

**CITY OF THORP
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023, AT 6:30 PM
AT THORP CITY HALL**

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Mayor Wnek. In attendance were Alderpersons Abramczak, Einhorn, Korn, Lawcewicz and Rosemeyer. Also in attendance were DPW Leech, Police Chief Schneider, Clerk-Treasurer Pogodzinski, and Thorp Courier reporter Ross Pattermann.

ROUTINE BUSINESS

2. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

None

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 September 11, 2023, Regular City Council meeting
M/M/S (Lawcewicz/Rosemeyer) to approve consent agenda. Motion passed 5 - 0.

4. Discussion and possible action relating to monthly reports.

- a. Clerk-Treasurer's Financial Report, Vouchers, Payroll Register, and Journal Entries.
M/M/S (Abramczak/Einhorn) to approve the monthly reports. Carried 5 - 0.
- b. Police Department Monthly Report
Aldersperson Korn asked Chief Scheider, one thing most citizens would not know about the Police Department? Chief Schneider felt that training for night shooting would probably be one thing not known to residents.
- c. Public Works/Utilities Monthly Report
Director Leech noted that the PFAS numbers were below detection level. He noted that five samples were taken, and the city would not be required to test for three years. He distributed pictures on the progress of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- d. Library Monthly Report
It was noted that funding from Clark County increased.
- e. Reports from various committees.
None
- f. Reports from elected officials.
Aldersperson Korn updated the Council on the construction of the duplexes by Colton Schurter. He reported that five of the six units were spoken for. He also noted that construction for the duplexes would start next year. He also commented that the building permit numbers were very impressive with over one million in construction since the beginning of the year. He questioned Clerk-Treasurer Pogodzinski about what one thing that citizens would not know that her office accomplishes, and she answered the annual recycling grant.

OLD BUSINESS

5. SEH project updates

Current construction tasks at the Wastewater Treatment Plant were: North site new pond subgrade completed and south site preliminary treatment building wet well leak testing completed and backfilled, foundation walls poured, underground piping installed, and under slab electrical conduit installed.

6. Quarterly Odor Control Update – Holland Family Cheese

Report was handed out.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Presentation of audit for FY2022 by Amber Danielski of Clifton Larson Allen LLP

Amber Danielski presented the 2022 audit. She explained that the audit was completed by financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information for the City of Thorp. She noted that a single audit will need to be completed by the city due to more than \$750,000 of federal money spent in one year. A new rule regarding leases was completed for 2022 and will continue.

8. Consideration of three-year extension of auditing service contract with Clifton Larson Allen LLP
A three-year extension of auditing services was presented with additional fees for the single audit, lease calculation updates, new accounting standards implementation assistance and technology and client support fees.
M/M/S (Rosemeyer/Einhorn) to approve the three-year audit extension of auditing services along with the additional services with Clifton Larson Allen LLP. Motion passed 5 -0.
9. Discussion and possible action regarding Capital Plan – Brian Riley from Ehlers Public Finance Advisors
Brian Riley from Ehlers Public Finance noted the two set standards for statutory consideration. He reviewed the debt the city has undertaken and informed the Council it was best to wait until 2025 for the next street project. No action was taken.
10. Rental Agreement with William Rice & William Rice Jr.
The rental agreement with William Rice and William Rice Jr. needs to be updated with acreage deducted from the Industrial Park, which was sold, and adjustments made for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant with the correct amount owed. A credit of \$13,774 for the rent was incorporated into the agreement.
M/M/S (Rosemeyer/Abramczak) to approve the updated rental agreement with William Rice & William Rice, Jr. Motion passed unanimously.
11. Discussion and possible action regarding invoice from William Rice
DPW Leech explained that the Rice's were not able to plant their crops due to the sludge hauling from the wastewater treatment plant. They tilled 42.8 acres last fall, had inoculate seed for acres that was idle and disced two fields. He is requesting reimbursement of \$5,276.45.
M/M/S (Einhorn/Lawcewicz) to pay expenditure to William Rice for \$5,276.45. Motion passed 5 – 0.
12. Resolution 2023-10-01 "Resolution Approving Pay Application #6 from Staab Construction Corporation for Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Project"
M/M/S (Einhorn, Korn) to approve Resolution 2023-10-01" Resolution Approving Pay Application #6 from Staab Construction Corporation for Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Project" for \$395,992.30. Motion passed 5 – 0.
13. Resolution 2023-10-02 "Resolution Approving Change Order #2 for Staab Construction.
Change Order #3 was due to additional materials needed. The amount of the Change Order was \$14,114.
M/M/S (Rosemeyer, Lawcewicz) to approve Resolution 2023-10-02. Motion passed 5 – 0.
14. Discussion and possible action regarding Fire Department sharing antenna on water tower.
DPW Leech informed that at the last minute the Fire Department no longer wanted to share the antenna, they would like to add a new radio antenna because they have a hard time communicating with the Taylor County area. A standard agreement will be compiled.
M/M/S (Einhorn, Rosemeyer) to initiate a long-term agreement with the Fire Department and waive the fee. Motion passed 4 –0 with Alderperson Abramczak abstaining.
15. Discussion and possible action regarding Agreement for Purchase of Power with Clark Electric Cooperative
The agreement was tabled until the City Attorney can review.
16. Review first draft of 2024 General Fund Operating Budget and establish budget adoption timeline.
The draft was reviewed, and the budget timeline was established.
17. Discussion and possible action on expenditure on ARPA money
No expenditure requests presented.

Closed Session

18. Consider moving into closed session per Wis Stat 19.85(1)(c) considering employment promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility to the following:
 - a. 2024 pay rates for the following employees: Brent Leech, Eric Shackleton, Jacob Wissell, Loren Gulczynski, Ty Schneider, Michele Pogodzinski, Kristin Davison, Ronald Rogalski, Election Officials, and temporary employees.M/M/S (Lawcewicz/Einhorn) to move into closed session. Motion passed unanimously.
19. Reconvene into open session and take any action necessary as the result of closed session.

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Rosemeyer) to reconvene into open session. Motion passed 5 – 0.
No action was taken.

CLOSING BUSINESS

20. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens.

None

21. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items.

Police Chief Schneider requested a registration sheet be given out to licensed Golf Cart residents with the rules and would like to bring the changes to the Golf Cart Ordinance in Spring. DPW Leech was very upset with steel wheels from Mennonite tractors on the new streets which caused damage. He would like to see something done.

22. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Date of Publication

Richard Wnek
Mayor

Michele Pogodzinski
Clerk-Treasurer