

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2021
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Gregory Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for the armed forces, first responders and their families.

Roll Call of Members

Gregory Strubinger	Thomas Highland - absent	Joanne Klitsch
Jay Miller	Kyle Sheckler - absent	Michael Yeastedt
Robert Schaninger	Mayor Michael Sofranko	Solicitor Nanovic
Police Chief Schatz	Public Service Manager Yaich	Manager Sterner
Borough Engineer – absent	Secretary Louise McClafferty - absent	

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sofranko reported on fire police and fall foliage police officer schedule. He is requesting Trick-Or-Treat be scheduled for Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 5 to 7 pm. He reviewed grant money for the public facilities projects - the projects will be reviewed to determine the best manner to move forward once we know what grant funds may be available.

Announcements

2020 Recycling Grant application submitted – estimate \$4,405.00.

Pocono Mountains Visitor Bureau Pick Up the Poconos Day is September 25. See the PMVB website for details and to sign up.

SALDO

Rustic Camping at Approved Winery, Canyon Rim Estates – MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the **Land Development Plan**. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

Klitsch Subdivision Waiver Request – 390-20.B.6&7, Contours – MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the waiver as requested. There were no comments. Motion carried 4-0-1 with Joanne Klitsch abstaining.

Klitsch Subdivision – reverse – MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the subdivision on the condition that the plans are signed and notarized. There were no comments. Motion carried 4-0-1 with Joanne Klitsch abstaining.

Public Comment

Michael Rivkin, on behalf of JTТА, commented on food vendors for the fall festival.

Lynn Humphreys commented on the non-conforming lots for short-term rentals.

Katrina Gonsorick thanked Council for the camping land development approval and commented on the use permit.

Jim Pompa commented on permit parking.

Lou Hall gave an update on Councilman Tom Highland.

Mark Reitz commented on bands downtown and shooting in Glen Onoko Estates.

Chris Garris commented on permit parking.

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Brian Evans commented on marijuana and short-term rentals regulations.

Steve Allen commented on short-term rentals.

Jim Gilmore commented on permit parking.

Action

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve the **July 8, 2021 meeting minutes**. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve the **expenditures** from all funds as presented. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve the **Treasurer's Report** for July as presented. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to prepare **Thank-you letters** for Jim Thorpe Lions and Jim Thorpe Rotary for the donation of a pavilion kitchen door each; Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank, Mauch Chunk Trust Company and Bill Bernhauser for donations for National Night Out. We also received an anonymous donation for National Night Out. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to approve **Resolution 2021-13**, authorizing applying for a **CFA Multimodal Grant in the amount of \$796,650.00**. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to amend the **funding commitment letter for the CFA Multimodal to \$ 93,998.00**. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Bob Schaninger to adopt the Jim Thorpe Borough **Tobacco Free Policy** for borough parks. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to authorize the Solicitor to advertise for a public hearing on the proposed **Zoning Ordinance Amendment** and to forward said proposed Amendment to the Borough and County Planning Commission for review and comment. After comments, motion carried 4-1 with Bob Schaninger voting no.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger, to authorize the Solicitor to advertise the proposed **Amendment to the Streets & Sidewalk Ordinance**, for curb regulations. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Joanne Klitsch, to authorize the Solicitor to draft and amendment to the Parking Ordinance for **restricted parking on the first block of Broadway**. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to authorize the Solicitor to draft an **amendment to the JTB/JTPD Collective Bargaining Agreement for a Deferred Retirement Option Program**, and to distribute said addendum to the JT Police for ratification. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0. Councilman Schaninger was out of the meeting room at this time.

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MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to approve the Jim Thorpe Borough **Social Media Policy**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0. Councilman Schaninger was out of the meeting room at this time.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to approve the **2021 Hotel Tax Grant Application** for fall foliage costs of \$26,827.81. After comments, motion carried 4 to 0. Councilman Schaninger was out of the meeting room at this time.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to approve **new checking accounts** for American Recovery Plan Funds; Blight Grant Project and HOMES Program. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0. Councilman Schaninger was out of the meeting room at this time.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve the **CDBG 2021 Application Certification**. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to approve the **2021 Streets Project** as a two-year project for **Front Street**; residents to pay for curbing; borough to pay for tree removal. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0. This will be a storm sewer and paving project. The Borough will investigate financing options that may be available to residents. Council directed that the residents be notified of the project and their costs as soon as possible.

MOTIN by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to appoint Kyle Sheckler to the **Mauch Chunk Firemen's Relief Association as the At Large Member**. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION to set **Trick-Or-Treat** on Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to approve the request of **Immaculate Conception Church for use Memorial Hall for their Halloween Ball at a fee of \$200.00**. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the **Carbon County Heritage Festival** for September 18, 2021. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the Jim Thorpe Tourism Agency **Fall Festival** event, and Requests for Action as per the information provided. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to approve the **Church Alley – Pioneer Construction Payment Application #3** - \$136,327.35 as presented. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to schedule and advertise a **public meeting for Tuesday, August 24, 2021** at 6:30 pm in Memorial Hall for the purpose of considering the Strubinger subdivision, and any other business that may come before the council. After comments, motion carried 4-0-1 with Greg Strubinger abstaining.

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MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to require **330/332 South Street Water Lines** be separated and to follow our policy on line separation. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

Utility Action

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the **Garbage Only Lien Report** as presented. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the **Utility Accounts Proposed Updates** as presented. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to deny the request of **Account #8235 for a waiver of late payment penalties**. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the **Payment Plan for Account #2900** as presented. There were no comments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Exoneration Request

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to approve the **exoneration report** as presented. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

Committees

Administration

Parking Ordinance Amendment – **Permit Parking, downtown area**; ordinance updates discussed and public comment accepted. MOTION to authorize the Solicitor to advertise the proposed Ordinance for adoption, with grammatical or wording changes submitted if the Solicitor agrees they are appropriate. After comments, motion carried 5 to 0.

Zoning Ordinance – **Transfer of Development Rights; Environmental Impact Statement** – council to further review. Joint meeting to be determined.

Public Services (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets) – n/a

Police – n/a

Buildings/Parks – n/a

Emergency Services

Councilman Yeastedt stated he has the updated estimate for the Fairview roof and he is waiting on the bay floor repair updated estimate; the Diligent bay window written updated estimate has been received.

Old Business

No updates

Executive Session

Litigation & Personnel – will be held after this meeting.

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Adjourn

MOTION: Mike Yeastedt, second by Jay Miller to adjourn and go into an executive session for litigation and personnel. Motion carried 5 to 0.

The meeting ended at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Sterner
Borough Manager