

JIM THORPE BOROUGH MEETING  
MAY 13, 2021  
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m. by President Gregory Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for the men and women serving our country and our first responders. President Strubinger also acknowledged Police Week and thanked the Chief, Mayor and all of the JTPD officers for their hard work.

**Roll Call of Members**

Gregory Strubinger	Thomas Highland	Joanne Klitsch
Jay Miller	Kyle Sheckler - absent	Michael Yeastedt
Robert Schaninger – 6:37 pm	Mayor Michael Sofranko	Solicitor Nanovic – 7:45 pm
Connor Rodgers, JCP	Police Chief Schatz	Public Service Manager Yaich
Manager Sterner	Borough Engineer – absent	Secretary Louise McClafferty - absent

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Sofranko asked if there were any question on the police report – there were none; reported on police vehicle insurance numbers; COVID protocol ended; event meetings continue; Chief is working on crosswalks and the electronic signs to assist with speeding issues; reviewing parking downtown; Community Watch meetings are the last Tuesday of the month – May's will be held in the pavilion.

**Announcements**

Tire & Electronic Recycling – May 15 from 7:00 am to 11:30 am at the borough garage.

**SALDO**

**Ott Lot Consolidation** – MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Jay Miller to approve a **waiver of Section 390.20 Preliminary Plan and Section 390.21 Final Plan of the Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance** requiring both a Preliminary and a Final Plan, allowing the submittal of one Preliminary/Final Plan. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

**Ott Requests** – MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve **storing four (4) modular home sections in the Borough parking lot** for approximately five days in June until the crane is available to place on the lot, conditioned upon our being provided with an insurance certificate naming the Borough as an additional insured. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

Council took no action on a **request to place the modular sections on the foundation prior to all approvals/permits**. Borough Council cannot override the zoning ordinance and a zoning permit must be issued prior to any work being done, including the installation of a foundation for the house.

**Public Comment**

Pete Bott commented on breaching the reservoirs- presented petition.

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve **Resolution 2021-10, approving the sale of playground equipment** know as the “Spider Ride” or the “Ladybug Ride”. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0. MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Bob Schaninger to **approve the sale of the playground equipment to Mauch Chunk Road and Gun Club** for \$50.00. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

Bill Malatak commented on the reservoirs; the railroad and the Subway building.

Council President Strubinger presented late requests for use of the basketball court by the men's leagues – Mondays and Thursdays, rain day Sundays June through August, 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm and new young

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ladies league Tuesdays and Wednesdays, June through July, 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm. MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to **approve use of the basketball court** as requested pending required insurance. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

**Action**

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the **April 8, 2021 meeting minutes**. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the **expenditures** from all funds as presented. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Bob Schaninger to approve the **Treasurer's Report** for April, 2021. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to approve **Resolution 2021-09 authorizing applying for a DCED Grant Application – Greenways, Trails & Recreation** – for the Memorial Park Phase I construction project. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to approve a **funding commitment letter in the amount of \$32,000 for the DCED application**. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

2001 GMC Dump – MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Tom Highland to award the **sale of the GMC Dump** to the high bidder for \$15,100.00. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve the Barry Isett **proposal** to update the **Stormwater Management map**. After discussion, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Jay Miller to approve the Barry Isett **proposal** for the evaluation and completion sequence of the **Front Street** project. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to complete the **sewer manhole and line spot repair proposal** as presented by Public Service Manager Yaich and Sewer Supervisor Gula sewer capital reserve funds. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

Council was updated that the life expectancy of geothermal units exceeds normal units and we can expect this unit to last another seven to ten years. MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Tom Highland to accept the quote from Kresge Electric for replacement of the coil in the police department HVAC unit. After discussion and comments, motion WITHDRAWN by Jay Miller, second WITHDRAWN by Tom Highland.

MOTION to accept the quote from McCullions for **replacement of the coil in the police department HVAC unit**. After discussion and comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Bob Schaninger to **collect the balance of all monies due for the stormwater inspections on Mr. Yost's storm pipe repairs**. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to approve the **Pennsylvania Game Safety Zone Program Agreement** with no restrictions on ATVs or 4-wheelers at this time, but with the caveat we may revisit restrictions if the need arises. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

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MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Bob Schaninger to require **Louise McClafferty to utilize all available paid leave time for her request for medical leave**. Once that time is used, or near to being used, she may request council to consider a request for unpaid medical leave. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

**Race Street Run –**

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve the **event** for July 3, 2021. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to support their **application to PennDOT** for the event. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Tom Highland to approve the **police services contract**.

There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to **close Race street** from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm on the day of the race. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Bob Schaninger, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to grant permission to **temporarily mark the streets with the route**. Applicant will be instructed to obtain the permission of PennDOT for any state highways. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve **waiving the zoning permit fees** for the **Sam Miller Field** volley ball and Bocce ball courts. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

WWTP Upgrade Project – MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Jay Miller to approve **Requisition 48** in the amount of \$4,613.46. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

This is the final requisition; annual support and document submittals have been completed; **project is closed**.

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to approve DR. Patrick Holland's request to install a **stretching station on the D&L Trail** and to **waive the zoning and building codes fees** for the project.

After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

**Utility Action**

MOTION by Jay Miller, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve the **Garbage lien report**. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, seconded by Jay Miller to approve the *water/sewer/garbage lien report*.

There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

**Exoneration Request**

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Joanne Klitsch to approve the **April report** as presented. After comments, motion carried 6 to 0.

**Committees**

Administration – n/a

Public Services (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

MOTION BY Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Greg Strubinger to approve public service to **repair the storm sewer box** under the sidewalks near Highland Beverage, it is failing. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

Police – n/a

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Buildings/Parks – n/a

Emergency Services

Jay Miller requested an update on the Diligent bay window repair. An updated quote was just received and needs to be reviewed by the Fire Chief.

Mayor Sofranko commented on a letter received regarding open bottles in the Borough. He reviewed this with the Chief and stated we don't really have an issue. It is not a problem at this time.

Old Business

No updates

Executive Session

Personnel and Litigation – will be held after this meeting.

Adjourn

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, seconded by Tom Highland to adjourn and go into an executive session for personnel and litigation. There were no comments. Motion carried 6 to 0.

The meeting ended at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Sterner  
Borough Manager