

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 12, 2019
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm in the Memorial Park Hall, 115 East Tenth Street, Jim Thorpe by President Gregory 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 (a)	Joanne Klitsch
Thomas Highland	John McGuire	Edith Lukasevich
Jay Miller (a)	Borough Manager Sterner	PSM Yaich (v)
Connor Rodgers, JCP	Police Chief Schatz	Solicitor James Nanovic
Mayor Michael Sofranko	Secy. McClafferty	

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sofranko informed everyone that he attended the Carbon County Chamber of Commerce event, the Borough was recognized for the new pedestrian bridge in Jim Thorpe, this is in the workings for over 25 years. The Borough received a plaque and certificates for this project.

President Strubinger thanked the mayor for attending the event on behalf of the borough.

Police Chief Schatz asked the Penn Dot to do a traffic study on Center Ave. The speeding complaints we received and the 2 crashes they had up there is the reason for the study. Penn Dot found that 40 MPH is sufficient. The intersection at Center Ave and Coal St, and the intersection of Center Ave and Lentz Trail, they plan on making bigger stop signs, as well as a sign prior to the stop signs. They did install the "stop sign ahead" sign. The Police Dept is doing what they can patrolling there. The speed limit of 40 MPH will stay.

Mayor Sofranko said 85% of the people drive normal, 15% do not drive normal. He asked the residents for support and asked them to contact State Representative Heffley and Senator Yudichak to enforce the radar for the local police departments.

Mayor Sofranko said he received a letter today from "An Officer Down Memorial page". The local community has always been very supportive of the Jim Thorpe Police Dept. He said there were 115 officers killed this year in the line of duty. He thanked the community for their respect and support of the officers.

SALDO

Canyon Rim RV, Cabin & Camping Lots SALDO Plan 3/27/19 as revised – time extension

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Canyon Rim RV, Cabin & Camping lots SALDO plan 3/27/19 as revised time extension to March 31, 2020.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 12, 2019
MINUTES

Public Comment

Bill Malatak 1342 Germantown Road, thanked John McGuire for looking at the County railroad tracks. He wants to thank Jay Miller for listening to him. The Liberty's make a left-hand turn and your view is blocked, Penn Dot hasn't done anything about that, the trees need to be taken down. He spoke about the sidewalks ending at the telephone pole on Lehigh Ave and the County fence, he wants to know if that is up to code? He spoke about the D&L project costing 3 million dollars. You need to convince the County that is unsafe.

President Strubinger said the D&L trail, the fence we were pro-active about that, it needed additional fencing to be built to spec and we were pro-active in securing additional funds for the additional fence so it was built to spec and for the safety of those that use that area, no cost to the borough. The difference between the D&L project, that was something that the borough had some control and some say over it. The area where you are talking about, that is on State highway. Your question on how many cars went through that fence and is that up to code? He is sure that may not be up to some type of code.

Mr. McGuire said he and Manager Sterner met with the Commissioners at the telephone pole. They don't do anything about it, they own it. They need to talk to the Railroad. He spoke to the Commissioners several times about this. The change in the leadership may help us out.

Mrs. Klitsch said there is a meeting on 12/17/19 with Penn Dot we should bring up to them about the trees on the curve.

President Strubinger said we have Memorial Park Master Site Plan Participant Recreation Survey that ends 12/31/19. He asked residents to fill this out and submit it.

Mr. Strubinger said the MAP Grant for Zoning & SALDO Ordinance updates with Summit Hill Borough - \$30,070.00.

Borough Manager Sterner said a committee will be set up, that will work together with Summit Hill Borough and the consultants to update the ordinances.

Action

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve the Council Workshop Meeting Minutes from November 7, 2019.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from November 14, 2019.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 12, 2019
MINUTES

MOTION: John McGuire second Thomas Highland to approve the Treasurer Report November, 2019 as presented.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOITON: John McGuire second Thomas Highland to approve the Expenditures from all Funds as presented, with the addition of the credit card bill amount of \$303.39 total of the invoices \$169,399.34.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to Adopt the 2020 Budgets as presented.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Gregory Strubinger to advertise the End of the Year Meeting – Monday, December 30, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to Schedule and Advertise Reorganization Meeting and Workshop meeting for Monday, January 6, 2020 at 6:30

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to advertise the January Regular Meeting for Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 6:30 pm, at that time council will schedule the 2020 workshops and regular monthly meetings.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Edith Lukasevich second Joanne Klitsch to approve McElmoyle Medical Leave Request, retroactive 10/21/19 through 12/13/19.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: John McGuire second Thomas Highland to approve the Entech Work Order 4159—EWO-10170 Chapter 94 Report.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Joanne Klitsch to approve PLGIT Product Renewals, 3 different groups of the reserve funds, to roll over the amounts that are due up, add some money where we can to them, term of 180 days, 1.8% conditioned that we do the fire equipment reserve fund, put in the highest yield.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 12, 2019
MINUTES

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve the December 2019 Line Item Transfers.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Municipal Insurances renewal to our current carrier Brown & Brown of Lehigh Valley.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Borough Facilities Projects 701 W. Broadway Sewage Planning Module.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

Park Master Site Plan – none

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve the D & L Trail Project Bower Payment Application #5 - \$36,167.00.

QUESSTION:

Mrs. Klitsch asked if this is part of the grant?

Borough Manager Sterner said yes, this would be conditioned upon Wilson Consultant.

President Strubinger asked if this closes out this project?

Borough Manager Sterner said yes.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Thomas Highland to approve the WWTP Upgrade Project Eastern Environmental payment application #33 - \$13,743.43

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

Howard Company payment application #27 – None

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve the revised Requisition #36 amount of \$44,406.54.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 12, 2019
MINUTES

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve Requisition #40 amount of \$17,103.43.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

Utility Action

Utility Accounts Lien Reports

Active Utility Accounts Garbage & Others Lien Report (0)

MOTION: Thomas Highland second John McGuire to approve the Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (3).

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & 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)

Inactive (0)

Uncollectible Accounts Report – (0)

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Thomas Highland to approve the Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (5).

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: John McGuire second Thomas Highland to approve Account #1385 Payment Plan.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second John McGuire to deny Account #8820 to waive the penalty fees.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

TABLE Account #3930 Request.

Tax Exoneration Action

MOTION: Edith Lukasevich second Joanne Klitsch to approve Carol Crowley, exoneration request, she is retired.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 12, 2019
MINUTES

MOTION: Edith Lukasevich second Joanne Klitsch to approve Patrick Crowley exoneration request, he is retired.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

Committees

Administration

Mr. McGuire spoke about the Short Term Rentals (STR) ordinance draft and the marijuana ordinance that they have worked on for several months. He would like to schedule a meeting and turn the information over to the new council members to review.

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

President Strubinger said the Flizack Request.

Borough Manager Sterner said PSM Yaich has been on vacation.

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Joanne Klitsch to table the Flizack request on the unopened portion of 4th St, until PSM Yaich and the other departments look at this area to see if there are any utilities at this location.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

Mr. McGuire said the contracts for the managers are up for review.

Police

Mayor Sofranko sent a text to Commissioner Nothstein. He has a meeting scheduled with him on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 3:00.

Buildings/Parks

President Strubinger said they did have another committee meeting; they are moving forward with the Public Service building and the Police/Administrative buildings. They are waiting on some issues with the survey here at the park.

Borough Manager Sterner said we are waiting for permits.

Emergency Services

President Strubinger thanked Mr. McGuire and Mr. Miller for their service to the borough.

Mrs. Klitsch thanked Mr. McGuire and Mr. Miller; they didn't always see eye to eye but they stayed professional.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 12, 2019
MINUTES

Old Business

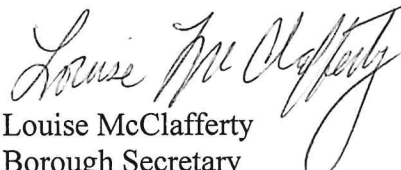
Permit Parking
Readdressing Phase II
Susquehanna Street No Parking Ordinance
Blight Landbank
Zoning Ordinance Group Homes
WC Conservation Easement
WC Dam Removal

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second John McGuire to adjourn.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Jay Miller & Kyle Sheckler

Adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted


Louise McClafferty
Borough Secretary