

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2019
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm in the Memorial Park Hall, 115 East Tenth Street, Jim Thorpe by President Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for the men and women serving our country.

Roll Call of Members & Officials

Gregory Strubinger	Kyle Sheckler	Joanne Klitsch
Thomas Highland	John McGuire	Edith Lukasevich
Jay Miller	Manager Maureen Sterner	PSM Vince Yaich
Connor Rodgers, JCP (a)	Police Chief Schatz	Solicitor James Nanovic
Mayor Michael Sofranko	Secy. McClafferty	

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sofranko introduced Mr. Rinkcavage who is running for office in Plymouth, Pa, he has been attending variance council meetings across Pennsylvania.

Mayor Sofranko said council received the monthly police dept. report to review.

Mayor Sofranko asked the public to continue contacting their State Representatives and tell them the need for radar for the local police is very much needed.

Public Hearing

None

SALDO

Canyon Rim RV, Cabins & Campers Plan Time Extension

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second John McGuire to approve the Canyon Rim RV, Cabins, & Campers plan time extension to July 12, 2019.

YES 7

NO 0

Public Comment

President Strubinger announced the July Workshop session has been cancelled it falls on July 4th.

President Strubinger said the CC Community Foundation Grant in the amount of \$500.00, which will be utilized as part of an Eagle Scout project. Dan Demarco is the Scout; this is designated for the large pavilion in the Memorial Park for kitchen refurbishment. The check presentation will be on June 19, 2019 at the Galen Glen Winery.

President Strubinger said Notice on Commingled Trash & Recyclables, we have had complaints recyclables being mixed in with the regular garbage. This is not permissible under our contract. However, there are times that it is, one of the permissible reasons would be if the hauler is using a dual truck where garbage goes into one section and recycling into another and also, if something is put into the recycling container that is not recyclable. He asked if this happens that they write down the date, time and location and report it to the office.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2019
MINUTES

President Strubinger said the Spring Tire & Electronic Recycling Results.

Borough Manager Sterner said we had 255 residents that participated, 296 tires, 291 TV's and 258 other electronics.

Scout Robbie Renode, Eagle Scout Project. He is working on the Liberty's Monument, they have been re-doing all of the railings and the stairs. They have been cleaning up around the area with tree branches and making it level. He would like to know how to get a plaque for at the monument?

Borough Manger Sterner said she will look into this.

Robbie Renode explained the estimate for the project was \$1,299.10, they raised \$560.00, they gained another \$200.00, he still needs about \$489.07 to finish the project.

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to give a donation of \$500.00 to Danny Renode to complete the Eagle Scout Project at the property on the Liberty's.

YES 7

NO 0

Michael Rivkin, 61 W. Broadway, asked if item H. Stop the Bleed training will be open to the public?

Police Chief Schatz said yes.

Michael Rivkin asked if this will be including the new CPR training?

Police Chief Schatz said no.

Michael Rivkin, said item K – JTТА/Sam Miller Police contract for July 6, 2019 fireworks, Hometown Festival. He spoke with Chief Schatz and he has arranged to have some assistance from Penn Forest Fire Police, this will reduce the cost for additional JT Police coverage for the event. The expenses are exceeding the funds on hand for Sam Miller Athletic Association, they have fundraising going on now for this event. He asked Council when this item comes up to a vote that they waive any additional police coverage for the Jim Thorpe Community Athletic Foundation. This is a community event, and is not in any means for profit event.

Borough Manager Sterner asked Michael Rivkin if he has a cost for police services that you are asking the borough to waive?

Michael Rivkin said they are estimating; the original cost was based on 12 hours of service \$981.00. They are hoping to reduce it to 6 hours, about \$500.00. What they have to do for the Fire Police, they will do the fundraising.

Robbie Renode, Troop 555, has a 5x7 trailer. They out grew the trailer, he explained the trailer needed some repairs. He said they are looking to donate the trailer to the Cub Pack.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 13, 2019

MINUTES

MOTION: Jay Miller second Edith Lukasevich to donate \$750.00 to Boy Scout Troop #555 and donate \$250.00 to Cub Pack 138, the funds are for a new trailer.

YES 7

NO 0

Bill Malatak, 1342 Germantown Rd, thanked everyone for fixing the bridge across Germantown Road. He spoke about the road past 1340 Germantown Road, the road is eroding around the edges, this needs to be filled in. He asked what the Working Woodland Rapid Forest Assessment what does this means.

Borough Manager Sterner said the Nature Conservancy will come in and do a rapid assessment of our forest and water shed areas to determine the value of our forest as far as logging or carbon credits. We could possibly get some income for the carbon credits. This is no charge to the borough, there are no obligations, they do a quick assessment and let us know if we should look into this further.

Jake Arner said he had a meeting with the Planning Commission regarding his plans. He is looking to provide parking for short term rentals, provide transportation and fix Flagstaff Road. He would like to designate 5 acres for parking on his property. The parking would be for cars, the transportation would be Urber. He would give half of the revenue's profits to the borough; this would increase the amount of money to go to repair Flagstaff Road. He is going to present this to the Planning Commission.

Sheila O'Neil, 40 W Broadway, spoke about children riding scooters, bicycles and stuff on the sidewalks without helmets. Her concern is they are going out into the street. She cannot understand why there is not a program in Jim Thorpe that would provide helmets to the children.

Mayor Sofranko said there is a Safety Program every year sponsored out at the Mauch Chunk Lake by Senator Yudichak, Representative Heffley and Masonic Lodge, they hand out helmets.

Action

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Council Workshop Meeting Minutes from May 2, 2019.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from May 9, 2019.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the expenditures from all Funds as presented.

YES 7

NO 0

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 13, 2019

MINUTES

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Treasurer Report May, 2019 as presented.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second Edith Lukasevich to adopt Resolution 2019-16 Fire Cos. Merger Endorsement.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Jay Miller to adopt Resolution 2019-17 Germantown Emergency Repairs.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Edith Lukasevich to approve the JT Summer League Request for use of Basketball Court.

QUESTIONS:

Mrs. Klitsch asked for dates for this.

Borough Manager Sterner said from June 17 to August 22, 2019 on Monday's and Thursday's, 5 pm to 10 pm

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve the JT Police "Stop the Bleed" training in Memorial Hall September.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second Edith Lukasevich to approve the RUNegades Run Update 5/16/2020, from conditional to regular approval.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Edith Lukasevich second Jay Miller to approve St. John's Church in the Heights Ecumenical Vacation Bible School Request to close the 300 block of South Avenue the week of June 24 to June 28, 2019 from 6:00- to 8:00 pm.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second Kyle Sheckler to approve the JT TA/Sam Miller July 6, 2019 Police Contract Expenses amount of \$500.00.

COMMENTS:

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2019
MINUTES

Police Chief Schatz said they did get the ok for the Penn Forest Fire Police. They are waiting to see how many guys they will have for the event. Right now, it would be 2 officers that would be security for the event. If we get the fire police, they will not need the extras.

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the JT Hall of Fame Mausoleum Project Donation amount of \$1,000.00.

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Thomas Highland to approve Police Chief Schatz Training on Police Records Management.

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Thomas Highland to approve Police Chief Schatz & Sgt. Bokeko Event Policing Training.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Miller said they should find a place to eat and sleep instead of driving back and forth to Philadelphia.

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Memorial Park Master Site Plan Proposal.

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Working Woodlands Rapid Forest Assessment.

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Gregory Strubinger to advertise the NEPA Parking Study Special Meeting on July 18, 2019 at 6:30 pm

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Thomas Highland to approve Matthew Schwarz Police Resignation effective June 16, 2019.

YES 7 NO 0

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 13, 2019

MINUTES

MOTION: John McGuire second Thomas Highland that Employee #331 hourly wage increase of \$1.00 per hour, effective June 14, 2019.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Thomas Highland second John McGuire that Employee #382 hourly wage increase of \$1.00 per hour, effective June 14, 2019.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve Gregory Strubinger's Resignation from Civil Service Commission.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Edith Lukasevich second John McGuire to appoint Joseph Lawrence to the Civil Service.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Sewer Inflow & Infiltration Correction Program. Results from the smoke testing, instruct the Sewer Dept to inform the areas that are requiring repairs and that they are to be completed within 90 days.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Joanne Klitsch to instruct the Sewer Dept to notify the property owners of 209 & 211 North Street about the recent investigation from a complaint and that corrective action be taken within 90 days.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Kyle Sheckler to deny 1230 North Street Tree Request.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to disconnect the Twining Park PPL Electrical Services.

YES 7

NO 0

Mrs. Lukasevich said she had the time to read everything on Bob Handwerk's citation. She thinks we should reconsider. She does not know why we did not get in touch with him, why we sent him to the Magistrate.

Borough Manager Sterner said this went through zoning, there was contact until Mr. Handwerk stopped the contact.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 13, 2019

MINUTES

Bob Handwerk said he went to the Magistrates this week and pleaded not guilty.

Mr. McGuire said if the work gets completed before the court date, do we pull that.

Solicitor Nanovic said you can. If he does what the zoning officer says he has to do, and if he does authorize the zoning officer to pull the citation.

Bob Handwerk said the culvert is an issue. He asked what is the point of fixing the wall if the culvert problems continue?

Pat Handwerk said 34 years ago they came to council and told them there is water rushing down Packer Hill and is destroying their wall. They were told there is no money to repair the wall, or to fix it or to do the catch basin. Now the wall is dangerous and is ready to fall into the culvert. If they fix the wall and the water continues to come down that hill, the water runs over the culvert, they do not know why they are being responsible for a borough issue. They are willing to do the work. They want to be reassured if they do this work and the culvert fails that it is all going to end up at the bottom of the hill by the County. They would like the culvert to be permanently fixed.

MOTION: Jay Miller second Edith Lukasevich, provided the Handwerk's repair the wall, the Borough agrees to withdraw the citation against the Handwerks. The Borough will then make a concerted effort to repair the culvert.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Jay Miller second Edith Lukasevich to approve D & L Trail Bower Time Extension Request to July 31, 2019.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Gregory Strubinger to approve Bower payment application #1 - \$349,363.88.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Gregory Strubinger to approve Facilities Upgrade Project Spillman Amendment.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: John McGuire second Jay Miller to approve the Updated Project Budget for USDA.

YES 7

NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve the WWTP Upgrade Project Eastern Environmental payment application #30 - \$98,266.22.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2019
MINUTES

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve Howard Company payment application #25 - \$1,700.00.

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve Requisition #34 – \$167,793.17.

YES 7 NO 0

Utility Action

Utility Accounts Lien Reports

Active Utility Accounts Garbage & Others Lien Report (0)

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (2).

YES 7 NO 0

Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)

Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (0)

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch Jay Miller to approve the Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (2)

YES 7 NO 0

Temporary Off Lien Report (0)

Inactive (0)

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Uncollectible Accounts Report – (2).

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Kyle Sheckler second Jay Miller to approve the Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (4).

YES 7 NO 0

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch Edith Lukasevich to approve Acct #0796 Request, adjust the sewer, they had a water leak.

YES 7 NO 0

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 13, 2019

MINUTES

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve Acct #1240 Request, adjusting the sewer, they had a water leak.

YES 7

NO 0

Tax Exoneration Action

MOTION: Edith Lukasevich second John McGuire to approve the exoneration request for: Margaret O'Donnell, Marian Henning and Danielle O'Shura – Bollman.

YES 7

NO 0

Committees

Administration

Mr. McGuire spoke about cleaning up Flagstaff Road.

Mr. McGuire informed everyone a "Little Library" has been installed in Memorial Park under the gazebo.

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

Police

Buildings/Parks

Emergency Services

Old Business

Permit Parking

Readdressing Phase II

Susquehanna Street No Parking Ordinance

Blight Landbank

Zoning Ordinance Group Homes

Executive Session

Litigation

Personnel

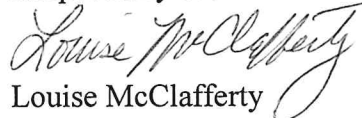
MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second John McGuire to go into executive session for litigation and personnel and adjourn.

YES 7

NO 0

Adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted



Louise McClafferty
Borough Secretary