

COUNCIL MEETING

March 10, 2016

MINUTES

Meeting was 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

Paulette Haupt (a)	John McGuire	Thomas Highland (a)
Joanne Klitsch	Jay Miller	Kyle Sheckler
Gregory Strubinger	Mayor Michael Sofranko	Sgt. Bokeko
Manager Maureen Sterner	Solicitor Nanovic	
Vince Yaich, PS Manager	Boro. Secy. McClafferty	

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sofranko said under the borough code he is required to give a list of any weddings that he has performed in the borough.

Mayor Sofranko said the JT Police Dept. is ready for the St. Patrick 's Day parade. The Police will handle all the activity along the parade route downtown. There will be outside agents that will be roaming throughout the route and the State Police will be helping them. There will be one officer that will be left out and that is the overnight officer.

Sgt. Bokeko said they have been lucky haven't had any major incidents.

Mayor Sofranko said there will be no parking on Broadway from the Court House to the Immaculate Conceptions church and they would like an all call sent out the residents. This will be every year the parade is held.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joel Baier, 420 Main St. they are here to discuss item V on the agenda (Main St No Parking Signs).

Bill Maehrer, 320 W Broadway, in regards to taking care of the Memorial Park mortgage, sell the grounds that would be no more maintenance or liability for the borough

Jake Arner said the tire and electronic recycling program. The borough should clean the tires off of their property because in case we do get a problem develop with the tzatziki virus. If they could coordinate this properly he will volunteer a piece of equipment to help out. There is a dumpster needed for that area.

Mark Reitz, 529 North St. he thanked the police for cleaning up in this area. He has concerns about a basketball hoop being pushed out into the street on Oak St.

W. Todd Mason he here to answer any question on item Y on the agenda (closing School St on 4/23/16)
The neighbors

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to close 400 to 500 block of School St on April 23, 2016 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm for a public auction.

YES 5

NO 0

ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

Ed McArdle said the County has been offered \$1,300,000.00 for the lot over town. Is anybody looking into this?

Mayor Sofranko said at the workshop this was brought to council attention and a letter has been prepared to go to the County asking them to open the lines of communications between the borough and the County. There are concerns if they sell the railroad. We have sewer lines that are on County property that is the main concern for the borough.

Conner Rodgers, 911 Laurel St. said council needs to move forward with the storm water runoff problem from 10th St.

Mr. McGuire said this was discussed at the workshop last week. He will be contacting the engineers to determine what the scope of the problem is and who is responsible. Some of it is school and the borough's.

Connor Rodgers said there are 4 storm drains in Germantown and there are 2 that actually work. He believe that area needs more. The have a water issue by 926 Germantown Rd the bridge is starting to lean and there is a hole forming.

PS Manager Yaich asked where this is located.

Connor Rodger's said by Jimmy Bennick's place.

Chris Fedder, 1109 Center St, they have an issue with the LCCC college parking in the 100 block of Center St. They would like to be able to park in front of their homes. There is a sign there that says parking in the lot. Can council write them a letter and start enforcing.

President Strubinger said it is public parking on the streets. They are suppose to be parking in the lots provided at the JTASD.

Mayor Sofranko asked if it is the yellow zone? He said there are several yellow zones in the borough they are suppose to be drop off areas.

Manager Sterner said if we have yellow zones that shouldn't be yellow we should change that, if we do not ticket how can we ticket in any other area. They will review all of the yellow zones.

Manager Sterner will send LCCC a letter concerning this matter.

Jerry Strubinger, 555 West 10th St. said we can't let the County let that slip out of our draft. The only way you are going to change the traffic pattern in town is to start negotiating Norfolk Southern to move their traffic to the west side of the river. That way you can get a bypass to get to the Packerton Yards. We need the old Lehigh Valley rail bed from the Glenn all the way down to Packerton yards that is the only way you will ever get a bypass in town. The other thing they are parking the tanker cars on the tracks in town. If you ask Norfolk Southern, the County and get some grants to get some new rail beds for a bypass. We will be far better off to get the traffic out of the downtown area.

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve the work session meeting minutes from February 4, 2016.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second Gregory Strubinger to approve the council meeting minutes from February 11, 2016.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the expenditures from all funds for February and the Interim bills 2016, as presented.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Jay Miller to approve the treasurer report as presented.

QUESTION:

Mr. McGuire asked about the training under Police it is at 50%, did we budget enough.

Mayor Sofranko said yes, there is a lot of training that is done in the beginning of the year.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

Manager Sterner said D & L Corridor is not changing the scope on the pedestrian bridge project. They want to change the scope so they can be reimbursed for planning & engineering fees.

Mr. Miller asked that we have our engineer be in contact with D & L about our Sewer project.

Manager Sterner said she has contacted our engineer about the construction dates for our project. So we can inform them they cannot impede on our project at the Sewer plant.

Council tabled the D & L

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to approve the exoneration request for Francis Lukasevich-166 Pine Drive, retired and Mary Joan Cauley, 418 South Ave, JT – retired

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: John McGuire second Jay Miller to approve the disabled Veteran Earl M. Kunkle Jr., 132 Center Ave to be exempt from paying the property taxes.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to adopt Front St. Center Street and Second St. Traffic Flow Ordinance 20016-1.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to award Chemical bids to the lowest bidders:

- Univar – Ortho/Polyphosphate Blend Carus 8500 \$281.50, Sternpac \$208.50 and Magnesium Hydroxide Wet 60% \$880.00
- Northeast Chemicals - \$7.08 (\$10.00 pallet charge) Dense Soda Ash \$11.74, Ferric Chloride Solution 40% \$15.08 (\$50.00 drum deposit) Sodium Hypo –Chlorite 15% CL/VOL 15 \$76.90 (\$50.00 drum deposit)
- JCI Jones – Liquid Chlorine \$90.00
- Shannon Chemicals – Carusol TM 20 Sodium Permanganate \$447.47 & Ortho/Polyphosphate Blend (8100) \$427.27

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve the street sweeper quote from DeAngelo Brothers amount of \$6,800.00.

QUESTIONS:

Mrs. Klitsch asked is that for one time?

Manager Sterner said that is for one week. Their truck and their operators.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve Resolution 2016-03 establishing Manager Purchasing Limits.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Gregory Strubinger to approve Resolution 2016-04 establishing Procedures for Public Meetings.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Jay Miller to approve Earth Day Festival April 24, 2016 (rain date April 23).

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Jay Miller to approve JTTA Jim Thorpe Birthday Weekend Celebration May 21 and May 22, 2016.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second Gregory Strubinger to approve St. Mark's & St. John's Episcopal Churches Race Street Run July 2, 2016.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second Kyle Sheckler to authorize Solicitor to begin negotiations for renewal of the Cable Franchise Agreement.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

President Strubinger said the borough is currently at 4%, does council wish to raise it to 5%?

Council TABLED this.

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to approve the ductile iron pipe purchase for the Water Dept. amount of \$15,280.00.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second Kyle Sheckler to approve the 100 HP VFD purchase for the Water Plant amount of \$8,079.00.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Joanne Klitsch second Gregory Strubinger to approve the American Legion Post #304 to use the Memorial Park grounds for the annual "Stay at Home" 4th of July event on Saturday, July 2 rain date Sunday, July 3, 2016 fee of \$750.00.

Comments

Mr. McGuire asked that they stay in touch with the Building committee.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: John McGuire second Jay Miller to approve the advertising of Summer Road materials.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

Solicitor Nanovic said council should authorize him to draw up a draft ordinance designating portion of Main Street no parking. He will need to know the exact location.

Manager Sterner said we did have a situation come up on Silk St the bank is deteriorating. They posted temporarily no parking. This should be included.

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Joanne Klitsch to authorize the solicitor to draft an ordinance for a portion of Main St and Silk St no parking signs.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch Approving the transfer of Sanitation funds to General Fund for Street project amount of \$300,000.00

COMMENTS:

Mr. Miller said this is a one-time situation. The roads need to be addressed now because some of the are in disrepair for some time. He was going to include drainage pipe, catch basin, and culverts but he is going to leave this up to the staff and management. The main item is road resurfacing and then the other items can be addressed.

Mrs. Klitsch said she did speak with the Manager, she feels we are giving back to the people.

Manager Sterner informed everyone after the reserve will be \$959,200.00, out of that we are going to leave at least \$500,000.00 to remain in savings in case that is needed for the Landfill.

Mr. McGuire said he may be asking for money for the storm water runoff on 10th St.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: John McGuire second Jay Miller to approve a letter to County Commissioners requesting participation in meetings regarding possible sale of the Railroad.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

MOTION: Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to appoint Charles Burnett, 6 Alpine Lane, JT to the Civil Service Commission.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

ADMINISTRATION

Manager Sterner said we have contact 4 companies for Website proposals. Virtual Towns & Schools this is what they do municipal websites. There aware of the uniqueness that we have. To design 3 websites, Borough, Police and Memorial Park hall is \$10,000.00 and \$2,400.00 annual maintenance and support.

Kurt Jackson explained everything about the website design to council so they understood what all was looked at with the Manager.

Solicitor Nanovic said if we want to get out of this because we don't like them are we stuck with them.

Kurt Jackson said the only thing you may be stuck with is the hosting, you will sign up with them for some number of years for support and when your contract is up it's up. You may want to go with a 2 year contract with them.

MOTION: Jay Miller second John McGuire to award Virtual Towns & Schools \$10,000.00 to design the website and \$2,400.00 annual maintenance and support and a 2 year contract.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

PUBLIC SERVICE (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

MOTION: Gregory Strubinger second Jay Miller to approve the Tire & Electronic recycling to be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at the Borough Garage from 7:00 am to 11:30 am

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

Mr. Miller said we are getting the mixers, getting a new back hoe, the pipe for 7th St between South St and North St. He has his sights on Church Alley for next year.

Manager Sterner brought council up to date on the 5 ton truck because of the 10 ton truck came in lower than expecting and we are using the Liquid Fuels money we would have enough to purchase the 5 ton truck. We will purchase the gasoline rather than diesel fuel. They are waiting for the prices for the gasoline vehicle.

MOTION: John McGuire second Jay Miller to award Seal Master of Allentown the rental of the crack seal equipment amount of \$5,252.00 for a week.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

POLICE

Deadline for FT Police applications will be 3/11/16 fee of \$25.00 is due with the application

BUILDINGS/PARKS

Manager Sterner discussed the Zoning ordinance parking requirements for off street parking for commercial businesses. The parking is what the parking is, the zoning ordinance that has requirements for parking. Any time a tenant moves out of a building and a new tenant moves in they have to go through the process. They are required to file a variance before the Zoning Board because they can't met the parking requirements. The variances are always granted because there is nothing that can be done. We are spending a lot of time and money for both the borough and the people having to go through the variance. We thought we should have the JT Planning Commission look at this and may be they can do some type of zoning overlay in the areas where the parking cannot be changed so we don't have to continue to go through variances.

Mayor Sofranko said there were concerns about businesses that could locate in Jim Thorpe and this was a way of giving them an area that needed to meet requirements.

Mr. McGuire will discuss this with the Planning Commission.

Manager Sterner said the Quality of Life ordinance that would give us the option for the code enforcement officer to issue tickets for nuisance violations. We wouldn't take away from the zoning or the property maintenance ordinances this would be another avenue to take.

Mr. McGuire said BIA has discussed this with the council and the Planning committee. BIA doing our nuisance type of stuff last year it cost us \$27,000.00.

Manager Sterner said you can define what the nuisance is on.

Mr. McGuire said we can call it a nuisance ordinance. If we do this we need to determine who is going to do this.

Manager Sterner said they have a draft ordinance that you can review.

Jim McHugh said they are ahead from where they were last year at this time. January & February they were booked. He is getting repeat business and local residents. He is having baby showers, anniversary parties, weddings, funeral luncheons. They patched up by the skating rink.

Mr. McGuire asked how the sewer pump is in the rink.

Manager Sterner had Ed Gula check this out.

Mrs. Klitsch said she spoke to Victor who works in the hall about the roller skates and he said he would just throw them out.

Manager Sterner said she will contact Randy Smith to leave him know about the skates.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Nothing to report

Old Business

- A. Cuoco – 56 W. Broadway – no update
- B. Packer Hill Road proposed one way Ordinance – no update
- C. LCB Licensee Noise Enforcement – public hearing held February 18, 2016; awaiting determination
- D. Collection Agency for delinquent utility fees – no update

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

3/10/16

MOTION: Kyle Sheckler second Joanne Klitsch to adjourn

YES 5

NO 0

ABSENT 2 Paulette Haupt & Thomas Highland

Adjourned at 8:03 p.m

Respectfully submitted

Louise McClafferty
Borough Secretary