

**CITY OF THORP  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026, 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, and Lawcewicz. Also in attendance were Clerk/Treasurer Pogodzinski, DPW Shackleton, Library Director Soderstrom, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Davison, Thorp Courier Reporter Pattermann and other visitors.

**ROUTINE BUSINESS**

2. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

David Korn detailed an upcoming event "Winter Glow" to be held at Conway Park on February 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>. Ice candlelight trail, luminaries, snow sculptures along with demonstrations and possible food vendors are some of the events scheduled for the day. Roxy Copas requested any updates regarding the noise coming from Wisconsin Bench in the Industrial Park. Mayor Wnek informed that new stacks were placed on the building on 12/11/25. He measured footage with decibel levels in different areas of those sections and notified that they were at the allowable levels. Copas did state the noise levels were getting better.

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 December 8, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Enkers) to approve the minutes from December 8, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting. Motion passed 3 - 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, Lawcewicz) to approve the monthly reports. Motion carried 3 – 0.

b. Police Department Monthly Report

Chief Pries was not in attendance at the meeting but provided handouts to Council and Mayor with his monthly activities. He also noted that the new Dodge Durango was available to be picked up from Gross Motors.

c. Public Works/Utilities Monthly Report

DPW Shackleton noted that after the inspection of the water tower, it was noted that it will need to be painted soon. The current paint has been discontinued but the company does have it in stock, which would be less costly. This will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

d. Library Monthly Report

Library Director Soderstrom provided information regarding the past and upcoming 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 amount of the contract for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project is \$19,766.40 which is retainable to cover 200% of the contractor's cost for seeding the south site. This amount will be paid once the restoration is verified in the spring. An air release valve at the influent lift station failed last month which will result in a Change Order. The DNR issued a Notice of Non-Compliance for effluent limit violations earlier this year, due in part to the sludge removal operations at the south site, and possibly to loadings from hauled waste. SEH worked with City staff to provide a response to DNR and develop steps to mitigate exceedances.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding City Hall Project.

A Concept Review meeting was held with staff from Short Elliott Hendrickson along with City employees in December. Preliminary cost estimates for the project were completed, which were approximately \$1.5 million. The city was hoping to stay within the \$600,000 - \$700,000 budget. SEH recommended revising the scope and size of the City Hall remodel project to get it back to the desired budget. The council agreed and will schedule a committee meeting to discuss details and changes regarding the upgrades.

7. Quarterly updates – Holland Family Cheese

A quarterly report was provided.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

8. Resolution 2026-01-01 "Resolution Approving Change Order #15 for 2023 Wastewater Treatment Plant from Staab Construction".  
Change Order #15 was presented from Staab Construction in the amount of \$6,258 for the release valve and piping repair at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. SEH noted this will be reimbursed through the grant with Rural Development.  
M/M/S (Enkers, Lawcewicz) to approve Resolution 2026-01-01. Motion passed 3 – 0.
9. Discussion and possible action to discuss/consider including the parking lot and alley to the 2026 Street Project.  
An approximate \$55,000 - \$60,000 was estimated to include the parking lot and alley on E. School Street for the 2026 Street Project. The alley runs from East Stanley Street to East School Street and is located behind the Thorp Area Senior Citizens Center. This amount would not be eligible for any of the DNR loans nor for local road improvement program funding. This expense would have to be paid out of the General Fund. Mayor Wnek asked if there was an option to take the project out of the contract if it was later decided against it. SEH Representative Walter noted that it could be taken out of the project with a change order in place.  
M/M/S (Abramczak, Enkers) to approve adding the parking lot and alley on E. School Street with option to remove from project if decided later. Motion passed 3 – 0.
10. Ordinance 2026-01-01 "An Ordinance Amending Title 09-03-08 of the City of Thorp Code of Ordinances Regarding Winter Parking Regulations  
After a lengthy discussion, this agenda item was tabled.
11. Discussion and possible action regarding purchasing speed boards.  
District Administrator Adrian Foster met with Chief of Police Pries, and they are recommending using speed boards to help monitor traffic. Speed boards would be placed strategically around the school area where student/pedestrian traffic occur. They are also recommending placing cameras on E. Maple Street and N. Clark Street. These two projects would be partially funded by a Community Service Fund from the School District. The cost of four speed boards would be \$8,000. Foster felt this would have a positive effect for the school along with the city. Councils' consensus was to move forward. Mr. Foster will present to the School Board at their next meeting.
12. Renew contract with Hydro Corp  
The two contracts were presented from Hydro Corp. This contract is for a 2% increase for two years.  
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Enkers) to approve the contracts with Hydro Corp for two years. Motion passed 3 – 0.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

13. 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. Pay rates for Mayor and City Council  
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Abramczak) to move into closed session. Motion passed 3 -0.  
M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Enkers) to move into open session. Motion passed 3 – 0.  
M/M/S (Abramczak, Enkers) to approve a rate increase for the Mayor at \$350 per month and the City Council to \$250 per month. Motion passed 3 – 0.

## **CLOSING BUSINESS**

14. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens.  
Jeanette Kodl invited council to an appreciation party on 1/31/2026 from the Dairy Days Committee. The event will take place at Cindy's Hall at 1pm. Clerk/Treasurer invited the council to the annual chamber meeting on Wednesday January 14<sup>th</sup> at Cindy's hall at 6pm. A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place prior to the meeting at La Weracruzana LLC located at 313 N. Washington Street.
15. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items.  
None
16. Adjournment  
The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.