

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Gregory Strubinger at 6:30 p.m. in the Memorial Park Hall, 103 East Tenth St, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for the men and women serving our country.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Curtis Jackson	John McGuire	Thomas Highland
Joanne Klitsch (a)	Jay Miller	Kyle Sheckler (a)
Gregory Strubinger	Mayor Michael Sofranko	Police Chief Schatz
Manager Maureen Sterner	PS Manager Vince Yaich	Boro Secy McClafferty

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Sofranko thanked the Police dept. for a job well done with the speeding in town. He thanked the Police dept. and the Community Watch for doing a good job with the National Night Out.

Mayor Sofranko said the 2020 Census is very important to the Borough. We need to fill this out for grant money.

Mayor Sofranko said there is a kiosk update. The entire ordinance will have to be changed for the parking in the downtown area.

Police Chief Schatz said he was speaking with New Hope. We are looking at 10 weeks once we order. The main things to get the kiosk programed are:

- 1 - Currency machine to take coins/credit/debit card amount \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20
- 2 - Whoosh app, mobile app for the mobile phones. What this does is you can add more time to your vehicle spot.

Mr. Miller said his concern is the amount of time that we would allow someone to park there. It was 2-hours and it was suggested to go to 8-hours. He would split this and go to 4-hours. Parking is kiosk/meter it is a control and secondarily an income. If you give 8-hours they will be camped there and you will have businesses complain about this.

Police Chief Schatz said he needs council's approval on the currency and the whoosh mobile app. Currency would be quarters, debit/credit, \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20.

Borough Manager Sterner said if we do \$20's do we have to give change?

Mayor Sofranko said there will be ongoing changes with this.

Solicitor Nanovic suggested Council send him the questions then send it to the representative and get the answers back in writing. If we decide we don't want to do coins and later we decide we want to do coins, is it a big change?

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Police Chief Schatz said he will send the questions to the representative and get the answers for council.

Mayor Sofranko said the Borough Manager, Police Chief and Council president will be meeting with the County Commissioners to discuss the Central Court parking.

**Public Comment**

- A. Property Maintenance Board of Appeals Vacancies (3)
- B. NEPA representative - update on Parking Study

Kathy Henderson from Carbon Chamber and Alan Baranski gave council an update on the Parking study that is going on in the borough.

Alan Baranski, NEPA he is a Transportation Planner. To address this, they applied for a grant. They will look at the parking situation in the downtown area and traffic flows, pedestrian flow and bicycle traffic, this is all part of the issue. We look at what improvements can be made, and how efficiently they can be handled and we need to keep the businesses, resident and visitor happy. They received the money amount of \$100,000.00 to do the study. This project will involve a consultant and a sub as well. They need a Steer Committee with various interests such as the Tourism business, citizen, Council, to capture everybody that is needed on this committee. This way we make sure everything is being properly considered. This also involves a citizen participation. They would like to see this study done in 12 months. They will come up with options that are feasible and address any consideration that is going on in Jim Thorpe. At the end there will be solutions, some will be capital expenditures and with that the solutions will be for the borough to apply for additional funding. The funds are coming from NEPA.

Mr. McGuire said one the of members on the Steering Committee should be a member of the Planning Commission.

Borough Manager Sterner said she already gave him Clem McGinley's contact information. She asked when will they be getting the Steering Committee together.

Alan Baranski said within the next 2 weeks. He would like to present the scope of service to the committee. He would like to get a consultant on board by fall. He would like to see someone from the Citizen's group, Pocono Vacation Bureau, D & L Corridor, Council, Planning Commission, Railroad, and Chamber of Commerce. He would like to send letters to the people to start the meetings.

Borough Manager Sterner asked as far as the Local Share, there were different entities that you were looking at to ask about local shares. When do you think you will have the entities with the dollar amount, we will need this for budgets? She asked if Alan will be asking the County.

Alan Baranski said he will ask the County. Carbon County Chamber, Pocono Mountain Vacation Bureau, and perhaps the rail excursion. There are options they can float a match until the money does come into place.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Jake Arner said he has been involved with the borough and works as a developer. There is one thing that is obvious the problem is caused by the County parking lot backing up the traffic. You should ask them for Hotel tax money, the whole idea is to heads on beds.

Borough Manager Sterner said the County has to turn that money over to a CPA, they are not the ones that are allowed to disburse that money, they are negotiating that contract now with PNBB. It will be up to the CPA how that is disbursed.

Alan Baranski said in order to sign the contract we would need to know where the money will be coming from.

Solicitor Nanovic asked of the \$100,000.00, is that all for the consultant or are there some other fees involved with this?

Alan Baranski said this is an estimate, they have to do a really good job.

Solicitor Nanovic asked at what point will we need to come up with \$20,000, and is it a lump sum, or is it an 80/20 match as we go through this?

Alan Baranski said it could be drawn down as we bill out, you could hold onto the match then draw from you as they are billed for the project.

Mr. McGuire said traffic is caused by the people coming in here, the main part of this is the parking on Broadway & West Broadway. We have a commitment to the people, that this is going to include all of Broadway and West Broadway. The residents park on one side of the street on West Broadway and there are homes on both sides of the street. We need to help the residents with the parking.

Mr. Jackson said you mentioned you spec'd out the project, would you share this with council. This will answer the questions from council

Alan Baranski said yes.

Mr. Jackson said you mentioned organizations that you would like on the committee. You have Carbon County Chamber, Pocono Vacation Bureau, Train, Council. He said its \$20,000 that will be \$5,000 a piece, are you looking for a commitment tonight for \$5,000 a piece to start the project. He does not feel the borough should be doing this, this is your project. He does not feel we should be going to these people for the money, this is part of your responsibility as part of the grant and the project.

Alan Baranski said the Chamber and Pocono Vacation Bureau are aware of this. He will send letters out requesting contributions towards the project.

Bill Maehrer said at this time he has nothing to say but he reserves the right to speak at a later time.

Joseph Busocker presented to council a map of Onoko Lane. They are trying to re-organize a filled property association in Leisure land. The blue line is Onoko Lane - Woodside Drive to the end where it meets Alpine Road.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Joseph Busocker said the yellow mark is the 480 foot of Onoko Lane that the borough took over last year. The bold lines are the people that are part of the association. Onoko Lane is saying they are part of the borough, it's a borough road and they don't want to join the association. He spoke to Vince Yaich and Jim Nanovic about this. The only problem with what Vince told him is the fact - they have a deed for this road. That deed was originated from 1994 from a surveyor that Frank Logenbach had for the development. They can't get a final meeting together to re-elect officers of the association until he knows who to invite to the meeting. The question is we own this road because they have a survey and the deed that shows we own it. Vince had some information that said the borough owned it prior to that deed. What he is asking council to do is ask Solicitor Nanovic to see if he can determine who the ownership of this goes to.

Mr. Jackson asked what other streets would be in this association?

Joseph Busocker said everything in bold. He asked if this is a different association than the other association that is formed there?

Joe Busocker said the conveyance out of the original deed to this association were Woodside Drive to Glenn Onoko Estate. Little Lane and all the lanes down below went to Leisure lane, the other association that the GOE was formed from. This is the remainder, and in Harrisburg, Glenn Onoko Property Owners Associations is what its called. They have a handful of people that pay the fees, people are having a hard time selling their houses because there is not POA there. What they are trying to do is take this association, and tell everybody, look, you are part of this, get together and get it finalized. There are 10 homes on Onoko Lane road that may be part of the borough and may be not.

He is asking council to ask the solicitor Nanovic to figure it out as to whether it is or its not.

Solicitor Nanovic said his recollection, he is looking at the information that Joe provided to council (this is attached to review). Glenn Onoko Estates has conveyed the yellow portion to the borough, he thinks this association may have a claim to it, it is yours. He asked if there is anything, have you come across the deed where it says the borough may own it and the blue part may be owned by the borough?

Joe Busocker said no. He said the information that Vince gave him went back to the original Mauch Chunk Township purchase of the borough from Nesquehoning. Which pre-dates the development, and the deed.

Solicitor Nanovic said it is understanding the borough kept the plow down all the way up to the gate so we didn't barricade everybody in.

PSM Yaich said on the Liquid Fuels map none of those names were on it. His original address was Coalport Road, then it went to Main Street. On the Liquid Fuels map on the lower side, it says from the intersection of Canal Street .31 miles West on Main Street we get Liquid Fuels money for, at .31 miles before the sign that says welcome to Leisure Land. The truck will every once they go down to First Lane to turn around. On the upper end of the road which is Chapman Street, it says from the intersection of Canal Street at .36 miles going West on Chapman St that takes you to Jim Pollocks house. Years ago they used to plow to where the concession stand was at the Glen. It was always plowed in case you needed an ambulance or fire services out there.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Joe Busocker said it was in 1976 when the borough approved the development. The description, the Leisure Land subdivision plan dated May 15, 1964. That subdivision map is pretty much what he has here. He needs to know how to get the association together. If the borough wants to adopt it by all means they will be happy to entertain that also.

Solicitor Nanovic said we have nothing that says the borough owns it, we don't get Liquid Fuels money for it.

Borough Manager Sterner said Vince's question is do they continue to plow like they have in the past?

Solicitor Nanovic said the borough has never gotten Liquid Fuels money from Woodside to Alpine Road.

Vince said the map he is looking at is from 1991 and it does not have Onoko Lane on it, those names were changed later on. The map says .36 miles takes you down almost to the gate. He said until they get the association formed, do they continue to plow?

Ed McArdle said the COG program council should join.

Mr. McGuire said the COG has changed a lot since we spoke about it. There were no Senators coming up.

Borough Manager Sterner said council asked her to contact the COG again and get some updated information. She has done this.

Bill Malatak welcomed Maureen back. He stated when Alan Baranski was here, he kind of pulled back when you mentioned the County to contribute to the parking study. The County Commissioners are looking to fix the Switchback Trail. He asked if the County is getting money from the rafters? We should look into the Parking lot money.

Brian Day said his insurance company is asking why there is no stop sign at the intersection of Oak Street.

Solicitor Nanovic said the borough never put stop signs on it.

Brian Day asked who would have to stop at that intersection?

Solicitor Nanovic said he would stop. How do you know to stop, that is up to the individual? If you are looking for who is supposed to stop you can look at our ordinances or the Pa vehicle code.

Mike Rivkin said in regards to the kiosk in terms of the time, you should have a time limit on the metered business area. The whole idea on the time limit on metered area is to generate less traffic. The vendor for the kiosk will have the analytics, and be able to provide you with that information.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second John McGuire to approve the Work Session Meeting Minutes from July 6, 2017.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second John McGuire to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2017.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Curtis Jackson to approve the Expenditures from all Funds as presented.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Treasurer Report as presented.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second John McGuire to adopt Ordinance 2017-05 Zoning Amendment

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** John McGuire second John McGuire to adopt Ordinance 2017-08 Speed Limit Packer Hill.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** John McGuire second Thomas Highland to approve the Jim Thorpe Lion's Club 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Halloween Parade October 29, 2017 at 4:00 and to send a letter to Penn Dot

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second John McGuire to approve the Mauch Chunk Lake Park request to hold Heritage Festival at the lake on Sept. 16, 2017.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Thomas Highland second John McGuire to approve Patrick Crowley resignation from the Shade Tree Commission effective 8/11/17.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

Copier bids

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Borough Manager Sterner said we did not received any bids for the copier. She sent an email to a Township and PSAP that we have this for sale. If we don't get anything on that we will put it on municbid again.

Mr. Miller stated if this is unsellable does it still work. He recommended we give it to a charitable organization, make a donation.

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Addendum Flagger Services agreement.

COMMENTS:

Borough Manager Sterner said the County will be reimbursing the Borough instead of us reimbursing them.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second Jay Miller to obtain a survey showing the ownership of High Street Steps.

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second John McGuire that the borough does not have the authority to waive ADA rules and the property owner of 125 West Broadway should contact Penn Dot about curbing

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Gregory Strubinger to appoint William Diehm as the Fire Chief

COMMENTS:

Mr. McGuire said he is voting no, he has great respect for William Diehm, but there are a ton of issues with the fire department right now and the buck has to stop at the top. The person at the top has to change, Bill would be suited for assistant chief but should not be the top man. He recommends Vince Yaich for the Fire Chief position not the assistance chief.

YES 4            NO 1 John McGuire            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to appoint Vince Yaich as the Deputy Fire Chief.

COMMENT

Mr. Miller said he will ask for an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel.

Mr. McGuire stated Vince Yaich should be the Fire Chief not the Deputy Fire Chief.

YES 4            NO 1 John McGuire            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler



JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second John McGuire to approve WWTP Upgrade Project Eastern Environmental payment application #8 - \$146,813.00

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to approve Howard Company payment application #5 - \$33,007.75

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second Thomas Highland to approve Requisition #11 - \$196,495.70

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**Utility Action**

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second Thomas Highland to approve the Utility Accounts Lien Reports Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (5)

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)  
Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (0)  
Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)  
Temporary Off Lien Report (0)  
Uncollectible Accounts Report - none

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second Thomas Highland to approve the Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (6)

YES 5            NO 0            ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

**Tax Exoneration Action**

**Committees**

**Administration**

**Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)**

Mr. McGuire said we have talked about Burning ordinance, he would like to look at this and then forward to council to review.

**Police**

**Buildings/Parks**

Mr. McGuire informed council he received a letter about the last wedding at the hall. The biggest problem was they could not find anyone that was in charge.

**Emergency Services**



JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Mayor Sofranko asked council that they get back to the Chief about the kiosk question so he can get answers for council.

**Old Business**

Nuisance Ordinance

UCC Joint Board of Appeals Inter-Municipal Agreement Amendment

W. Front St & River St Dedication Ordinance

Borough Manager Sterner gave an update on the River Street dedication acquiring the land at 102 & 103 North Street. She will contact Penn Dot to see where this sit.

Petition to Vacating Portion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

Solicitor Nanovic suggested this be taken off of the agenda because we have not heard anything on this for a year.

Collection Agency for delinquent utility fees

Act 172 of 2016 – Incentives for Emergency Services Volunteers

Police Contract

204 Center Ave

Memorial Hall Stormwater Project Bid Specs

High Street Wall Construction Bids

High Street Wall Financing Proposals

**Executive Session**

A. Litigation

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Gregory Strubinger to go into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel.

YES 5      NO 0      ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

Into executive session at 8:25 pm

Back at 9:23 pm

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second Jay Miller to authorize the Borough Manager to send a letter to the East Mauch Chunk Fireman's Relief informing them council has reason to believe that they may be out of compliance with State guidelines.

COMMENTS

President Strubinger said this may result in us reallocating the fireman's relief money.

YES 5      NO 0      ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Emilie Sofranko thanked council for allowing the summer program to run in the Memorial Park.

**MOTION:** Curtis Jackson second Gregory Strubinger to adjourn.

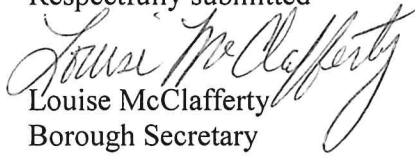
YES 5

NO 0

ABSENT 2 Joanne Klitsch & Kyle Sheckler

Adjourned at 9:25 pm

Respectfully submitted

  
Louise McClafferty  
Borough Secretary