

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Gregory Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for the men and women serving our country with the Corona Virus pandemic.

President Strubinger announced at this point in time under Governor Wolf's orders we are limiting participation by the public, unless you have an agenda item. This is how the meetings will be, we are limited to the number of 25 people to attend indoor events. We ask residents to submit their comments by mail, email, hand deliver comments to the office, or place their comments in the drop office box.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Michael Yeastedt	Joanne Klitsch	Kyle Sheckler
Edith Lukasevich (a)	Robert Schaninger (L)	Thomas Highland
Gregory Strubinger	Mayor Michael Sofranko	Connor Rodgers, JCP
PSM Vince Yaich	Borough Manager Sterner	Solicitor James Nanovic
Police Chief Schatz	Borough Secy. McClafferty (a)	

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Sofranko said they have been working on fall foliage weekend coming up, and the police are out hammering down on traffic violations and speeding. This is a tough job because we don't have radar.

Mayor Sofranko said Trick or Treat will take place from 5:00 to 7:00 on October 31, 2020. Every Mayor is asking the residents to stay in their own boroughs, please use common sense and keep your mask on.

Mayor Sofranko said the School District has entered an agreement with an outside contractor to handle their security. The School Resource officer will not happen. He asked that whenever the School District would need an armed police officer there that they will fill out a request form and bring it to council.

Police Chief Schatz said this would follow suit as we contract now. Say a running organization comes to us and says they want the contract for police, they are given the Police Service Contract to fill out, we review it, if it meets their needs, they handle it. Right now, we have a straight contract with them. We run into the issues of they need them for a Friday night game he might not be available, or he would have to pull an officer, he would have to have this in place prior to that so we can make sure we can comply. They will respond to any kind of incident that is police related. If they want the police in the future, we ask that they contract like the other event holders do.

Police Chief Schatz said would like to comment on all of the officers that participated in the "Fall in Love" and the fire police from the other municipalities. Hats off to everyone involved with this.

Mayor Sofranko said everyone asks who pays for this? He complimented Borough Manager Sterner, Chief and PSM Yaich, they really worked hard at this. Where this money is coming from this year, we were given \$30,000.00 from the Hotel tax, that is what is paying for all the manpower to be over there and we received money from COVID.

Borough Manager Sterner said that is for the administrative technology stuff money, \$12,477.00 from COVID money.

**Announcements**

Executive Session – held before this meeting for personnel

President Strubinger said there continues to be a vacancy on the Joint Board of Appeals and we have a vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

Tire & Electronic Recycling Event Report

JCP Rodgers said they collected: 128 – TV's, 239 – tires and 198 electronics. The event was run a half hour shorter.

**SALDO**

**Public Comment** – limited to 1 minute per person – public is encouraged to submit public comments via regular mail, email or place in drop box at municipal office

Bill Maehrer, 345 W. Broadway, he questioned the article in the newspaper. The tourists and all the other people that don't live on West Broadway and are parking there for the whole weekend, that is not right. They are parking there because of rentals, it is not just tourists coming in for the day, most of them are gone by 5:00 pm. The parking fee, the price of it, if it is mainly for administrative and issue the tickets that should be once and done not every year.

President Strubinger said the ordinance calls for an annual renewal.

Borough Manager Sterner said that is because people move.

Bill Maehrer said you should hold off on this ordinance until you talk to all of the people.

John McGuire, 1325 Center Street said he is here to represent the Dimmick Memorial Library. The donation is on the bill list, he thanked council for the donation. He did send Borough Manager Sterner a letter for the budget meeting and what the money will be used for with the library. They did attend the Commissioner's meeting and will pass this information on to council and pass the information on to the residents. He thanked the Water dept for the work they have done. When the fire hydrants are flushed his house was always a problem when the hydrants were flushed.

John McGuire said Planning Commission, Louis Hall is away, if you need something on updates please contact him. He will talk to Maureen about how to use the grant money. He would like to include this in the JTPC meeting notes. He said the work that will be done behind his house please contact him he will work with them, and thank you.

Terry Opiela, 92 Broadway, she has been a resident here since 1991. She said with giving West Broadway residential parking and leaving us from 80 Broadway to the Opera House in limbo where any worker or resident can park. She does not think this will be fair, they will not have any parking there. She is wondering what you will do for the residents of upper Broadway that you are doing for West Broadway? People that live there are not getting a residential parking permit and everyone that works in town can park in that one block, that is not fair and she does not agree with the ordinance you are trying to pass.

Jim Pompa, 88 Broadway. He said he is here for the same reason concerning the residential parking permit. This needs a lot more research before you try to put this in place. There are about 150 residents on West Broadway and about 105 parking spots. He does not know how you would be able to sell 2 permits per household. Most of the congestion is between the Opera House and the Jail. He thinks this needs to be looked into this deeper.

Laura, 29 West Broadway. She said she agrees with what the other people talked about. It would be great if you would work on creating new parking spots. A municipal parking lot would be great. There are parking spots available in the evening hours and it would not be fair to those people not being allowed to have visitors.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

Chris Garris, 52 West Broadway. He said thank you for putting the effort towards providing us with parking, more research has to go into utilization of all of West Broadway. He lives between Opera House and the Jail; it is mostly congested. Once you get the Air B&B's straightened out this might work out. You have to talk to the residents.

James Gilmore, 50 West Broadway. He said you have been through this before, we had discussion about resident parking on West Broadway and there are things that are not right in the ordinance. Come to the people on Broadway and West Broadway and talk to them. He spoke about having to walk over a half mile to his house because of the tourists and everyone else are parked in those spots. He said on the weekends they are trapped in their houses because if they leave, they won't have their spot to come back to because tourists will park there. The permits we are being charged for that; you are giving tickets that should pay for the permits. You need to hold a meeting and have the residents here to talk about this.

Council suggested they hold a meeting on November 16, 2020 at 6:30 to discuss the permit parking ordinance publicly with the residents.

Alfred Yzzi, 1005 Center Street. He said received a quote in the amount of \$8,500.00, this does not include the hookup to the street; it includes the pump. This is \$10,000.00, he does not have \$10,000.00 to spend on this. On West Tenth Street there is a hookup there; but the borough didn't do an easement so that is why he has to go this route for a grinder pump to go out to Center St. He stated this is not right.

President Strubinger said we did discuss maybe waive the fee.

Mrs. Klitsch said you will have to go with a grinder pump and pay for the grinder pump.

Borough Manager Sterner said Sewer Committee decided the facilities fees about \$1,800.00, those fees would be waived but the pump and the installation would be Mr. Yzzi's responsibility.

Mr. Yzzi said he is stuck to pay for the grinder pump. Where else is he to go he can't go out W. 10<sup>th</sup> St, go down to School St, this is not his fault.

Mrs. Klitsch said they are going to find out where we got the other grinder pumps that we have, so when it came time if there was power outage, they could be taken care of by the borough.

President Strubinger said that was discussed. We talked to make sure that the pump you are using are the pumps that we are currently using in the borough.

Alfred Yzzi said he can go that route. He is using Nolie Wernett

President Strubinger said the borough would ask that you use the pumps that we use and talk to Ed Gula.

PSM Yaich said we have a spare pump and if the power goes out, they would come up and set it up to hook the generator on to it so you can drain sludge out to use the bathroom.

President Strubinger said the current line goes down to School St. and there are structures built over it.

PSM Yaich said in 1996 the borough put a lateral in on W 10<sup>th</sup> St for that property. They ran it over to the curb line. Why would you put a lateral in and not follow through with having an easement for it? If we didn't have the easement, we never should have put the lateral in. Now we are stuck with a lateral in the ground that could be leaking we don't know; it goes to nowhere. It was put in it was never followed through.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

PSM Yaich said they knew back then that is the reason why they wanted to come off of 10<sup>th</sup> St. because if something happened, they wouldn't be able to get back down to School St. and then you would sewer out to Center St. was too shallow to have gravity sewer. Back then we had no grinder pumps in the Borough. When Mr. Yzzi was notified that his sewer lateral was leaking all he was told was there is a lateral for his property on 10<sup>th</sup> St. Then when it was time for Mr. Yzzi to do his work, he was told we don't have an easement.

Solicitor Nanovic said the easement would not be for us to do that would be up to the property owner's responsibility.

Alfred Yzzi said he discussed this with his neighbor and she does not want this and he does not want to create an enemy with his neighbor. He is here to get help to get the grinder pump to go out to Center St.

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Michael Yeastedt to waive the fee for Alfred Yzzi at 1005 Center St.

YES 5

NO 0

ABSENT 2 Edith Lukasevich & Bob Schaninger

Jake Arner said we have always had a parking problem, the only way to fix this is to create more parking. The Borough has the property on Flagstaff road, get a grant to create parking there.

Jay Llewellyn, 94 Broadway. He said residents coming home from work and not finding a parking spot on Broadway then park on West Broadway and they won't be allowed to let their cars there until the next morning does not make any sense. The annual renewal for permits he doesn't understand why that can't be once and done.

James Dougher 169 W. Broadway. He said agrees with the comments on the permit parking, he is not for this. The ordinance does not take into account for visitors that come to his house for dinner or something. His recommendation would be to meter all of West Broadway from the train station all the way up to 400 West Broadway, maximum time of 2 hours. That would generate income and it would cause turn over. If he had a parking permit, he would not have to pay the meters. If he has family or friends over, they could purchase a 2-hour time spot.

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Joanne Klitsch to TABLE Ordinance 2020-08 Permit Parking West Broadway.

**COMMENTS:**

Mr. Yeastedt thinks we should table this until we hold a public meeting for input. He said we may actually want to do a work committee and put something together and come back. We need to sit down and put together some options.

YES 5

NO 0

ABSENT 2 Edith Lukasevich & Bob Schaninger

Mayor Sofranko suggested you sit down with the residents and hear them. It is a problem, and Mr. McGinley said last month the only problem here is if you do nothing, you are doing something you are trying to resolve the problem. Start with a workshop meeting let the people tell you what they think, send it to a committee and then bring that back.

Jim Pompa asked how are you going to notify everyone on West Broadway you are going to hold this meeting? You have to expand the area for the people on Broadway. They will need time to get the work out about the meeting date and time.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

**MOTION:** Robert Schaninger second Michael Yeastedt to advertise the Public meeting for Monday, November 16, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the Memorial Hall.

Mr. Yeastedt asked that an all call be put out.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**Action**

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Thomas Highland to appoint Joanne Klitsch as the Assistant Secretary.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Kyle Sheckler to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from September 3, 2020.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Michael Yeastedt to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from September 10, 2020.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Kyle Sheckler to approve the Expenditures from all Funds as presented.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Kyle Sheckler to approve the Treasurer's Report September, 2020.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Joanne Klitsch to approve the advertising of Ordinance 2020-09 Utility Services Payment of Bills Amendment.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Thomas Highland second Michael Yeastedt to accept the ratified Resolution 2020-15 Ford Fusion Lease agreement.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Robert Schaninger second Kyle Sheckler to adopt Resolution 2020-16 LSA Grant Police Utility Vehicle & License Plate Reader.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Michael Yeastedt to adopt Resolution 2020-17 County COVID Grant Agreement.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Joanne Klitsch to adopt Resolution 2020-18 Street Name St. John's Lutheran Church in the Heights named for Bishop Samuel Zeiser.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Kyle Sheckler to adopt Resolution 2020-19 Emergency Operations Plan, the only thing being updated the contact list for council people.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Michael Yeastedt to advertise the Budget Workshop Schedule: Oct 29, Nov 4, Nov 19 and Nov 25.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Kyle Sheckler to approve the Foreign Fireman's Insurance Distribution – East Mauch Chunk Fireman's Relief is \$11,589.82 and Mauch Chunk Fireman's Relief is \$11,589.83.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Thomas Highland second Joanne Klitsch that Officer Poeldnork is released from his year probation period.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Thomas Highland to approve Det. Marzen Longevity Pay - \$500.00 due 10/27/20.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Joanne Klitsch to place out to bid Pumper/Tanker and Rescue Pumper.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Michael Yeastedt to approve Head Start Request to use the Memorial Park parking lot Sept 2020 to end of May 2021.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Kyle Sheckler that the Food Pantry continue to use the hall during the winter months, and they follow the current COVID restrictions.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Michael Yeastedt to approve PSP Request to use the hall for training.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Kyle Sheckler second Thomas Highland to TABLE the Permit Inspections.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Kyle Sheckler second Michael Yeastedt to pledge the fund for Church Alley Water Main Project.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Robert Schaninger the Borough Facilities Projects bid documents will be reviewed with Spillman Farmer and the Buildings Committee to make sure of the options and the alternates council would want in the bids.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Kyle Sheckler second Thomas Highland to adopt Resolution 2020-14 Current Garage/NPS Land Pledge.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

Park Master Site Plan - N/A

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Thomas Highland to approve the WWTP Upgrade Project – Requisition 44 - \$17,337.74.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**Utility Action**

Utility Accounts Lien Reports

Past Due Garbage Accounts

Active Utility Accounts Garbage & Others Lien Report (0)

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Kyle Sheckler to approve Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (1).

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)

Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (0)

**MOTION:** Michael Yeastedt second Thomas Highland to approve Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (1).

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

Temporary Off Lien Report (0)

Inactive (0)

Uncollectible Accounts Report – (0)

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

**MOTION:** Kyle Sheckler second Thomas Highland to approve the Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (1).

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**MOTION:** Kyle Sheckler second Thomas Highland to approve Account 3080 Request – sewer credit due to leak.

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**Exoneration Request**

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Michael Yeastedt to approve the tax exoneration requests for:

- Mary Kelshaw
- Gary Kelshaw
- Joseph Sebelin
- Karen Sebelin
- Terry McElmoyle
- Sharon LoPinto
- Eugene Sheard

YES 6                      NO 0                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**Committees**

**Administration**

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

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Kyle Sheckler the Sewer Dept. staffing, due to the circumstances beyond our control we will not be hiring.

**QUESTIONS:**

Mr. Schaninger asked how come?

Solicitor Nanovic said this was discussed prior to the meeting in executive session.

Borough Manager Sterner said you can have personnel after the meeting to fill Mr. Schaninger in.

YES 5                      NO 1 Bob Schaninger                      ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

**Police**

**Buildings/Parks**

Mr. Schaninger said there are two trees, one is across from Marzen Hardware and there is one at 202 Center Ave that need to be removed. The County is going to plant a tree by the parking lot for the trail, who would recommend what type of tree to be put in.

Borough Manager Sterner said that would be something that the Shade Tree Commission would recommend.

Mr. Schaninger said with winter coming next month, what do we put on the road.



JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA

PSM Yaich said we put anti-skid and rock salt combination on the roads

Emergency Services

**Old Business**

Flizak Request – 4<sup>th</sup> St Quit Claim Deed  
457 Plan  
Readdressing Phase II  
Zoning Ordinance Group Homes  
Anti-Harassment Policy  
Slaughterhouse Creek Drainage Swale

Short Term Rental  
Parking Study  
Blight Landbank  
Social Media Policy  
Tax Collector Compensation

**Executive Session**

**Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Thomas Highland second Michael Yeasted to adjourn and go into executive session in regards to personnel.

YES 6

NO 0

ABSENT 1 Edith Lukasevich

Adjourned at 9:04 pm

Respectfully submitted

Louise McClafferty  
Borough Secretary