

**CITY OF THORP
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 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, Enkers, Einhorn, Lawcewicz and Rosemeyer. Also in attendance were Clerk/Treasurer Pogodzinski, DPW Shackleton, Police Chief Pries, Library Director Soderstrom and Thorp Courier Reporter Pattermann and other visitors.

ROUTINE BUSINESS

2. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

Roxy Copas, who resides at 707 N. Thorp Street, complained about the noise coming from Wisconsin Bench in the Industrial Park. She said that she had called Wisconsin Bench to report her complaint, and they informed her that they had installed a new piece of equipment. Chief Pries checked into the ordinance and could not find anything that dealt with decibel levels. He also stated that he had talked to Nate Smith from Wisconsin Bench and they are working on the problem.

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 8, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Einhorn) to approve the minutes from September 8, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting. 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 (Rosemeyer, Abramczak) to approve the monthly reports. Motion carried 5 – 0.

b. Police Department Monthly Report

The FBI leadership training that the Chief was scheduled to attend in Myrtle Beach in the first week of October was cancelled due to hurricane activity on the east coast. He will be attending an SLI course in San Andreas, CA in November. The Chief will start looking into installing traffic cameras in certain areas of town which would assist with potential traffic incidents, criminal activity and traffic law violations. He additionally spoke with Thorp School District Superintendent Foster about the traffic cameras near the school, he indicated there may be funding available from the school under a community grant to help initial purchase of cameras.

c. Public Works/Utilities Monthly Report

Report submitted. DPW Shackleton added that no lead line replacements will be done this year on County Hwy X due to availability of blacktop pavers. The residents will not lose their funding and remain in the original order in which they applied. Bright Speed has a line down near the Wilhem Trail. They are reengineering and will have it taken care of shortly.

d. Library Monthly Report

Report submitted. Library Director Soderstrom briefly updated activities at the library.

e. Reports from various committees.

None

f. Reports from elected officials.

None

OLD BUSINESS

5. SEH project updates

Jeff Nusbaum from Short Elliott Hendrickson noted that the sludge hauling at the Wastewater Treatment Plant has been completed. A change order proposal has been requested from the contractor to extend internet as well as add an effluent temperature logger. SEH has developed a proposed amendment for operational assistance, which has Rural Development's preliminary concurrence (meaning it would be funded out of the grant contingency).

6. Discussion and possible action regarding City Hall Project.

Nothing to report.

7. Quarterly updates – Holland Family Cheese

Report was submitted

NEW BUSINESS

8. Resolution 2025-10-01 "Resolution Approving Pay Application #29 from Staab Construction Corporation for Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Project".
Jeff Nusbaum from Short Elliott Hendrickson recommended tabling this Resolution due to noncompletion of the restoration of the project.
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Abramczak) to table the resolution. Motion passed 5 – 0.
9. Discussion and possible action regarding Professional Services Agreement for Short Elliott Hendrickson regarding the City Hall Remodel.
SEH and City staff have met and reviewed the first steps in what is needed for architectural and professional services for the design and reviewed funding possibilities. The agreement is for the preliminary design phase which will include the first steps in design services and cost estimation.
M/M/S (Rosemeyer, Enkers) to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson at a cost of \$32,000. Motion passed 5 – 0.
10. Discussion and possible action regarding Professional Services Agreement for operation assistance
SEH and City staff will be meeting to review the requirements of the DNR for corrosion control improvements and chemical feed changes at each well and treatment plant site. Compliance for the corrosion control portion is to be achieved by September of 2026.
M/M/S (Abramczak, Rosemeyer) to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson at a cost of \$24,500. Motion passed 5 – 0.
11. Long-range Strategic Plan presentation by Adrian Foster – Superintendent Thorp School District.
Adrian Foster, Superintendent from Thorp School District, presented the long-range Strategic Plan that they are building with community, parent, staff and students' participation. He noted that the partnership between the City and the District could benefit one another by working more closely and being able to share what we are trying to accomplish and how it will contribute to the overall growth and success. Future meetings will be held to form this plan with citizens, staff and students.
12. Resolution 2025-10-02 "Resolution Authorizing the Carry Forward of Allowable Prior Year Unused Levy Capacity"
M/M/S (Rosemeyer, Lawcewicz) to approve Resolution 2025-10-02 "Resolution Authorizing the Carry Forward of Allowable Prior Year Unused Levy Capacity." Motion passed 5 – 0.
13. Resolution 2025-10-03 "Resolution Approving Change Order #14 for 2023 Wastewater Treatment Plant from Staab Construction.
This item was tabled.
14. Discussion and possible action regarding IT quotes.
A handout was distributed with IT quotes from Yellowstone Computing, Krista Computers, Evolve Network Solutions and Computer TR. All quotes are based on number of computers, emails, endpoint security, data protection and back up. This agenda item was tabled.
15. Discussion and possible action regarding replacement of police squad.
Police Chief Pries distributed handouts with information regarding the bids for the police squad. He had two different bids including bids for a new squad and a used squad. He received bids from Gross Motors – Neillsville, Osseo Ford, Courtesy Ford – Stanley, and Brickner's of Wausau. The Chief of Police was directed to move forward with Gross Motors for the Durango. Chief Pries will get more detailed information from Gross Motors regarding the squad and bring the information back to next month's meeting.
16. Discussion and possible action regarding repairs at the municipal pool
DPW Shackleton met with Neuman Pools regarding the repairs at the pool. He furnished three contracts for council to consider. The first contract was for removal of the filter media, sand filters along with installation of new filters, valves and new hardware. The cost for the first contract is \$37,113.26. The second contract was for removal of up to 350' of expansion caulk, installation of new caulk, application of a cement-based coating to improve bonding, removal of pool finish and interior pool finish repairs, washing the pool finish with diluted acid and water mixture for color enhancement. The cost of the second contract is \$13,079. The third contract was for waterline tile replacement and top of pool wall repairs. The cost of the third contract was \$101,128. DPW Shackleton felt the third contract was very expensive but recommended approval of the first two contracts.
M/M/S (Rosemeyer, Enkers) to approve the first contract for \$37,113.26 and get on the list for the second contract. Motion passed 5 – 0.
17. Review first draft of 2026 General Fund Operating Budget and establish budget adoption timeline

Clerk/Treasurer Pogodzinski briefly reviewed the 2026 General Fund Operating Budget and timeline for the adoption of the budget.

18. Discussion and possible action regarding accepting the resignation of Jacob Wissell, Public Works Dept., and possible action to advertise for the position
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Abramczak) to approve the resignation of Jacob Wissell and to advertise for the position.
Motion passed 5 – 0.

CLOSED SESSION

19. Consider moving into closed session per Wis Stat 19.85(1)(c) considering employment promotion, compensation, performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility to the following:
a. Potential hiring of Police Officer
b. 2026 pay rates for the following employees: Eric Shackleton, Loren Gulcynski, Russel Malecki, Michele Pogodzinski, Kristin Davison, Daryl Pries, Ronald Rogalski, Election Officials, and temporary employees.
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Einhorn) to move into closed session. Motion passed 5 – 0.
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Rosemeyer) to move into open session. Motion passed 5 – 0.
No action taken.
20. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens.
None
21. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items.
None
22. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Date of Publication

Richard Wnek
Mayor

Michele Pogodzinski
Clerk-Treasurer