

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 8, 2021
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:31 P.M. by President Gregory Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for Tom Highland, Armed Forces, & First Responders.

President Strubinger apologizes for missing agenda, missing people, and agenda is online.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Michael Yeastedt, VP	Jay Miller
Robert Schaninger	Police Chief Schatz
Gregory Strubinger, President	Mayor Michael Sofranko
PSM Vince Yaich	

Mayor's Report

All received a copy of Police Report.

Civil Service list is coming to an end, there are 1 or 2 candidates. State testing- no cost to borough asking council to approve. JTPD still covering all shifts, fortunate to do so in Jim Thorpe.

Police Committee-debate about parking on Broadway and oversize vehicles. Chief is monitoring ongoing discussion, and vehicle lengths. Discussed car lengths, possible use of "Compact Car Only". This can be determined by VIN number.

Chief Schatz-follow solicitor, ordinance, must define length of car. Mayor request Parking discussion to move forward.

Announcements

Mauch Chunk Pharmacy – distributed over 4,000 vaccines in their clinics. President Strubinger-thanks to MCP for vaccines.

Public Comment

Mark Reitz – not happy with discharge of firearms in Glen Onoko Estates. Shooting has disturbed Peregrine Falcons. Mark Reitz works for many families. Pleasant Hill-electric fence-JTPD Poeldnork has Flizack on camera at Old Reabold oil delivery garage on a tractor-screaming and yelling-pressed charges-mad about ARI5 shooting-family all disturbed. In the Morning Call today, it reported that a hunter shot somebody at a park thinking they were a ground hog. Talked about bullet holes-possibility of redirection-legal to discharge weapons anywhere-typically one (1) acre lots- (Reitz has biggest lot). Upset with PSP-tell people to go to legal range-no regulations on discharge of weapons.

Dee Reitz – Discharge of firearms in residential zone neighborhoods, mentioned Nesquehoning, referred residents to approved state fire range where people can go. Council voted to advertise to prohibit firing of arms in Borough limits. Dee referred to Lienhard and Philly shooters. Chief Schatz relying on voluntary compliance. Chief is instructing to call in, but JTPD is saying there's nothing they can do. Referenced shooting incident. Dee has visited neighborhoods of council members and wants to know plan of action? Will come to every meeting until something is done.

Action

- A. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve Council Meeting **Minutes from June 17, 2021**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- B. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve Council Meeting **Minutes from June 24, 2021**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.

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- C. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **Expenditures** from all Funds as presented. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- D. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **Treasure's Report June, 2021**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- E. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **Resolution 2021-12 Memorial Park NPS Grant Dedicated Land**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- F. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **McClafferty Leave Request**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- G. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **Larz Barnes-employment status-**changed to Full-Time Regular employee. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- H. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve Nick Zuwara, **Part-time Employee-Buildings**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- I. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve the **Civil Service** commission to begin the process of updating the Civil Service List. Chief will assist Mayor. Thank you. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- J. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **Entech WO-High Street Water Main** in the amount of \$26,400.00. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- K. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **Entech WO-South Street Sewer** in the amount of \$18,000.00. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- L. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **authorization for the Solicitor** to begin any tasks required for court action to move forward with work on the properties proposed for the Blight Remediation Grant. There were no comments. Motioned carried 4 to 0.

Utility Action

Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve the **Uncollectible Accounts Report (1)**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve the **Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (8)**. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Exoneration Request

Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to approve **June Report** as presented. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Committees

Administration

Act 457 Plan

Parking Ordinance Amendment – permit parking WB – Council to review, comment. Motion by Jay Miller, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to authorize the Borough Manager to **distribute to public meeting attendees** for review and comment. Andrew Roberts asked if it's a public document.

Medical Marijuana Ordinance - Medical Marijuana – Michael J Yeastedt opposed to “parks”, maybe “playgrounds”. Mayor would like to support Chief in adding Young Lungs at Play in “parks”. Public Service Manager Yaich suggested just in “playgrounds”. Council to review and comment.

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

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Streets & Sidewalk Ordinance Update – curb regulations – Jay Miller – Church Alley Project is coming along nice, the contractor needs more crews. Curbing – Council to review & comment. Michael J Yeastedt – solicitor rewrote and updated ordinance.

Police

Parking – 1st Block of Broadway – Authorize Chief to research class and size of vehicle. Motion by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger to **authorize Chief Schatz to research** class and size of vehicles for possible restrictions. There were no comments. Motion carried 4 to 0. Chief – in contact with Dave Drury from Inn of Jim Thorpe on ingress and egress of their lot. Jay Miller- can kiosk issue message on ticket, open discussion on “subcompact” only, reference to photos taken by Chief Schatz, discuss marking with lines and discuss current car types. Mike Rivkin comments that vehicle classifications are skewed, solicitor advises Rifkin to be careful with wording, maybe just needs to fit within lines (add “T’s” to end of lines). Mayor – worried about losing parking spots and meter income, 1/3 of a mill is approximately \$30,000.

Buildings/Parks

Diligent Bay Window & Woodwork – awaiting updated written quotes – per Jay Miller we’re still waiting for quote update.

Young Lungs at Play – Tobacco Free Policy – Greg stated to start with policy to address smoking. Mayor asked if medical marijuana is covered under the policy. Bob referenced all the facilities that he visits have “tobacco free” policies. Jay was not opposed, just asked questions. Open discussion on tobacco types. Needs further discussion, leave under committees.

Emergency Services

Chipmunk Trail Addressing – Greg stated County is still gathering info.

Old Business

Flizack Request – 4th St Quit Claim Deed
Readdressing Phase II
Blight Landbank
UCC Joint Board of Appeals Appointment
2021 Streets Projects – Front Street
Brummell Request – to take unopened portion of Quarry St.

Adjourn

Motioned by Jay Miller second Robert Schaninger. There were no comments. Meeting ended at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Yeastedt
Council Member