

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2018  
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:30 in the Memorial Park Hall, 101 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 (L)	John McGuire (a)	Edith Lukasevich
Jay Miller	Manager Maureen Sterner	PSM Vince Yaich
Police Chief Joe Schatz	Matthew Boggs, Entech	
Mayor Michael Sofranko	Secy. Louise McClafferty	

**Public Comment**

President Strubinger announced the following

- Police Pension Board Vacancy (1)
- Fall Tire & Electronic Recycling Oct. 13, 2018 7:00 to 11:30 am.
- Trick or Treat Night Wed. Oct. 31, 2018 6:00 to 8:00 pm
- PA Small Sewer & Water Grant – Church Alley Project – Water Main amount of \$100,000.00
- Tree Vitalize Grant amount of \$5,000.00, this is for crown raising on North Street

Edith Lukasevich said she received 32 phone calls on the sign that is on a man's property and on his fences. He received a Notice of Violation and if he continues to allow signs on his fence he will be fined. The signs he allows are: dinners at the Fairview Hose Company, Immaculate Conception Church picnic and the Sam Miller Field is holding a cancer walk fund raiser. She wants to know how we can let this happen when these are all charity organizations. Why would this man be fined when it is on his own property? These signs are benefiting the community.

Borough Manager Sterner said our zoning ordinance has regulations for signs. If he has a sign on his property he should have inquired as to whether or not a permit was needed. He can speak to the zoning officer and he can review the ordinance to see if there are any provision for non-profit events and stuff like that. Greg Kurtz needs to follow the ordinance. There was a complaint that came in, that is how this erupted.

Edith Lukasevich said this man did not know he needed a permit. She thinks it would be better if they went around and got the junk cars, houses falling down, she wanted to know who complained.

Borough Manager Sterner said this is not public information. If Council wants to change the sign ordinance this is something that the Planning Commission is going to start looking at, now is the time if you want something to be put in the ordinance. He should contact the zoning officer and discuss this.

President Strubinger said most of the signs he sees there are temporary. Is there a difference between a permanent sign and temporary sign? We have to see what part of the zoning this is being cited for. If it is something that Council needs to change in the ordinance then that is what we have to take a look at.

Jake Arner said Andrew Roberts is proposing a tram/hotel project and he asked him for an easement across his property, he is in support of his project and if they can reach an agreement he will give him an easement across his property to run the sewer. The Borough is not interested in running the sewer line straight down the hill. Andrew is interested in running the sewer an alternative way down to the west side of Jim Thorpe.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2018  
MINUTES

Jake Arner said to be fair to everybody, before he grants this easement, we have to have an agreement so this can be designed properly.

Andrew Roberts presented Council with a booklet for the gondola and hotel project on Flagstaff Road. This would be a parking congestion relief for the downtown area. They will be saving the ballroom, the landing spot they looked at was Wood's Ice Cream but with crossing the road they suggested looking at Highland's beverage, this would not work out so they looked at Mertz's barn on Race Street. This will take you from the Flagstaff to Mertz's barn. There has been no sewer up there. When they add the hotel. They need sewer, this is important, there is a bunch of engineering that needs to go into this. He needs to know how many EDU's they will need to use. He explained the sewer hook ups, etc. He spoke about going across Jake's property and the Borough's property 200 yards or so and Lentz Trail. He would have to negotiate where they would come through and where it would come down. They have to engineer this. Keystone will do a bunch of engineering on this, if this is possible. We need the Borough to say yes, you agree to crossing your property and yes, you can run across Jake's properties to tie in, without this they are spending a lot of money for engineering.

Borough Manager Sterner said you can't do an agreement until the Land Development plan has been finalized and approved. The context of the agreement will be based on the land development plan.

Andrew Roberts said the only problem with that is he can't do all this without the Borough saying yes you can use the land.

Borough Manager Sterner said you may request to reserve the EDU's, you would have to pay for that, that is a way that the borough can guarantee that those EDU's would be available for you.

Andrew Roberts said beyond the EDU count, he needs Borough Council's approval to cross borough property. He can't do engineering until he gets approval on these details.

Mr. Miller said the point where the people exit by the barn, the amount of people on the corner could be a concern.

Andrew Roberts informed him the most amount of people would be 24, 4 full cars at 6 people, every 4 minutes. He appreciates that input.

Mr. Miller said the exit will have to be managed.

Mrs. Klitsch said when you are bringing people down to drop them off, that will take them back up.

Andrew Roberts said yes, that will take them back and forth.

Mr. Miller asked him if he is proposing to run the sewer down the hill or down Flagstaff Road?

Andrew Roberts said not on the road, they want to go across the ridge, across Jake's property to 200 yards from Lentz Trail. It would be a low-pressure system. It will need the borough engineer's approval. Keystone Engineer and Entech will need to determine the best route for the sewer. This is avoiding construction on the Mansion house. He said he needs to discuss rescue with the Fire Department. If everything fails – derails D&L requires evacuation training. He is requested a meeting be set up with the Fire Department Committee.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2018  
MINUTES

Michael Rivkin said this weekend will be the first weekend for fall foliage festival.

Ed McArdle, 622 Center St., asked what the game plan is for sealing cracks.

President Strubinger said we will not be done right now.

PSM Yaich said this hasn't been done in 3 years. We have a crack sealing machine for doing the joints, tar buggy, we do not have a crack sealing machine.

Ed McArdle complained about water run off and going into people's basements.

PSM Yaich said he wrote up a request for action form for council and they discussed curbing.

Bob Ewashko, 40 W Broadway said the trees that were trimmed on Hill Road were thrown over the wall and thrown on his property, he is concerned about this being a fire hazard.

PSM Yaich said he will find out why they were thrown over there, they had the chipper with them, he will get the guys to go up over that bank and clean that up.

**Action**

Discussed Council Workshop Meeting Minutes from September 6, 2018

Discussed Council Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2018

Mrs. Klitsch said under buildings/parks the JT Hall of Fame?

Borough Manager Sterner said that is a fund raiser for the 3<sup>rd</sup> statue.

Mrs. Lukasevich asked about the School Street no parking ordinance.

Mr. Miller said this is on the agenda for advertisement.

Mayor Sofranko said they have a hard time getting fire equipment and the snow plows through that street.

Discussed Expenditures from all Funds as presented

Mr. Miller said an observation on the budget, BIA bills are almost \$6,000.00.

President Strubinger said the draft budgets are in your packets.

Discussed Treasurer Report September, 2018 as presented.

Discussed Ordinance 2018-06 School Street this is for advertising.

Discussed Detective Marzen Longevity Pay.

President Strubinger said this is for \$500.00 for 2018.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2018  
MINUTES

Discussed Water Capital Reserve Fund CD

Borough Manager Sterner said this is due to roll over on October 11, 2018. If this is acceptable to Council we will roll it over to the best rate received.

Discussed 2018 Foreign Fireman's Tax Distribution.

Mr. Miller said the foreign fireman's tax, he handles the Mauch Chunk Association and Michael Yeasted handles the East Mauch Chunk Fireman's Association fund. As a home owner, you pay to the insurance company for fire insurance. That company is based out of state, they are taxed by the state and it is distributed to each firemen's relief association in the state, and this is broken out to two reliefs.

Discussed Sale of 1997 Ford F-250

Discussed Sale of 1994 GMC Topkick

Borough Manager Sterner said the bids from Municibid 1997 Ford F-250 is \$7,100.00 and the 1994 GMC is \$9,500.00

Mr. Miller reminded Council that they went on motion to send the proceeds from the sale of the trucks to go back to the Diligent Fire Co. to put on their loan.

Discussed Garbage & Recycling Bid Specs

Borough Manager Sterner said there are some questions, please look at them and get back to her. This is on the agenda to advertise.

Discussed Dunbar Street Light Request

Borough Manager Sterner said she did write to the neighbors, the second half of 2<sup>nd</sup> street are ok with the light but where the light will be located the property owner is not favor of it, it will light up his back yard. There is a street light right across from 13 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. There were tires slashed and that was right under the light, this is up to Council.

Police Chief Schatz said it is all lit up down there, except for that small area. There is a street light at the corner of School Street and at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Center Street.

President Strubinger said if we don't feel there is some kind of imminent safety issue and we have a neighbor that is going to be most affected by the light and he has concerns, he feels we should leave it as is.

Discussed D & L Trail

Wilson Consulting Invoice – \$3,174.45

Entech Invoice #60825 - \$217.50

Discussed 10<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Project

Kobalt Payment #5 - \$7,481.25

Mr. Miller asked if this is the is for the blow out?

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2018  
MINUTES

Borough Manager Sterner said yes.

Discussed WWTP Upgrade Project

Eastern Environmental payment application #22 - \$82,200.42

Howard Company payment application #17 - \$23,908.21

Howard Company change Order #3 - \$7,272.54

Requisition #25 – \$135,641.50

Matt Boggs said what the change order was for, we were going to re-use some electrical wires in the control building. It is old and should be replaced.

Matt Boggs said it looks like Eastern is going to need additional time to finish the project. He has to go through the report, this will be for the November meeting. They are looking for an extension to the middle of December. He will review this with the Borough Manager.

**Utility Action**

Discuss the Utility Accounts Lien Reports

- a. Active Utility Accounts Garbage & Others Lien Report (0)
- b. Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (4)
- c. Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)
- d. Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (0)
- e. Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)
- f. Temporary Off Lien Report (0)
- g. Inactive (0)

Uncollectible Accounts Report – (0)

Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (0)

**Tax Exoneration Action**

Carole Christine Stehle

**Committees**

**Administration**

Discuss the Burning Ordinance

Mr. Miller said the ordinance talks about referring to DEP/EPA standards, how do we call them at 10:00 at night and ask them if this is ok to do. There are too many references to an outside agency, how do we enforce this?

Borough Manager Sterner said she will see if she can get some type of documents on this for council.

Permit Parking

Borough Manager Sterner said solicitor Nanovic sent out the draft ordinance from Stroudsburg. He has to many questions and too many definitions that were confusing. The ordinance from Stroudsburg is the one that he is recommending to Council to review. It is in Council's hands as to how you want to move forward.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2018  
MINUTES

Roberts Flagstaff Project

Vendor Permit Fee Waiver Request

Mr. Miller said the request is to waive some of the vendors. He does not know how we can be equal to everyone. Everyone should be treated fairly.

Michael Rivkin said the request for the waiver from Jenn Christman is regarding the additional trains coming. The JTTA was asked if they could make any accommodations for the vendors on October 26, & 28. The Commissioner's gave them permission to extend the permits for the lot to get 5 food trucks in to service the 800 people coming in for lunch. She asked for those 5 trucks if the Borough could waive the fees for that weekend. Many of them have done the peddlers permit for the 3 weekends for the festival.

Borough Manager Sterner said this will be on the agenda for Council to act on.

TCC Resolution Supporting Current Earned Income Tax Collection.

Borough Manager Sterner said this is a study that the State wants to do for the Earned Income Tax collection. The Committee is not in favor of this and they adopted this.

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

Mr. Miller said the COG the membership fees are \$100.00 for 2019. The street sweeper is at the dealership and they won't release it until we pay for it. They are waiting for two municipalities and the grant to sign off on this. Then they will be ready to rent it out. He prepared a budget for the COG program, he is proposing the rental fee be \$500.00 a day this is with your own driver and your own fuel in it.

Mr. Sheckler asked who will be responsible for the replacement of the brushes?

Mr. Miller said that has to be worked out, part of the \$500.00 will be for maintenance and the brushes would be part of that. They will have an instructional class, Mr. Schafer and Mr. Trainer will be part of that. This can be driven from town to town, the brushes are behind the cab, no need for a trailer.

Mrs. Klitsch asked Matt Boggs if they should keep the 2 old blowers, should the borough keep them, put them up for sale or scrap them?

Matt Boggs said you could put them on Municibid, they are relatively new.

Borough Manager Sterner said we should make a list of all the equipment that we can sell.

Police

Mayor Sofranko requested an executive session for possible litigation reasons.

Buildings/Parks

Emergency Services

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2018  
MINUTES

**Old Business**

**Executive Session**

Personnel

**MOTION:** Jay Miller second Joanne Klitsch to adjourn.

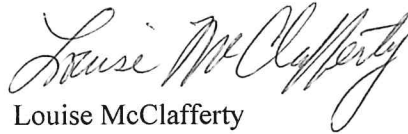
YES 6

NO 0

ABSENT 1 John McGuire

Adjourned at 8:09 pm

Respectfully submitted



Louise McClafferty  
Borough Secretary