

Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Thornburg

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Code of Ordinances
of the
Borough of Thornburg
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania

Published by Authority of the Borough

Adopted by *Ord 387*, 12/14/2009

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CONTENTS

Municipal Officials	v	
Foreword	vii	
Adopting Ordinance	ix	
Fee Schedule	xv	
Chapter 1	Administration and Government	1-1
Chapter 2	Animals	2-1
Chapter 3	[Reserved]	3-1
Chapter 4	[Reserved]	4-1
Chapter 5	Code Enforcement	5-1
Chapter 6	Conduct	6-1
Chapter 7	[Reserved]	7-1
Chapter 8	Floodplains	8-1
Chapter 9	Grading and Excavating	9-1
Chapter 10	Health and Safety	10-1
Chapter 11	[Reserved]	11-1
Chapter 12	[Reserved]	12-1
Chapter 13	Licenses, Permits and General Business	13-1
Chapter 14	[Reserved]	14-1
Chapter 15	Motor Vehicles and Traffic	15-1
Chapter 16	Parks and Recreation	16-1
Chapter 17	[Reserved]	17-1
Chapter 18	Sewers and Sewage Disposal	18-1
Chapter 19	[Reserved]	19-1
Chapter 20	Solid Waste	20-1
Chapter 21	Streets and Sidewalks	21-1
Chapter 22	Subdivision and Land Development	22-1
Chapter 23	[Reserved]	23-1
Chapter 24	Taxation; Special	24-1
Chapter 25	Trees	25-1
Chapter 26	[Reserved]	26-1
Chapter 27	Zoning	27-1
<u>Appendix</u>		
A	Annexation of Territory	A-3
B	Bond Issues and Loans	A-5
C	Franchises and Services	A-7
D	Governmental and Intergovernmental Affairs	A-9
E	Plan Approval	A-13
F	Public Property	A-15
G	Sewers	A-17
H	Streets and Sidewalks	A-19
I	Water	A-25
J	Zoning; Prior Ordinances	A-27
Table to the Disposition of All Ordinances		K-1
Table to the Disposition of Significant Resolutions		KR-1
Index		I-1

Officials
of the
Borough of Thornburg
County of
Allegheny, Pennsylvania

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor - Thomas Mackin

Borough Council

President	- Patricia L. Dodge
Vice President	- Vince Coppola
	- Jerry Clarke
	- Tim Gordon
	- Barbara Larimer
	- Bert McConomy
	- Scott Quinn
Tax Collector	- Berkheimer Associates
Auditors	- Labriola Neighbors, LLP

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Secretary	- Dorothy S. Falk
Treasurer	- Dorothy S. Falk
Code Officer	- Daniel Felton
Solicitor	- Charles M. Means, Esquire
Engineer	- The Gateway Engineers, Inc.

FOREWORD

*History*¹

The Borough of Thornburg is located in southwestern Pennsylvania, in the metropolitan Pittsburgh area. According to the 2000 Census data, Thornburg is home to 468 residents living in 182 households.

The Borough of Thornburg, Pennsylvania, was originally founded in 1899 when cousins, Frank and David Thornburg, formed a company to develop 250 acres into a suburban community. The Thornburg School was constructed in 1910 and educated the children of the Borough until 1971, when Thornburg joined the Montour School District. The playground and tennis courts were added in 1939. The beautiful green space and park at the foot of town was first laid out as a golf course in 1898, and was one of the first in Allegheny County. By 1908, a clubhouse had been added, serving as a social center for the neighborhood. Members cut the grass on Saturdays, and played golf on Sundays. The land was then privately owned for many years.

In December of 2005, Thornburg acquired the golf course property. This initiative began as a grass roots committee effort, gathering support throughout the community. Acquisition of the golf course was a result of fundraising, including private and government grants, and most importantly the overwhelming support and generosity of past and current residents. The “golf course” is now a conservation area to be enjoyed by present and future generations of Thornburgers. It provides a popular walking trail for people in the area.

The Thornburg Village Players, founded in 1937 continue to keep community theater alive, enjoyed by cast members and audiences alike. The Thornburg Community Club, founded in 1930, remains busy year round with children's programs and activities, adult education, civic and social events.

The Borough of Thornburg was incorporated as a Borough in June, 1909, from Robinson Township.

The Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Thornburg was prepared by Keystate Publishers, Inc., and adopted by the Borough of Thornburg Borough Council on December 14, 2009, by *Ord. 387*.

Organization

The Code contains four parts which are (1) the valid current ordinances of the Borough of Thornburg contained in Chapters 1 through 27, (2) the Appendix, which lists by abstracted title all ordinances of a temporary or "one time" nature, (3) the Table to the disposition of each ordinance ever enacted by the Borough of Thornburg, and (4) the Index, which is an alphabetical arrangement of subjects.

In the Code each Chapter is separated by a divider tab, and specific ordinances can be located by subject on the contents page at the beginning of each Chapter. The Index

¹Editor's Note: Adapted from “A Brief History of Thornburg,” from:

<http://www.thornburg-pa.gov/#history>.

Date of incorporation from:

<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/BAH/DAM/counties/pdfs/Allegheny.pdf>

may also be used to search for a subject when one is looking for general information on a particular subject, or if it is not known in which Chapter the subject might be found. The Appendix consists of several general categories containing a chronological listing of short subject descriptions along with a reference to the original ordinance and its date of enactment, if known.

The Table to disposition indicates what action has been taken by the Borough of Thornburg Borough Council with regard to every ordinance ever enacted. An ordinance has either been (1) specifically repealed, (2) superseded by another ordinance, (3) is located in a Chapter of the Code book, or (4) is located in the Appendix. Annual tax rate and budget ordinances are located only in the Table. The Table is a cross reference to the original ordinance books of the Borough of Thornburg, and to the location within the Code of each ordinance by number.

ORDINANCE NO. 387

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF THORNBURG, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA; CONSOLIDATING, REVISING, AMENDING AND REPEALING CERTAIN ORDINANCES; ENACTING CERTAIN NEW PROVISIONS; PROVIDING A PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING THE CODE AND FOR THE CITATION OF THE CODE AND THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF; ESTABLISHING RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE CODE; SAVING CERTAIN PROVISIONS FROM REPEAL; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION.

The Borough of Thornburg hereby ordains:

Section 1. Adoption. The "Code of Ordinances, Borough of Thornburg," as prepared and published for the said Borough of Thornburg, is hereby adopted as a consolidation, codification and revision of the ordinances of the Borough of Thornburg. Chapters 1 through 27 thereof contain the text of the body of all general administrative and regulatory ordinances of the Borough of Thornburg organized as follows:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1 Administration and Government
Chapter 2 Animals
Chapter 3 [Reserved]
Chapter 4 [Reserved]
Chapter 5 Code Enforcement
Chapter 6 Conduct
Chapter 7 [Reserved]
Chapter 8 Floodplains
Chapter 9 Grading and Excavating
Chapter 10 Health and Safety
Chapter 11 [Reserved]
Chapter 12 [Reserved]
Chapter 13 Licenses, Permits and General Business Regulations
Chapter 14 [Reserved]
Chapter 15 Motor Vehicles and Traffic
Chapter 16 Parks and Recreation
Chapter 17 [Reserved]
Chapter 18 Sewers and Sewage Disposal
Chapter 19 [Reserved]
Chapter 20 Solid Waste
Chapter 21 Streets and Sidewalks
Chapter 22 Subdivision and Land Development
Chapter 23 [Reserved]
Chapter 24 Taxation; Special
Chapter 25 Trees
Chapter 26 [Reserved]
Chapter 27 Zoning

APPENDIX

A Annexation of Territory

- B Bond Issues and Loans
- C Franchises and Services
- D Governmental and Intergovernmental Affairs
- E Plan Approval
- F Public Property
- G Sewers
- H Streets and Sidewalks
- I Water
- J Zoning; Prior Ordinances

Table to the Disposition of All Ordinances

The Appendix of the volume lists, by subject matter, in chronological order, the titles (or an abstract of title) of enactments of special nature or of historical interest, for the complete text of which the official records of the Borough of Thornburg shall be authoritative.

Section 2. Citation and Effective Date. The codification referred to in Section 1 of this ordinance shall be known and cited officially as the "Borough of Thornburg Code of Ordinances," and all future ordinances shall make reference thereto. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication of notice of final enactment as required by law.

Section 3. Saving Clause. The provisions of the Borough of Thornburg Code of Ordinances, so far as they are the same as those ordinances and regulations in force immediately prior to the adoption of said Code, are intended as a continuation of such ordinances and regulations and not as a new enactment. The provisions of the Borough of Thornburg Code of Ordinances shall not affect any suit or prosecution pending or to be instituted to enforce any of the prior ordinances or regulations.

Section 4. Consolidation and Revision. As a necessary part of codification, the following provisions are hereby consolidated and revised as indicated:

A. *Consolidations.*

Section	Subject	Ordinance No., Section
15, Entire Chapter	Motor Vehicles and Traffic	330, §§110-1–110-18, 110-22–110-27; 335; 357, §110-8; 6/14/1999; 364; 365

B. *Revisions.*

Section	Subject	Ordinance No., Section
		[Reserved]

Section 5. New Enactments, Amendments and Repeals. As a necessary part of codification, the following ordinances are hereby enacted, amended and repealed as summarized by short title:

A. *New Enactments.*

Section	Subject
§§1-101–1-111	Preliminary Provisions
§§1-401–1-407	Imposition and Collection of Attorney’s Fees
§§13-101–13-301	Peddling and Soliciting
15, Entire Chapter	Motor Vehicles and Traffic

B. *Amendments.*

Section	Subject	Ordinance No., Section
§1-506	Administration of Provisions	299
§1-508	Violations and Penalties	299
§2-109	Violations and Penalties	313
§2-202	Violations and Penalties	363, §I
§5-108	Penalties	375, §I
§6-102	Violations and Penalties	268; 357, §116-2
§8-202	Application Procedures and Requirements	368, §63-8
§8-208	Inspection and Revocation	368, §63-14
§8-209	Fees	368, §63-15
§8-210	Enforcement	368, §63-16
§8-403	Elevation and Floodproofing Requirements	368, §63-24
§8-404	Design and Construction Standards	368, §63-25
§8-406	Special Requirements for Manufactured Homes	368, §63-27
§8-602	Improvements	368, §63-30
§8-802	Definitions	368, §63-34
§9-122	Violations and Penalties	382, §222
§10-203	Violations	330, §110-21
§13-301	Purpose	353
§13-302	Installation Restricted	353
§13-304	License Fee	353
§13-307	Violations and Penalties	353
§16-105	Prohibited Acts	273; 357, §73-5

Section	Subject	Ordinance No., Section
§16-106	Enforcement	273
§16-307	Violations and Penalties	273; 357, §73-7
§18-105	Violations and Penalties	350, §84-5
§18-201	Imposition Fee	321; 351, §84-6
§18-301	Trunk Storm Sewer Tap-In Charge	305B
§18-302	Sanitary Sewer Tap-In Charge	305B
§18-306	Violations and Penalties	305B
§18-405	Violations and Penalties	365, §II
§18-503	Proof of Compliance on Sale or Transfer	376, §84-26
§18-506	Temporary Certificate of Compliance	376, §84-29
§18-512	Penalties	376, §84-35
§20-105	Standards and Regulations for Collection	338
§20-108	Violations and Penalties	338
§21-102	Application to Building Inspector; Deposit Fee	91
§21-106	Violations and Penalties	91; 357, §96-6
§21-218	Violations and Penalties	332; 357, §96-24
§24-104	Application Contents	289; 357, §101-4
§24-113	Violations and Penalties	289; 357, §101-13
§24-204	Imposition of Tax; Interest	324
§24-212	Administration, Enforcement and Collection	324
§24-218	Violations and Penalties	324; 357, §101-32
§24-310	Violations and Penalties	343
§24-413	Violations and Penalties	383, §13
§25-109	Violations and Penalties	251; 357, §88-9

C. Repeals.

Section 6. Amending the Code of Ordinances. The procedure for amending the Code of Ordinances shall include the citation of the Chapter, Part, Section and subsection to be amended, revised, repealed or added as follows:

- A. Amendment or Revision - "Chapter ___, Article ___, Section ___, Subsection ___ is hereby amended [revised] to read as follows..."
- B. Additions - "Chapter ___, Article ___, Section ___, Subsection ___ is hereby amended by the addition of the following..."
- C. Repeal - "Chapter ___, Article ___, Section ___, Subsection ___ is hereby repealed in its entirety."

Section 7. Procedural Changes. The following minor procedural changes have been made to existing Borough of Thornburg ordinances:

- A. Grammatical and spelling errors have been corrected where necessary;
- B. Minor changes have been made to correct obsolete terms and usages;
- C. The penalty provisions have been revised where necessary to comply with the Pennsylvania Borough Code, Vehicle Code, Municipalities Planning Code and the Local Tax Enabling Act.

Section 8. Responsibility for Code of Ordinances. It shall be the responsibility of the Borough of Thornburg Secretary to maintain an up-to-date certified copy of the Code of Ordinances. This copy shall be the official copy of the Borough of Thornburg Code of Ordinances and shall be available for public inspection.

Section 9. Penalties. It shall be unlawful for anyone to change, alter or tamper with the Code of Ordinances in any manner which will intentionally misrepresent the laws of the Borough of Thornburg. Whoever shall violate this Section shall be guilty of an offense under §4911, "Tampering with Public Records or Information," of the Crimes Code, 18 Pa.C.S.A. §4911, and shall be prosecuted accordingly.

Section 10. Severability of Parts of Codification. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Borough of Thornburg that the Chapters, Parts, Sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this codification are severable. If any Section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Code is declared unconstitutional, illegal or otherwise invalid by the judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, that invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining Chapters, Parts, Sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this codification.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 14th day of December, 2009.

ATTEST:

Borough of Thornburg

/s/ Dorothy S. Falk
Secretary

/s/ Patricia L. Dodge
President, Borough Council

APPROVED this 14th day of December, 2009.

/s/ Thomas Mackin
Mayor

Fee Schedule

Subject	Fees
AMUSEMENT DEVICES	
Annual License Fee	§13-304 \$75
FLOODPLAINS	
Building Permit Fees	§8-209
Estimated cost	
\$0 to \$200	\$0
\$201 to \$1,000	\$5
Each additional \$1,000 or part thereof beyond the first \$1,000	\$1
MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC	
Vehicle Weight Limits Established on Certain Streets and Bridges	§15-301
Special hauling permit fee	\$50
PEDDLING AND SOLICITING	
§13-107	
Appeals	
Appeal fee	\$100
Business of Peddling, Canvassing or Soliciting	
Investigation of applicant	\$175
License (each person, including helpers/assistants)	\$15 per day
Business of Transient Merchant or Itinerant Vender	
Investigation of applicant	\$175
Vendor license	\$25 per day
Each extra person, including helpers/assistants	\$5 per person/per day
SEWERS	
Allegheny County Sanitary Authority	§18-201
Charge	\$25 for each delinquent
Tap-In Fees	
Sanitary sewer tap-in charge	§18-302
Residential unit	\$1,000 per unit
Other than residential	

Subject	Fees
Meter Size	
1 inch or smaller	\$1,000
1½ inch or smaller	\$1,500
2 inches or smaller	\$2,000
3 inches or smaller	\$3,000
4 inches or smaller	\$4,000
5 inches or smaller	\$5,000
6 inches or smaller	\$6,000
Trunk storm sewer tap-in charge	§18-301
Residential unit	\$1,000 per unit
Other than residential	\$1,000 together with an additional fee of \$1,000 for each 1,000 square feet of lot area or fraction thereof
Sanitary Sewer Testing Prior to Sale of Property	
Filing fee for certificate of compliance	§18-504 \$40
Temporary certificate of compliance	§18-506
Cash security	\$75
Filing fee	\$40
STREET CUTS AND EXCAVATIONS	
Application to Building Inspector; Deposit Fee	§21-102
Deposit	\$50
TAXATION	
Admissions Tax	
Application contents	§24-104
Permanent amusement permit	\$50
Temporary amusement permit	\$25
New permit	\$50
ZONING	
General Regulations	§27-1203
Temporary real estate signs	
Application for initial permit or extension	\$50

(Res. 2009-10, 12/14/2009)

