnek, Abramczak) to approve all as presented. Carried unanimously.
 - b. Police Department monthly report

In addition to the monthly report, Schneider reported that both Dairy Days and the Demo Derby went smoothly with no significant police activity. No action taken.
 - c. Public Works/Utilities monthly report; approval of monthly budget allocation

M/M/S (Rosemeyer, Lawcewicz) to approve the \$41,600 monthly budget allocation. Carried unanimously.
 - d. Library monthly report

Nothing in addition to the monthly report.
 - e. Reports from various committees

None.
 - f. Reports from elected officials

Aldersperson Cowley noted some complaints about lacking restoration in relation to work done by PUSH, Inc.

OLD BUSINESS

6. Discussion and possible action relating to material sales policies

Aldersperson Lawcewicz made a motion to eliminate both sales and free materials to citizens. The motion dies due to lack of a second.
Further discussion was held. It was clarified that compost would be given away for free in unlimited self-hauled quantities and kept in a separate area outside the proposed limited-access area.
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Wnek) to eliminate both sales and free materials to citizens with the exception of compost. Carried unanimously.

7. Ordinance 2017-06-5 “Ordinance Amending Title 5-3 of the City of Thorp Code of Ordinances Regarding Driveways”

Per the request of the City Council, regulations in neighboring communities had been researched and compiled. There was no real pattern in them. It was agreed by general consensus to draft an ordinance allowing residential driveways up to 30 feet in width at the curb with an at least 4-foot symmetrical taper at the sidewalk or ROW line.

8. Resolution 2017-07-1 “Resolution Establishing Definition of Adequate Green Space in Relation to Section 5-2-8 and Section 5-2-11 of the City of Thorp Code of Ordinances”

Discussion of the proposed resolution was held. There was concern over those previously getting permission for (semi-)permanent infrastructure not meeting the new rules being now required to change it. A fifth bullet point was drafted with which to amend the resolution to address this concern.

Alderman Abramczak made a motion to adopt the resolution as amended. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

Reeg reminded the City Council that they had passed an amended ordinance last month, and this action was needed to clarify enforcement. Mayor Stroinski urged further discussion and alternate ideas. There was no further input from the City Council. Reeg noted that the enforcement decisions would have to be made administratively with City Council input.

No action taken.

9. Discussion and possible action relating to 2017 Street & Utility Improvement Project including:

a. Proposed Amendment #3 to Agreement for Professional Services with SEH

M/M/S (Rosemeyer, Wnek) to approve amendment #3. Carried on a 3-2 roll call vote with Aldermen Cowley, Rosemeyer, and Wnek voting aye, and Aldermen Lawcewicz and Abramczak voting no.

b. Resolution 2017-07-2 “Resolution Approving Pay Application #3 from Haas Sons Inc. for 2017 Street & Utility Improvement Project”

M/M/S (Wnek, Lawcewicz) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.

10. Quarterly update on Odor Response Plan from Holland’s Family Cheese

Kim Bremmer, representative for Holland’s Family Cheese, was on hand to give their regular quarterly update on their Odor Response Plan. The update was substantially similar to the one they had given in June. She acknowledged that a better solution needed to be found to help the homeowners across CTH M to their east. A few new strategies were being explored as, although many people acknowledged improvement, HFC was not okay with just telling these particularly affected people that there was nothing else to do. Continued efforts would be made.

Reeg inquired of one of the Haas family members if, although he understood that they weren’t happy with results yet, if they were pleased with having a specific point of contact for complaints and HFC’s acknowledgment of the issues. Phil Haas agreed that this portion of the problem was improved.

No action taken.

11. Update on W. Lawrence Street water quality complaints

Randy Sanford and Brian Kent from SEH were on hand to update the City Council. Preliminary sampling results were in. There were a few locations with manganese levels slightly above aesthetics standards, but well below health standards. With the exception of one vacant property, the water tested at all residential consumer locations was below aesthetic standards. A plan to address these results was being prepared for the DNR per their request. They responded to several inquiries from members of the audience in attendance. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

12. Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed amendment to the 2017 General Fund Operating Budget

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Wnek) to approve the summary budget amendment as presented. Carried unanimously.

13. Discussion and possible action relating to Section 410 of the City of Thorp Employee Handbook regarding pro-rated holiday time for permanent part-time employees
Reeg described some challenges with the policy language including no reference to a minimum qualifying benchmark for annual hours worked, and how to administer pro-rated holiday usage. M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Abramczak) to eliminate pro-rated holiday time for permanent part-time employees. Carried unanimously.
14. Discussion and possible action relating to recommendations from Public Works & Utilities Board regarding requests for credits to snow shoveling bills
M/M/S (Abramczak, Lawcewicz) to refund \$35.87 to Denise McIntire for a challenged snow shoveling bill. Carried unanimously.
15. Consideration of request for donation to fireworks by Thorp Area Chamber of Commerce
M/M/S (Abramczak, Rosemeyer) to approve a \$1000 donation. Carried unanimously.

CLOSING BUSINESS

16. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens
None.
17. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items
Aldersperson Lawcewicz noted the need for some handicapped accessible picnic tables at the parks.
18. Adjournment
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Abramczak) to adjourn at 9:20pm. Carried unanimously.

Date of Publication

Ray Stroinski
Mayor

Randall D. Reeg
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer