

JIM THORPE BOROUGH WORKSHOP

JULY 5, 2018

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:30 in the Memorial Park Hall, 101 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

Thomas Highland (A)

Jay Miller

Police Chief Joe Schatz

Mayor Michael Sofranko (L)

Kyle Sheckler

John McGuire (L)

Manager Maureen Sterner

Matthew Boggs, Entech

Secy. Louise McClafferty

Joanne Klitsch

Edith Lukasevich

PSM Vince Yaich

Public Comment

Sandra Spier, 257 West Broadway spoke about the County's new building, she believes the outside of the buildings should be in tune with the Historic District. She asked about the parking lot situation.

President Strubinger informed her she should address her concerns with the County Commissioner's.

Louis Hall, 1490 Broadview Drive, he is here to discuss the plans for the readdressing. There are some things that Council needs to be made aware of: 1.) liability 2.) we are not following our ordinance 3.) 911 spatial interface solely based GIS data system that is needed for responding to 911 calls. He said the readdressing of this area is about 3 months out before it is complete. He asked Council to allow the Planning Commission to move forward with this.

President Strubinger asked what is the sequence?

Louis Hall said this will go to the Emergency Management to review what was done and make recommendations and they will go back and make the changes. After Emergency Management is ok with this it goes to the Harrisburg Post Office to review and they will send it back with their comments. We will then review their recommendations. Then it will come back to Council to review.

Mr. McGuire said Council decided to let things cool down with changing the addresses. He thinks this is a really bad idea. Does Council still want the Planning Commission to move forward with this? If not, we go against the Borough's ordinance, the County ordinance, and the State Code. This is out of line with the State and the safety for the first responders. This is a safety issue.

Louis Hall stated this is for the best interest for the residents, he wants to know if the JTPC can move forward with the readdressing.

Mrs. Klitsch agrees and understands it is for the safety of the residents. She is not against the readdressing but she does think they have to get it together on the numbering.

Louis Hall said they have got that all together. Now you have odd and even numbers on the same side of the streets, that is a problem and it causes confusion.

Borough Manager Sterner asked if this should be placed on the agenda for a vote for them to continue or not?

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President Strubinger said the discussion Council had was to put it on pause, so we could reconvene and talk to the County, and restart the process with the people in the area. The way things went at the meeting we thought it was best to sit back and take a look at it. We have residents that have some concerns and address those concerns. We are not going to make everyone happy. We need to approach this from the safety stand point. This is required per our ordinance. Council asked the Planning Commission to start this process several years ago. They completed the upper part of Leisure Land.

Louis Hall said before this is presented to the Emergency Management, they will bring it to Council and you can hold a meeting, make corrections, before we send it to Emergency Management.

President Strubinger said the Police Pension Board Vacancy (1)

President Strubinger said the Rodger's family donated an American flag for the Memorial Park.

Borough Manager Sterner said the Shade Tree Commission has been awarded the Robert B. Conner Foundation Grant for \$2,700.00, this is a match to the Tree Vitalize grant.

Mr. Miller asked if this grant is to trim or plant?

Borough Manager Sterner said this is for trimming. The Tree Vitalize we are asking for \$5,000.00, we are matching \$2,300.00. The total project will be \$10,000.00.

Action

Council Workshop Meeting Minutes from June 7, 2018

Council Meeting Minutes from June 14, 2018

President Strubinger asked Council if they have any concerns with the minutes that they contact Louise.

Expenditures from all Funds as presented.

Mr. Miller said Water \$46,060.00 with CDBG money and \$46,060.00 without, one has to be wrong.

Borough Manager Sterner said no, that is only income, the expense doesn't change. The CDBG was reimbursement.

Treasurer Report June, 2018 as presented

President Strubinger said this will be forth coming.

Ordinance 2018-4 Flagstaff Road.

President Strubinger said this was advertised, this is ready for adoption. The ordinance is limiting traffic flow on Flagstaff Road to passenger vehicles.

Pickett Street Light request.

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Borough Manager Sterner said she did send letter to the neighbors, there were only 3 that had to be notified, of the 3 only 1 had contacted her. He does not think this is going to be much of an issue if Council would want to grant that request.

President Strubinger asked what the process will be if Council takes action on this.

Borough Manager Sterner said she would have to contact PPL to install the light, it is an existing pole, she will find out the cost for the installation of the light.

2019 Thorpe ½ Marathon request

Police Chief Schatz said the only thing they are asking for is the blocking of Hazard Square, this is done in the early morning.

Borough Manager Sterner said this is April of 2019.

Police Chief Schatz Addendum to Agreement.

President Strubinger said there is additional language in the contract.

Jake Arner Farms, LLC site drawings 5/2/18 rec 5/4/18 & 5/8/18

Jake Arner Farms, LLC LDP 5/2/18, rev 6/28/18

President Strubinger said we did take a look at this and we had some concerns to what was shown to the Planning Commission.

Borough Manager Sterner said there was no application or fees submitted. Jake Arner had explained this is a land development plan, this is what he lead the Planning Commission to believe. Council should take action on this. There are two sections of the ordinance that it does not meet. This could be section for denying the plans or rejecting the plan.

Mr. McGuire said one thing the Planning Commission did say was the plans, we said it would be ok pending on the Engineer's approval.

Borough Manager Sterner said there were no fees paid, there is no engineer review, there is no County review.

Mr. McGuire said the Planning Commission was told this went through the County already. If he didn't pay us we won't be giving it to the engineer to review, so the Planning Commission can't approve it. That is Planning's suggestion.

Borough Manager Sterner said she spoke to him. He said this was submitted for zoning approval, not land development plan. The two drawings: site drawings on 5/4/18 and 5/8/18.

Mr. McGuire said he told the JTPC he had zoning approval for the tent.

President Strubinger said the Solicitor's recommendations is to deny the plans based on the two sections of the ordinance.

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Borough Manager Sterner said Section 390-5, 390-6 and 390-8, that will take care of the fees and the official plan application. She did write him a letter explaining everything letting him know it would be on the agenda for Council to consider. He did come in, filled out the application and paid the fees.

Mason's Cold Beer LLC Liquor License

Borough Manager Sterner said Todd Mason is looking to bring a liquor license or beer distributing license in from Penn Forest Township into Jim Thorpe Borough. The LCB told him he doesn't need to do anything as far as the Borough is concerned. He sent us a copy of the posting.

Carbon County – Susquehanna Street Project SALDO Waiver request

Borough Manager Sterner said the Planning Commission has denied this request and you have the engineer's review letter and the County's review letter.

President Strubinger said Council should deny the request and require that preliminary and final plans be submitted.

Mr. McGuire asked if that is requiring a traffic study to be done.

President Strubinger said we have concerns about the left-hand turns being made coming out of that parking lot.

D & L Trail

- Entech Invoice #0059807 - \$688.75
- D&L Trail Project bid Specs

Borough Manager Sterner said the bid specs we need to continue tabling them unless we should hear something from them by next week's meeting. We have a request into DCNR.

High Street Wall Project

- Axis payment application #5 - \$15,368.25

Borough Manager Sterner said we have reviewed all of the paperwork, we are waiting for the correct paperwork. This will complete this project, no retainage, this is what retainage we had left, we do have the bond.

10th Street Stormwater Project

- Kobalt Payment #2 - \$45,000.00
- Entech additional EWO9344 - \$10,800.00

Matt Boggs said the majority of the Stormwater trench is constructed and the storage basin is to be constructed next month.

Borough Manager Sterner said the additional work order is because we had to rebid it again, there were some minor alterations because we did apply for the grant.

WWTP Upgrade Project

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- Eastern Environmental payment application #19 - \$528,862.25
- Requisition #22 – \$589,992.84
- Eastern Environmental Change order #13 - \$7,609.21

Borough Manager Sterner said the change order needs to be corrected.

Matt Boggs said Mr. Rehab is doing the sewer line between High Street and Broadway near Three Towers area. They are also looking to get Mr. Rehab to have a subcontractor to do some of the sewer repair work that has to be dug up, by Center Avenue and Cedar Ave. This can be considered a change order, opposed to rebidding this. He will have this ready for the August meeting.

Utility Action

- A. Utility Accounts Lien Reports
 - a. Active Utility Accounts Garbage & Others Lien Report (0)
 - b. Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (2)
 - c. Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)
 - d. Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (0)
 - e. Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)
 - f. Temporary Off Lien Report (0)
 - g. Inactive (0)
- B. Uncollectible Accounts Report – (0)
- C. Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (2)
- D. 2885 Payment Plan

Tax Exoneration Action

Committees

Administration

Burning Ordinance

Mr. McGuire said this has been sent to the Solicitor to review. Some of the changes are under who takes care of enforcing it, we are going to put the Police and the Code enforcing officer. All the violations are covered under the Nuisance ordinance, tickets can be handed out. This is not ready for the public.

President Strubinger asked if there are any redundancies?

Mrs. Klitsch said she burns, when she does it, it's raining and she calls it in to the Comm Center as a control burn. This ordinance is saying she can't do this, she disagrees with this.

Mr. McGuire said they will take a look at this again, this is to work for everyone.

Penn Forest Wind Turbine Proclamation

Borough Manager Sterner said she spoke with Penn Forest Township, the wind turbine is before the Zoning Hearing Board. They have had numerous meetings on this item. They are in the process of reviewing a draft zoning amendment to better regulate the wind farms in the township. They have been listening to their residents.

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President Strubinger does not think the Borough needs to get involved.

Mr. McGuire thanked the Kuhn Brother's for helping out with the placing of the trailer for the 4th of July festival. He asked Keith McQuate what they are going to do with it after the festival? He said they have to find a home for this.

EIT Collection Study

Borough Manager Sterner said we did receive a letter from Doyle Hefley why he supports this. Berkheimer is asking for letters from the municipalities for what our view points are on this.

President Strubinger asked right now, are we interested in giving some input in to them.

Borough Manager Sterner said Berkheimer has been invited to a meeting with the State Committee that is going to do the study. As Tax Collecting Agency they want to be able to speak on behalf of all the municipalities and what they would like to see.

Yudichak D&L Trail

Borough Manager Sterner said there is a meeting on July 9, 2018 at 10:30 in Lehighton and will be in Jim Thorpe by 12:30.

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

Tire Recycling

Borough Manager Sterner said we noticed there are some people coming in with large quantities of tires. Does Council want to consider having a charge for excess tires? First 4 or 6 are free and additional will be \$2.00 or \$2.50 per tire.

President Strubinger said he does know some people will go and pick them up for people.

Mr. Miller said we are getting charged for it, we should limit it to 2 or 4 tires. If we do this we will need to put a sign up telling them there is a limit.

President Strubinger said we have been doing the electronic & tire recycling event twice a year. This costs the Borough about \$5,000.00 to hold the event. We need to find out how much they charge for the electronics and tires.

Mr. Miller said the COG meeting, the County has an firm doing the solid waste study. They are going to ask other haulers if they could give us certain tonnage free of charge, because they are in this area. They are going to ask County wide for free tonnage. They are going to see if they can get that.

Stormwater - curbing

Borough Manager Sterner asked Council if they would like to discuss curbing and Stormwater issues throughout the borough. A lot of issues is when it is a heavy rain and there is no curbing on the properties. If there was curbing the water would be directed to go to the drains.

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Police

Old Parking Meters

Mayor Sofranko said we should look at putting this out to bid.

Borough Manager Sterner said we have municipalities that are interested in purchasing them from the Borough. We have a count of the meters, sell them sold as is, where does Council want to go with a price?

Mayor Sofranko said we should have the Manager give them a count on how many meters we have, buy them as a lot and get sealed bids for them.

Borough Manager Sterner said if we sell them to another municipality we don't have to bid or advertise.

Mayor Sofranko asked about the meter posts that are still in, they can be removed.

Mr. Miller recommended this be handled by the Police Chief and the Manager.

Buildings/Parks

JT Monument

Borough Manager Sterner said the Jim Thorpe Sports Hall of Fame did receive the Keystone grant for the 3rd sculpture at the Monument. They will be looking for the Borough's help to dig the foundation and crushed stone.

Facilities Upgrade Project

Borough Manager Sterner said she met with USDA. They brought the environmental and architect gentleman. The person she is dealing with broke this into 2 project and they think it should be one project not two projects. If we could get everything in to them this month we could lock in an interest rate for the hall building, then we would have two projects. We would have to track two projects instead of one projects. We would be paying the engineering and bond lawyer for two projects instead of one project. She asked Council if they would like two projects or one project. Her initial thought is because of them being two different sites.

General consent of Council is to hold off because we do not have enough information to move forward.

Emergency Services

Old Business

A. Permit Parking

Executive Session

MOTION: Jay Miller second Kyle Sheckler to adjourn and go into executive session.

YES 6

NO 0

ABSENT 1 Thomas Highland

Adjourned at 8:43

Respectfully submitted
Louise McClafferty, Borough Secretary

