

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2018  
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm in the Memorial Park Hall, 115 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	Kyle Sheckler	Joanne Klitsch
Thomas Highland	John McGuire	Edith Lukasevich
Jay Miller	Manager Maureen Sterner	PSM Vince Yaich (a)
Police Chief Joe Schatz	Solicitor James Nanovic	
Mayor Michael Sofranko	Secy. McClafferty	

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Sofranko said everyone has a copy of the police report, are there any questions? He stated past practice it is December he will have no report. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy and safe New Year.

**Public Comment**

President Strubinger said the Borough received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Rotary Club for supporting the Summer Recreation program that runs in the Memorial Park.

President Strubinger said the Borough received a DCNR Grant \$25,000 for the Master Site Plan for Memorial Park, this is a matching grant. We will be doing a site plan in Memorial Park, this is part of our projects we will be doing. The Garage will be moved over on West Broadway, and the garage will be removed. That area will be given back to Memorial Park.

Various Boards/Commission terms to expire:

- Planning Commission expires 12/31/18– 4-year term
- Vacancy Board expires 1/1/19 – Annual term
- Zoning Hearing Board, Alternate expires 12/31/18 – 3-year term
- Shade Tree Commission expires 12/31/18 – 5-year term
- Civil Service Commission expires 1/7/19 – 6-year term
- International Property Maintenance expires 1/7/19 – 5-year term

Bill Maehrer spoke about going to the Jim Thorpe Market the Saturday after Thanksgiving. He said he got to about Antonio's on Broadway where traffic was backed up, it took them about 5 green lights to get through the light. He found out when they finally got through what the problem was it was people trying to get into the County parking lot. He said this is a safety problem, the fire truck or ambulance could not get through. He quoted from the Times News "If something happens the Commissioners are put on notice, end of story."

Louis Hall said there is a traffic and parking study going on now.

Mr. McGuire said we have a NEPA study going on now, this is in the beginning stages. They are working with the State because there are so many rules for State highway. The County needs to work with us.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2018  
MINUTES

Mr. McGuire said from the bridge over, it is wide enough to have a turn lane to turn left, but that doesn't address the problem that we need sidewalks to continue on down. We are still in the early stages.

Mayor Sofranko said they sat with the JTTA, Chamber of Commerce, Lehigh Valley Commerce, and the Commissioners were at the meeting. We informed the Commissioners at that time we were submitting a grant for kiosks. The problem over there is if they put kiosk in the lot, and then, they won't have to wait any more or rather than having the people paying when they go into the lot, have them pay when they go out of the lot. That way the traffic wouldn't be backed up. The County chose not to get involved with the grant. The grant and the study once it comes back, we can take that study and apply for grants.

Mr. Miller said with the Susquehanna Street project, we have the opportunity to swap meters.

Jake Arner wished everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year and he looks forward to working with the borough.

Kelley Andrade, 68 ½ W Broadway, she asked if the borough could get a street sweeper to run on Broadway, she is worried about someone falling.

Mr. Miller said he can't answer for this season, he said the Council of Governments purchased a street sweeper. This will be shared with all of the other communities, he can't say when because it is not up to the Borough to make the schedule. We will have something for 2019.

Kelley Andrade asked if she raked the leaves up would the borough pick them up.

Borough Manager Sterner said leaves are part of the garbage contract, you can put them in a garbage bag out front and they will pick them up.

Bill Malatak asked how much is the traffic study costing the borough?

Mr. McGuire said \$5,000.00, the total of the study is \$100,000.00. He said the traffic has increased.

Bill Malatak then spoke about the newspaper article about the Silk Mill roof caving in, he said that is deteriorating. The second photo was coming down the Mansion House the new buildings they are putting up. He spoke about nickel a week and the D & L trail project.

Blane Dart said the Old Jail Museum donated \$1,755 for the Ghost tours at the Old Jail and presented the check to the Police Dept. He said BTM also gave a donation of \$100.00, the total of \$1,855.00.

Mayor Sofranko thanked them for the fund raiser. This will help the Police Dept and Community Watch. They will be looking at where they can help the Police dept.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2018  
MINUTES

Mrs. Lukasevich asked if the pipes from the old meters will be removed?

Mayor Sofranko said they were left there so people knew where the parking spots were, the poles can be taken out.

Borough Manager Sterner said they will be removed after the holidays.

**Action**

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Council Workshop Meeting Minutes from November 1, 2018.

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from November 8, 2018.

YES 7                      NO 0

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

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the Treasurer Report November, 2018 as presented.

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve Memorial Hall Fund and Checking Account Closure.

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second John McGuire to discontinue Memorial Hall website domain.

**QUESTION:**

Mrs. Lukasevich asked this to be explained to her.

Borough Manager Sterner said this is the website domain for when Memorial Hall was running as a banquet facility. It is due to expire on July 20, 2019. If Council wishes they can just let it expire, you don't need to take any action now.

**MOTION WAS RESCINDED BY JAY MILLER AND JOHN McGUIRE**

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 13, 2018

MINUTES

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the Line Item Transfers December 2018.

YES 7

NO 0

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Thomas Highland to adopt Resolution 2018-29 Tax Collector Checking Account Closure.

YES 7

NO 0

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second John McGuire to adopt Resolution 2018-30 Disposition of Records.

QUESTION

Mr. Miller asked if they are going to be shredded, burn it, what are we going to do with it?

Borough Manager Sterner said any documents that have personnel items will be shredded other information are all public documents they will be recycled.

YES 7

NO 0

**MOTION:** John McGuire second Thomas Highland to adopt Resolution 2018-31 Junior Council Person Program.

COMMENTS:

President Strubinger said we have an individual that is interested, Connor Rodgers. He has been active with attending meetings, helping out with the recycling event, this will be a great opportunity for him.

Mayor Sofranko said the Junior Council person should be a high school student or college student.

Borough Manager Sterner said there is no age. Tonight, you would only be adopting the resolution, he won't be appointed and take the pledge until January.

YES 7

NO 0

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to adopt 2019 Budget.

YES 7

NO 0

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Edith Lukasevich to adopt Ordinance 2018-07 Tax Levy.

YES 7

NO 0

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2018  
MINUTES

TABLE JT Market Maintenance Security Acceptance

TABLE JT Market Construction Letter of Credit Security Release

Borough Manager Sterner said we did not receive the information.

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve the Entech Work Orders 2018 WWTP Chapter 94 Report.

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Edith Lukasevich to approve the WTP NPDES Permit Renewal.

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** John McGuire second Jay Miller to approve the Germantown Culvert - \$3,000.00.

QUESTION

Mr. Miller asked what is the \$3,000.00 going to get us?

Borough Manager Sterner said this is for the DEP permitting work.

YES 7                      NO 0

D & L Trail Wilson Consulting Invoice - None

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second John McGuire to approve WWTP Upgrade Project Eastern Environmental payment application #24 - \$241,295.25.

QUESTION

Mr. Miller asked if we have the money?

Borough Manager Sterner said yes.

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve Howard Company payment application #19 - \$51,304.14.

YES 7                      NO 0

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2018  
MINUTES

**MOTION:** Joanne Klitsch second John McGuire to approve Howard Company Change Order #4 - \$6,867.13.

QUESTION

Mr. Miller asked what the change order is for?

Borough Manager Sterner said it's for additional money needed for insurance and bonding for the additional time on the project.

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** John McGuire second Joanne Klitsch to approve Entech Engineering Change Order Amendment #5 - \$124,500.00

YES 7                      NO 0

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve Requisition #28 – \$294,122.23

YES 7                      NO 0

**Utility Action**

Utility Accounts Lien Reports

Active Utility Accounts Garbage & Others Lien Report (0)

**MOTION:** Thomas Highland second John McGuire to approve Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (6).

YES 7                      NO 0

Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)

Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (0)

Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)

Temporary Off Lien Report (0)

Inactive (0)

Uncollectible Accounts Report – (0)

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Thomas Highland to approve the Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (9).

YES 7                      NO 0

**Tax Exoneration Action**

**Committees**

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2018  
MINUTES

Administration

Mr. McGuire said the Library will have the little libraries made by the CCTI, they need to decide on locations for the little houses.

Mr. Miller said looking at the BIA report, there are some properties that are dilapidated, fire damage house, house with bird living in it. We are running out of money, we need money to do something. He would like to see if there are any grants out there to help us out. He asked the manager to reach out to the State Representative for grants. The house in the 200 block of Center Ave is going to turn into a hazard, this is going to fall into the street one night.

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

Police

Buildings/Parks

Emergency Services

Mr. McGuire said next year the Fire Companies are looking to start Preventive Maintenance Preventative maintenance (PM) program to keep the vehicles in good working condition and to help avoid high repair bills and down time.

**Old Business**

- Burning Ordinance
- Permit Parking
- Readdressing Phase II
- LCB Noise Enforcement

**Executive Session**

- Personnel
- Litigation

President Strubinger said council will be going into executive session to discuss personnel and litigation.

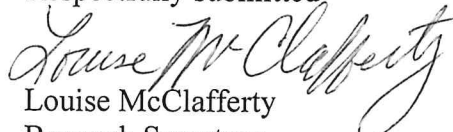
**MOTION:** John McGuire second Jay Miller to adjourn.

YES 7

NO 0

Adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted

  
Louise McClafferty  
Borough Secretary