

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY, 11, 2017
MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Gregory Strubinger at 6:30 p.m. in the Memorial Park Hall, 103 East Tenth St, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for the men and women serving our country.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Curtis Jackson (a)	John McGuire	Thomas Highland
Joanne Klitsch	Jay Miller	Kyle Sheckler (L)
Gregory Strubinger	Mayor Michael Sofranko (a)	Police Chief Schatz
Manager Maureen Sterner	PS Manager Vince Yaich	Boro. Secy. McClafferty
Kim Mazur, Entech	Bob Weir, Entech	

Public Hearing

David Bodnar was present to discuss the 2017 CDBG Grant Projects for the Borough. He said for the funding year 2016 the borough chose to replace water mains on 3rd & 8th Streets and School Street. This was a multi-funding year project and benefited residents in the block group 2. \$73,253.00 will be used from the FY2016 funds. For FY2017 the borough will receive approximately \$89,332.00, \$16,079.00 for Administration, and \$73,253.00 for the project implementation. Funds will be used for selected projects in the borough. The pre-applications are due June 2, 2017.

Jack Kmetz from the JT Hall of Fame said they are seeking Keystone Community Grant fund to place a 3rd life size statue. Back in 2007 they placed the first statue at Jim Thorpe's monument, 2011 they did the second one, now they decided they would like to do the baseball statue. The law suit put everything on the back burner until that was resolved. There is one stipulation that we held a public hearing in a municipal building, they need copy of the sign in sheets of people that attended the meeting and will need a copy of the minutes to submit.

Brad Hurley said they applied for the Keystone Community Grant. This helps communities to upgrade a property that they already have, or to restore a property, or a property that fell into disrepair. This is important to the town we want to keep it positive. We are supporting the grant, which is about \$70,000.00

Jack Kmetz said he needs a letter of support from the Borough, Senator Yudichak, State Representative Heffley. He wants council to be aware of what they are doing with the grant. They are looking to put 14 posts to prevent people from driving on the grounds by the monument. LPC Electric will be doing the work. New signs, light up the statues and put up a registration booth. That is where people can sign in that they were here. This is something the borough can take care of. He thanked all of council for hanging in there with the law suit and standing tall for the town.

President Strubinger thanked the Jim Thorpe Hall of Fame for all of their hard work at the monument.

Public Comment

- A. Property Maintenance Board of Appeals Vacancies (3)
- B. Civil Service Commission Vacancy (1)
- C. Tire & Electronic Recycling May 20 – Volunteers Needed
- D. Hometown Heroes Banner Program by Lions Club

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Al Lasky said there is one issue with the parking on Main Street and it is the boulders that were placed on the right of way. He wants the boulders moved. If this is not resolved here he is going to get a copy of the Disability Act if he has to. This issue needs to be resolved.

Ed McArdle said about the sharing of equipment with the other towns, what is the reason the Borough is not involved with this.

President Strubinger said the borough did look into this over the past years, he thinks there were some issues when council looked into it.

Brad Hurley spoke about the COG program.

Ed McArdle asked why there was no money put in the budget to fix the streets up instead of buying all the equipment.

Mr. Miller said how do we put it in the budget, unless we raise taxes. We took \$300,000.00 from the Sanitation account last year to put into the streets.

Ed McArdle complained about the borough buying equipment and not tar & chipping the roads like the state.

Mr. Miller said buying equipment is keeping things safe.

Bill Malatak asked what the update is on the \$400,000.00 flagger job.

President Strubinger said we are working with the County on the sharing the flaggers for both projects.

Amanda Hydro said the parking matter on Main Street was brought to council last year. She never wanted the rocks to be there they were put there to protect her property. If no parking signs are put up the rocks will be removed.

Pat Hydro said her concerns are for the safety of her daughter, she asked council to put an end to this.

Judy Doolittle was present to support Amanda Hydro.

Bob Shaninger asked if trailers are allowed to be parked on the streets.

Police Chief Schatz said yes.

Bob Shaninger asked what is going to be done with Memorial Hall. He suggested maybe to rent a room out to the high school

President Strubinger said right now we have some events that were booked in 2017. There has been discussion as to what the best use of the facility will be.

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Bob Shaninger asked if council ever got in touch with the theater business.

Jake Arner requested a copy of the draft agricultural ordinance when it is ready.

Jerry Strubinger said be proactive about the County building on Susquehanna Street.

Borough Manager Sterner said she did ask them, they do not have anything for us yet.

Jerry Strubinger said they should build a parking deck. He asked what the CDBG funds will be used on for 2017.

Borough Manager Sterner said it will be used on waterline projects.

Jerry Strubinger said he would like to see Front Street become a two way street again. He asked if council ever spoke to Reading Norfolk Southern about a by-pass along the railroad tracks to the Packerton dip.

Mark Reitz spoke about the building/zoning issues he had. He thanked the Police dept. for their help with cleaning up the neighborhood.

Bob Shaninger said the vacancies that the borough has do you need a letter on that?

President Strubinger said a letter of interest should be sent to the borough office.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sofranko said Detective Marzen has been nominated by the Police Chief as the top community cop, he is very involved. The borough website is updated weekly with reports.

Police Chief Schatz said residents need to know that Facebook is not the police dept. They need to contact the police dept. There is stuff on Facebook that is not reported to the police, which cannot be used as a 911 call, they need to contact police.

Mayor Sofranko informed everyone the digital speed limit sign is back and requested everyone slow down.

Action

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Work Session Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2017.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from April 13, 2017.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

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MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Expenditures from all Funds as presented.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Treasurer Report as presented.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to Reappointing George Stoffa to the Zoning Hearing Board term to expire December 31, 2021.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to Reappointing Clem McGinley to the Planning Commission term to expire December 31, 2020.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to approve the advertising of the Work Session Meetings Relocation to the Memorial Hall.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to approve the Handicap sign application 23 E 4th St

QUESTION:

Mr. Miller asked Police Chief Schatz if everything is in order.

Police Chief Schatz said yes.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Kyle Sheckler to approve Resolution 2017-10 CDBG Funding Preservation.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to approve Resolution 2017-11 Fee Schedule.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve Resolution 2017-12 Twining Park Grant Application.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

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MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the advertising of the Proposed Utility Billing Ordinance.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Kyle Sheckler to approve the advertising of the Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment downtown parking.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

Solicitor Nanovic said Parryville is interested in joining the UCC Joint Board of Appeals Inter-municipal Agreement. To do this every municipality that is a member of the UCC Joint board needs to adopt an ordinance.

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire agreed to allow Parryville to join the UCC Joint Board of Appeals Inter-municipal agreement.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to give the Solicitor and Borough Manager Authorization to finalize the sharing agreement for the Flaggers with Carbon County.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve Barry Isett & Associates Zoning Hours up to 24 hours per week.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Miller said the manager will review the hours and the demands.

Borough Manager Sterner said yes she will keep an eye on it, if it's not needed it won't be done.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Jay Miller Sludge Removal bids to the low bidder Waste Management for one year with the option for an extension to two years at \$89.00 a ton.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second John McGuire to reject Public Service Material bids.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to approve the Electricity Contract with APPI Energy 63 months at \$.04899

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COMMENTS

Borough Manager Sterner said this will be an annual saving of \$24,000.00 over the term of the years the savings will be approximately \$126,000.00

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second John McGuire to approve the purchase of the Office Copy Machine cost of \$8,812.00.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: John McGuire second Thomas Highland to put the Old Copy Machine on Municibid.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Sheckler requested that the memory card be removed from the old copier.

Borough Manager Sterner said we will.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve Entech Work Order for High Street Wall repairs cost of \$53,673.00.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve High Street Wall Bid Specs.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: John McGuire second Kyle Sheckler to approve the High Street Wall Financing RFP's.

YES 5 ABSTAIN 1 Jay Miller ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: John McGuire second Gregory Strubinger to table the Jim Thorpe Market Retail expansion Land Development plan.

QUESTIONS

Solicitor Nanovic asked how long do we have the plans?

Secretary McClafferty said since April.

Solicitor Nanovic just wants to make sure it's not 90 days.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

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MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Carbon County Central Court Parking Request, \$10.00 a meter and 9 meters will be used.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve the JT Hall of Fame Keystone Grant Letter of Support.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the JT Summer League Requests to use the Memorial Park Basketball Courts.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to approve the Installation of Lighting Timer cost of \$256.00 by Kresge Electric.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second John McGuire to put additional Trash & Recycling Containers in the Memorial Park and they are to empty them each night.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

Table until council talks to the Legion Stay at Home park fee waiver Request.

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to advertise an ordinance for no parking by 420 Main Street, original distance.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve the WWTP Upgrade Project Eastern Environmental payment application #5 - \$273,837.50

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve Howard Company payment application #2 \$41,110.06.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve Requisition #8 - \$450,144.22

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

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MOTION: John McGuire second Kyle Sheckler to approve D&L Trail payment to Wilson Consulting Group Invoice #1 - \$15,664.50

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Thomas Highland second Kyle Sheckler to approve Wilson Consulting Group Invoice #5 - \$ 7,335.50.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Kyle Sheckler second Thomas Highland to approve Wilson Consulting Group Invoice #6 \$5,319.00

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

Utility Action

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Thomas Highland to approve the Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (1)

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)

Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (0)

MOTION: Kyle Sheckler second Thomas Highland to approve the Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (3)

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

Temporary Off Lien Report (0)

Uncollectible Accounts Report – none

Utility Accounts Proposed Updates – none

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second John McGuire to deny Diane Schmidt account #7705 utility rate request.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Kyle Sheckler second Jay Miller to approve Account #0305 payment plan.

YES 6 NO 0 ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve the Tax Exonerations for

Jeffrey Herman, retired

Clifford A. Gledhill, retired

Joseph Blisko, retired

Deborah Scherer – retired

Robert Herman – retired

Lynn McGavin – retired

Joseph Micko, retired

Daniel Gasker, Jr – retired

Frank J. Tessitore – retired

Charlie Scherer – retired

Catherine DeMarco – housewife

Joseph Nalesnik – retired

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MOTION CONTINUED

Vincent Bokeko - retired

Jack Kennedy - disabled

YES 6

NO 0

ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

Committees

Administration

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

Police

Buildings/Parks

Emergency Services

Old Business

- A. Planning Commission – Nuisance Ordinance
- B. Marijuana Growing/Processing and Selling Ordinance
- C. Utility Billing Resolution
- D. Collection Agency for delinquent utility fees
- E. Shared Utility Lines – Enforcement Protocol
- F. W. Front St & River St Dedication Ordinance
- G. Petition to Vacating Portion of 2nd Street
- H. Cuoco
- I. 204 Center Ave
- J. Act 172 of 2016 – Incentives for Emergency Services Volunteers
- K. Municipal Fire Department
- L. Police Contract
- M. Bituminous Seal Coat bids

Borough Manager Sterner gave council an update on West Front St & River St dedication, we are waiting for the paperwork from Penn Dot.

MOTION: Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to adjourn.


YES 6

NO 0

ABSENT 1 Curtis Jackson

Adjourned 8:09 pm

Respectfully submitted


Louise McClafferty
Borough Secretary



101 East Tenth Street · Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
(570) 325-3025 • (570) 325-2181 • FAX (570) 325-8154

Conflict of Interest
Abstention Memorandum

To: Louise McClafferty, Borough Secretary
Jim Thorpe Borough, Carbon County, Pennsylvania

From: Jay T. Miller, council member

Date: 5/11/17

Pursuant to Pennsylvania's "Public Official and Employee Ethics Law" (65 PA CSA 1101 et seq), I hereby declare that I am required to abstain regarding the following issue/motion:

Motion - High Street Financing

My conflict/reason for abstaining is as follows:

EMPLOYEE - JIM THORPE NEIGHBORHOOD BANK

Jay T. Miller
Signature of Public Official

Note: Section 1103(J) requires the following procedure:

"Any public official or public employee, who in the discharge of his official duties, would be required to vote on a matter that would result in a conflict of interest shall abstain from voting and, prior to the vote being taken, publicly announce and disclose the nature of his interest as a public record in a written memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes for the meeting at which the vote is taken..."

(Please note the State Ethics Commission requires a public official to complete a form every time he has a conflict of interest).