

VILLAGE OF THOMASBORO BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025

VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM
101 W. MAIN STREET, THOMASBORO, IL 61878

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Thomasboro was held on Monday, April 7, 2025, President W. Tyler Evans presiding. Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Evans led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Upon Roll Call, the following members were present:
Mayor Tyler Evans, Trustee Anthony Grilo, Trustee Jeff Robertson,
Trustee Dustin Hill, Trustee Cale Coffin, Trustee Mickey Wilson,
and Trustee John Martin

The following representatives of Village departments were also present:
Chad Polsky, Public Works Superintendent, Mike Martinez, Chief of Police,
Leon Albers, Village Treasurer, Deanna Zehr, Office Manager, Winter Dalton,
Administrative Assistant, and Tana Ward, Village Clerk

Public Comment

The IL Department of Transportation held an informational meeting at the Thomasboro Fire Protection District from 4:00 to 6:00pm regarding the US Route 45 / Central Ave - Flatville Road Intersection. IDOT has studied this intersection, and they are proposing installing a J-Turn intersection. Traffic data was obtained on September 13, 2024 by George Butler Associates (three days prior to the Elevator opening up for harvest season). Basic information was shared including that J-Turn Intersections have proven to be a safer alternative to a traditional roadway intersection on a four-lane highway because they eliminate or substantially reduce right-angle crashes, the crash the most responsible for fatalities and serious injuries at intersections.

Mayor Evans opened up the public comment portion of the meeting per the Open Meetings Act due to the overflow of individuals wanting to discuss IDOT's proposal. He emphasized that this was not a Village project, adding that citizens could reach out to IDOT to voice their opinions and suggestions. The deadline for comments on this project is April 28, 2025.

Benjamin Schultz suggested that IDOT install a stoplight and reduce the speed for that stretch, adding that a speed camera would also slow traffic down. Trustee Grilo stated that there is currently state funding for safer intersection studies, and a stoplight would not fit into the grant funding that is available. The decision would be finalized likely in July 2025.

Tracey O'Donnell shared concerns regarding the Fire Department being able to navigate the intersection in an emergent situation. Fire Chief Paul Cundiff stated that the route the Department currently uses would likely be changed with the added time to navigate north, but that they would acclimate to the change.

Rhonda Scott shared that navigating to the Dollar General and future growth in that area would be a challenge. She added that the Engineers in the meeting had stated that farmers would only experience an additional 25 seconds to navigate the intersection. Mayor Evans stated that there would likely be increased traffic to Main Street, including semi-trucks, which would place more wear and tear to the road, creating a burden to the tax payers of Thomasboro.

Benjamin Schultz shared a report that highlights the issues with J-Turn intersections in Missouri, which are closely related to what Thomasboro might experience. He also stated that he is concerned about vehicle lights that would be shining in their house at all hours of the night, along with Clark Street being closed to add the project turn-around. Mayor Evans suggested that individuals contact IDOT to request additional lighting, landscaping, and fencing to elevate the noise and accommodate those that would be affected.

Trustee Coffin stated that the project is a “done deal,” and that residents should take the opportunity to reach out with comments to communicate that this intersection, along with the other six in the state, are a safety hazard that is life-threatening.

James Miller stated that if IDOT receives enough complaints, it would be likely that they would wait on the project, and gather additional studies.

Daniel Good suggested that a petition be circulated to obtain the number of individuals who will be affected by the proposed intersection. This could then be shared with IDOT.

Tracey O'Donnell questioned how many farmers were in attendance during the IDOT meeting. Trustee Grilo stated that the majority of those in attendance were local farmers and truck drivers. Mayor Evans added that Garrett was in attendance from the elevator as well.

Tracey O'Donnell also questioned if emergency response times would increase with the Fire Department. Fire Chief Paul Cundiff responded that the Fire Protection District would adapt, and change certain protocols. Under certain circumstances they may also redirect from Church Street to Main Street to avoid the intersection.

Mayor Evans stated that the US Route 45 / Leverett Road Intersection is also being considered for the J-Turn Project. Trustee Grilo added that based on

the traffic studies that IDOT shared, the J-Turn Intersections have drastically lowered the amount of “severe life-threatening” accidents. Clerk Ward stated that she would upload the information provided at the IDOT informational meeting on the Village website, along with a comment section that would direct individuals to the IDOT Engineers for the project. A link to this page would also be available on Facebook.

Engineering Update

Seth Flach of Milano & Grunloh Engineers reported that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has pushed back the award dates for the Public Infrastructure grants.

Mr. Flach stated that IL Department of Transportation Village Motor Fuel Tax funds are possible for sealing Thomas Street, and the stretch of Phillips Street in front of the school. Trustee Martin questioned if crack sealing could be used on the south side of town, adding that the asphalt is starting to fail. Mr. Flach stated that the streets should be sealed and overlaid to maintain them. Mr. Polsky will provide a map highlighting the areas in question.

Mr. Flach also reported on the Commercial Drive Reconstruction Project. He stated that the best option at this time is to apply for the Truck Assess Route Program and utilize funds available from the TIA (Thomasboro Improvement Association).

Presentation / Approval of Bills

Following a review of the monthly bills, Trustee Coffin moved to authorize and approve the payment of the current bills as presented on the financial report along with those anticipated. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Coffin, Robertson, Grilo, Hill, Martin, Wilson

NAY: None

The motion carried 6-0

Discussion / Approval of Minutes

Trustee Coffin moved to approve the March 3, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes. Trustee Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried viva voce
Vote.

New Business

Trustee Coffin moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget as presented by Treasurer Albers. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Coffin, Robertson, Grilo, Hill, Martin, Wilson

NAY: None

The motion carried 6-0

Ms. Zehr stated that the billing process for the secondary water meters was in place, and the Village are ready to start offering this service. A test had been completed at Trustee Martin's place. Currently the Village has a dozen meters to utilize, and the new meters will cost around \$120.00 each. Mayor Evans stated that individuals would need to reach out to the office to get that set up.

Ms. Zehr stated that back-up staff is needed for the office to help with vacations, emergencies, etc. She is recommending Winter Dalton at a rate of \$17.00 an hour for 10 hours per week.

Trustee Martin moved to approve hiring Winter Dalton at a rate of \$17.00 per hour on a part-time basis. Trustee Hill seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Martin, Wilson, Coffin, Robertson, Grilo, Hill

NAY: None

The motion carried 6-0

Clerk Ward reported that the Village computers are nearing end-of-life and would need to be upgraded to maintain compatibility. Adding that what is currently being used by the ESDA office and Police Department were donated when Chief Shumate was in office, and were water damaged. The amount budgeted is \$4,000.00. Ms. Zehr added that this would be for six to seven computers total. Mayor Evans stated that the needs for each department would be different, so each should be specked out before moving forward.

Clerk Ward reported that there were three versions of the Village Code of Ordinances. One had come from the Attorney, one from interim Clerk Jeremy Reale, and a final one from the previous Clerk Jasmine Boyce. Many Ordinances that had been passed were not included in each version, and none of them contained everything. Over the past six months, each chapter has been reviewed and compared with the Ordinances to assure which version was correct. There was also an Ordinance passed regarding an increase in fees and penalties every other year that had not been implemented. Clerk Ward is recommending to repeal the current versions of the Code of Ordinances, and replace with the compiled version provided to assure full transparency.

Trustee Hill moved to approve repeal the current versions of the Code of Ordinances, and replace with the compiled version. Trustee Wilson seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Hill, Martin, Wilson, Coffin, Robertson, Grilo

NAY: None

The motion carried 6-0

Old / Other Business

Trustee Robertson stated that the dumping continues to be an issue on North Church. Mayor Evans shared that this started when the owner allowed the Village to dump there after a major storm and continues to be an issue. Trustee Grilo reported that the individual is using a skid to clear out the area, and put up fencing the upcoming week. Fire Chief Cundiff stated that the department has had to put out fires at the location with questionable material. Trustee Robertson stated that the Village should wait to move forward until the following month to see if the area is cleaned up as stated.

Mayor Evans reported that bids are needed for the removal of Village-owned trailers at 702 West Frederick and 607 West Morris Street. Trustee Robertson suggested that the Morris Street trailer could have axles put on it, and moved to a Danville disposal location at a lower cost.

Mayor Evans reported on the Public Works replacement truck that had been proposed in April. He added that three quotes would be required to move forward to assure that the Village was being fiscally responsible. Three different truck quotes were obtained by Trustee Martin; however, they were all from the same Vermilion County dealer. Trustee Robertson stated that he has the government rate paperwork completed for Chevrolet. Mayor Evans suggested that the Village get quotes from commercial dealers, which are likely to come in at the lowest possible rate with no haggling. The consensus of the Board was to revisit this at the May Board Meeting when additional quotes could be obtained.

Mayor Evans provided kudos to Trustee Grilo and his family for the upkeep at the Park sprucing up the park benches.

Police Department

The monthly report was provided from Chief Martinez.

Public Works

Mr. Polsky provided the monthly Public Works report with no additional items of note.

Village Treasurer's Report

The monthly Treasurer's report was provided from Mr. Albers.

Emergency Services Disaster Agency Report

The ESDA report provided by Director Ward is attached to the Meeting Minutes.

Public Comment

Mayor Evans opened up the public comment portion of the meeting per the Open Meetings Act.

John Lux shared that there are no pets allowed at the Peace Lutheran Church when it is utilized as an Emergency Shelter, and he volunteered to help during an incident.

Mary Wanke stated that the water tower is quite dirty. Trustee Grilo stated that the fee to clean the tower was \$20,000.00 five years ago, which lasted around two years before the “beard” appeared.

Tania Vucsko provided kudos to the work that ESDA Director Ward has provided to date and stepping into the role with the long-time void.

James Miller reported that the old Brownfield house looks worse than ever. Trustee Robertson stated that he is working with the homeowner on cleaning up the area.

James Miller also reported that the auto repair shop across from the old firehouse looks quite bad. Mayor Evans stated that individuals need to report it, and the easiest access is via the Nuisance Complaint Form on the website. This will trigger the process. Trustee Robertson shared that starting in May, he was going to start handing out the courtesy cards to get these houses cleaned up around town.

Fire Chief Cundiff provided appreciation to those that voted in the election referendum that passed by nine votes. The department has had 165 calls for service in the first quarter of 2025 alone. He requested additional Firefighter and EMS volunteers for the department ages 18 to 35. Trustee Robertson stated that he would be interested in applying, and asked why the age cap was in place. Chief Cundiff stated that he would share the physical requirements, and exceptions could be made if those could be met. Fire Chief Cundiff also apologized for the water disturbance due to field fires this spring, and suggested that the Village go back to at least twice annually for hydrant flushing to help the water supply from getting murky during events such as these.

Tania Vucsko suggested that the Board request Dump Day volunteers to extend the hours to allow for more participation. Trustee Grilo requested that an ad be placed on the Village Facebook page to request volunteers.

Announcements

Mayor Evans shared that the Hydrant Flushing would occur mid-April, with plans in place to have a rotating schedule moving forward.

He shared that the Village-Wide Yard Sales would occur May 2-3.

He added that the Community Clean-up/Bulk Garbage Day would be held on Saturday, May 10 starting at 8:00am.

Mayor Evans shared that the Champaign County Electronics Recycling would held at Parkland College on May 17, but that pre-registration was required.

Executive Session

Trustee Grilo made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) 1, for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, performance, discipline, and/or compensation of one or more employees of the Village. Trustee Hill seconded the appointment.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Grilo, Hill, Martin, Wilson, Coffin, Robertson

NAY: None

The motion carried 6-0

The Village Board entered into Executive Session at 9:01pm, and the Village Board reconvened into open session at 9:06pm.

Other Business

Trustee Grilo made the motion to increase the ESDA Director's salary to \$50.00 per Board Meeting and \$25.00 per Call-Out and/or Training. Trustee Martin seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Grilo, Hill, Martin, Wilson, Coffin, Robertson

NAY: None

The motion carried 6-0

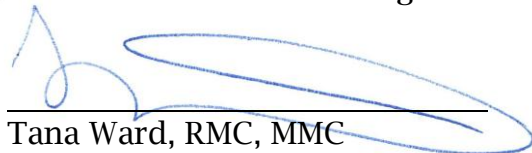
Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Coffin moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried viva voce vote.

Mayor Evans adjourned the meeting at 9:22pm.

ATTEST:

I, Tana Ward, Village Clerk of the Village of Thomasboro, Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on April 7, 2025 as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.



Tana Ward, RMC, MMC
Village Clerk