Jim Thorpe Borough Council

Meeting Minutes

December 30, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the men and women serving our county, our first responders and their families and those impacted by the Coronavirus.

**Roll Call of Members**

Gregory Strubinger Joanne Klitsch Edith Lukasevich - absent

Kyle Sheckler Mike Yeastedt Bob Schaninger

Thomas Highland Mayor Sofranko - absent Solicitor Nanovic JCP Connor Rodger - absent Police Chief Schatz - absent PSM Yaich - absent Manager Sterner Louise McClafferty - absent Engineer - absent

**Announcements**

UCC Joint Board of Appeals Board Vacancy

**Action**

**Appointments**

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Bob Schaninger to appoint Nanovic Law Offices, James Nanovic as Borough **Solicitor** for the 2021 year. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to appoint Brior Environmental Services as Borough **Sewage Enforcement Officer** for the 2021 year. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Mike Yeastedt to appoint Brior Environmental Services, Rob Fugate, as Borough **Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer** for the 2021 year. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to appoint Entech Engineering as Borough **Engineer** for the 2021 year. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Mike Yeastedt to appoint Chris Lukasevich as the Borough’s **Representative to Clymer Library** for the 2021 year. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to appoint William Solomon as **Vacancy Board Chairman** for the 2021 year. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Mike Yeastedt to appoint Lou Hall to the Borough **Planning Commission** for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2024. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Highland to appoint Nancy Porambo to the Borough **Planning Commission** for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2024. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Bob Schaninger to appoint Mark Reitz to the **Shade Tree Commission** for a five-year term expiring December 31, 2025. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Kyle Sheckler, second by Mike Yeastedt to appoint James Igoe to the **Zoning Hearing Board** for a five-year term expiring December 31, 2025. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Kyle Sheckler to appoint Brian Decker to the **Property Maintenance Board** for a five-year term expiring January 5, 2026. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to appoint Charles Burnett to the **Civil Service Commission** for a six-year term expiring January 5, 2027. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

**Other Action**

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Kyle Sheckler to approve the **expenditures** from all funds as presented in the amount of $ 179,120.07. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

After discussion, MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the 2020 **Line-Item Transfers** as presented. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

A review of the changes was presented. MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Kyle Sheckler to **adopt Resolution 2020-24 Fee Schedule for 2021.** After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

A daft proposed letter was presented. MOTION by Kyle Sheckler, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to approve the drafted **Utility Bill Payment Notice Letter** regarding the January, 2023 scheduled change in how monies are applied to accounts when received.After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeasted, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to authorize forwarding a proposed **amendment to the Zoning Ordinance pertaining to Short-Term Rentals** to Jim Thorpe and Carbon County Planning Commissions for their review and comments. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeasted, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to schedule and advertise a public hearing on a proposed **amendment to the Zoning Ordinance pertaining to Short-Term Rentals** for February 11, 2021 at 6:30 pm during Council’s regularly scheduled meeting. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

**Facilities Projects**

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Kyle Sheckler to approve **Amendment #2** in the amount of $9,675.00 to the **Spillman Memorial Hall contract**. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Kyle Sheckler to approve **Amendment #3** in the amount of $13,960.00 to the **Spillman Public Service Garage** **contract**. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve **payment of Spillman Hall invoice** in the amount of $9,675.00. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve **payment of Spillman Garage invoice** in the amount of $9,675.00. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Tom Highland to **approve forgiveness of penalties** **in December** due to the US Postal Service backlog, after review by the office staff. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to **not apply penalties for January** and to **evaluate each month thereafter** for determination based on USPS status. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

**Council Vacancy**

Letters of interest were received from:

Robert Dages

Kristina Heaney

Frank McCutcheon

John McGuire

Jay Miller

Michael Rivkin

Pamela Ruoff

Tony Taliaferro

Council discussed the letters, applicants and their experience. Council will make the appointment at their January meeting.

**Executive Session**

Council will go into executive session after this meeting to discuss personnel matters.

**Adjourn**

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Tom Highland to adjourn. No comments. Motion carried 6 to 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Maureen Sterner

Borough Manager