

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the men and women serving our county, our first responders and their families and those impacted by the Coronavirus.

Roll Call of Members

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Gregory Strubinger | Joanne Klitsch | Jay Miller |
| Kyle Sheckler | Mike Yeastedt | Bob Schaninger -absent |
| Thomas Highland | Mayor Sofranko | Solicitor Nanovic |
| JCP Connor Rodger | Police Chief Schatz | PSM Yaich - absent |
| Manager Sterner | Louise McClafferty- absent | Engineer – Bob Kerns |

Public Hearing

President Strubinger said the Zoning Ordinance Amendment for the Short-Term Rental (STR) will be discussed at next week's meeting. We did receive the County Planning Commission who has given us it's approval. This will tentatively be followed by March advertisement, then April adoption.

Borough Manager Sterner said you could vote to advertise next week; adoption would be in front of Council in March.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sofranko said everyone has a copy of the police report to review. He thanked the Borough crew and the Police dept for doing a fine job during this last major snow storm. They are cleaning up the downtown area now.

Mayor Sofranko said it is before Council the event cost for 2021 the cost of Police service for an event. As far as the events that are usually planned, all the way up to May they have been cancelled or down sized, there will be no police services needed. He is trying to get a meeting together about the events.

Police Chief Schatz said the only question he has for the meeting next week. With the snow we have been having, in past we never towed vehicles, right now they are averaging on snow emergency routes 6 to 10 tickets. For the majority of the borough, everyone is in compliance. The question becomes: they tag them and they sit there for a couple of days, he sends out the ordinance and advises them they need to move their vehicle or they will be towed. The question he has is he would like to recommend towing vehicles versus ticketing them and leaving them sit there. He would like to bring this to council's attention next week. If we tow it, he would get with the Public Service then push that back.

Borough Manager Sterner said she takes it that there is nothing in our Snow Parking ordinance related to towing.

Police Chief Schatz said there is nothing.

President Strubinger asked what are we doing for impound for any tows?

Police Chief Schatz said Bernhard's takes them and puts them down at his shop. We then advise them to contact Bernhard's, they then release the vehicles as per our request.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Borough Manager Sterner said the initial All Call goes out well in advance of the storm. So, they do have hours to move their cars. Once they are done with that side, the all call goes out saying you can begin moving your car and you need to have it moved by, say 4:00 am.

Mr. Miller said we need to be consistent and if we are going to authorize them to do this it will be done every storm over 2 inches. He stated people need to stop throwing the snow into the street, this can cause an accident.

Police Chief Schatz said they did talk to some people about throwing the snow into the streets. They asked him where do they go with the snow? He told them to put it in their yard.

Borough Manager Sterner said this will be added to the agenda for council to take action next week.

Mayor Sofranko said he understands the snow emergency routes should be published and told those routes they will be towed from. The biggest issue you will have with cars is people park on the side streets, off of the snow emergency routes and some of those cars don't move, they will get a 72-hour ticket not towed.

Police Chief Schatz said they want to run tags, find out the owners and go to their house make them aware of the snow ordinance, if not be aware next time, that this is a warning, get your vehicle out of there.

Announcements

US Census Bureau Thank You

UCC Joint Board of Appeals Board Vacancy

SALDO

Public Comment – limited to 1 minute per person – public is encouraged to submit public comments via regular mail, email or place in drop box at municipal office

President Strubinger said we had discussion on the proposal for Comprehensive Stormwater Management plan in the borough.

Borough Manager Sterner said the initial discussion began before September 2020.

President Strubinger said we are looking at how we are going to approach handling stormwater issues. We are trying to incorporate that in with road repairs. Part of this is when we had discussion, we are looking to have a proposal submitted. We received a bill from Entech that we were surprised we got the bill. He was under the impression we were basically requesting a proposal for this work as part of that, we received a \$3,763.00 bill. There is discussion as to whether or not we authorized that to be done.

Bob Kern said it is not about the money, it is about making sure we understand each other and that they do a good job for the borough. The first piece that may have gone wrong. When they went through this process in July 2020, we did discuss and went on a site visit with councilman Yeastedt and PSM Yaich. This is a very large task and our first attempt was what do you want to do with this? It was what they call a scoping session.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Bob Kerns said in that discussion, they talked about how they could see this if there was desire from council, how this would evolve into a committee level proposal, then possibly a vote of council. When they talked about this at this early stage, it was how do we get through this. They documented these meetings with emails, etc. There was a specific question from the Manager as to if the borough is going to be billed for this stuff? He responded yes, of course, we are trying to help you guys out, it would be marketing efforts. The first question was is this a proposal or is it not a proposal? We were getting to the point where you would then ask them to submit a proposal, or possibly just using this information to then put out a formal Request for Proposal (RFP). In the discussions, it was talked it could be possible to see if Barry Isett, Bureau Veritas all taking part in this proposal. They even said if they are giving the borough an idea of how this is going to go, we want to make sure that they are all giving the same scope of work. They were trying to respond to the members request to give them a menu. The proposal they delivered on September 10, 2020 report. The summary minutes from their discussion, ok, the team is requesting not a proposal, but a cost estimate and the cost estimate would be all of cart approach. Giving a scenario for the Cadillac version for a master plan full 100% coverage for the borough, utilizing all engineer support, no assistance by the borough, down to a very small focused work effort and what does those costs look like. The September 10, 2020 report that you received, that was the combination of this work. What you were billed for that was all of the combination of work and they routinely eat costs, they don't charge the borough for everything., there was \$7,000.00 dollars that they did not charge the borough for on this bill. From their perspective they were asked to provide a cost estimate to the borough. They thought perhaps this information could be utilized and building your own RFP. They thought perhaps they could be helping build the RFP for the borough. They documented this. They wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the thought that, how did they get this so wrong and they want to make sure they get it right moving forward. They want to help the borough wherever they can. They should be helping the borough establish your priorities. Their goal is to explain what they thought was happening with this process? Hopefully, discuss with the borough how you want them to be part of the team? Are they a hired gun or trusted advisor? They are trying to be the trusted advisor. Some people don't want that, which is fine, they just want to make sure we understand each other.

President Strubinger said he is not sure where the breakdown on communication was? Nobody is under the impression that the stormwater work is going to be a quick, inexpensive fix. He asked Borough Manager Sterner what do we normally do here with the breakdown? He thinks it should be clear what the borough is being billed.

Borough Manager Sterner said when the borough has projects to be done, we have normal day to day projects to be done at the Water, Sewer and Streets. When we have projects to be done, we have a work order process in place, Work orders are presented to council and they approve that project. This was asking for a proposal; we don't do work orders when we are asking for a proposal. When we ask for a proposal, we don't expect to get an invoice. We would have expected a work order for council to approve to spend the money to develop a proposal.

Bob Kerns said what they delivered to the borough was what a potential proposal might look like. This gave you a complete review of roads, gutters, stormwater swales, looking at each pipe and mapping it, to a number that if you just focused on one particular area. When they documented what came out of the discussion, it was ok, we are not looking for a proposal, we are looking for a cost estimate so the borough could see this. We helped you understand what this is going to look like. What was requested, what does this look like, how do we deal with this, had a scoping session, they took the scoping session to the next level where they had a discussion with the Manager on budget. As they documented the results of that meeting, they said in their minutes it said the borough is not requesting a proposal they are requesting a cost estimate, as a menu of ways to select the different types of.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Borough Manager Sterner said that was at the end. The meeting with the guys, you all decided it wasn't a proposal anymore, that was never shared with anybody else. She is not saying this is his fault, you weren't the only one there at the meeting.

Mr. Yeastedt said this is his recollection: he was asked to be part of this meeting; it was a very in-depth discussion. They talked about other work that you did in another municipality and everything that is written down there developed out of that discussion. There is nothing, there is no way shape or form that he authorized anybody to do anything. At the end of the conversation was we have to go back to Maureen to find out what is available, because he doesn't know what funds are available.

Bob Kerns said this is normal how they serve their clients. When they have a well-defined scope, they say, ok, we are going to give you a proposal, work order or whatever for you to approve it. Part of what was happening here is budget season was coming up, they wanted to have the need to get your hands around the stormwater, within the regulations is important. It's not about the money, it's about giving you good advice, respond to you quickly if necessary, this is more in-depth look, we want to respond.

Borough Manager Sterner asked if Matt or Kim not discussed with him the process that we have for the past 5-years on how we move forward with work orders and stuff like that? There was an issue before that was the whole purpose of the work orders, so we didn't end up in this situation.

Bob Kerns said the timing itself wasn't allowing the work order process identified. The thought was this is good information that is going to be utilized for council to decide if they want to proceed or not.

President Strubinger said what you are hearing tonight, nobody felt that was communicated to the borough that we were going to be billed for consulting.

Borough Manager Sterner said what she is hearing is that his co-workers have not reviewed with him the process that we do have in place.

Mayor Sofranko asked Bob Kerns if he was asking for this bill to be paid or not?

Bob Kerns said he is asking you guys to understand what happened. He will leave that to the council. The goal here is that this won't happen again. We gave a good service and when you are provided the services, you pay for the services. The most important issue is communication.

Borough Manager Sterner said she will write up a process for how we are going to handle engineering. Just so you know, we don't consider consulting as a free for all engineering thing. It's a work order item.

Action

Discuss Council Meeting Minutes from January 7, 2021

Discuss Council Meeting Minutes from January 14, 2021

Discuss Expenditures from all Funds as presented

Discuss Treasurer's Report January, 2021

Discuss Appoint Zoning Hearing Board Attorney

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Borough Manager Sterner said the Zoning Hearing Board is meeting tonight via zoom. She may have something next week. They had asked to see if there were any other interests for the attorney. They are reorganizing, they don't have a hearing but they do have 3 new members, it's for them to introduce themselves to each other. The zoning hearing board attorney is appointed yearly by council because you pay for his services.

Discuss Streets Division – sale items

Borough Manager Sterner said the bids are due next Tuesday.

President Strubinger said we may or may not have action on that.

Discuss Pumper/Tanker COSTARS Purchase

Mr. Sheckler said according to the last email from solicitor Nanovic, he gave us the ok to purchase the tanker. Next week we will be asking council to agree to the COSTARS KME Pumper/Tanker with lettering, amount of \$684,983.00.

Discuss Entech WO 4159-EWO-10950 – annual water audit

President Strubinger said Entech is preparing this, the amount of \$1,100.00

Mr. Miller said this is housekeeping.

Discuss Sewer Department Employee

Borough Manager Sterner said we did post this internally, we had no inhouse interest. If council so chooses you can consider a vote to advertise the open position. Accept application until March 8, 2021, to allow time for interviews. Requirements: CDL B license, sewer operator class C subclass 1 higher or lower license preferred, obtained within 3 years of date of hire.

Mr. Miller asked if we have any applicants on file?

President Strubinger said we did advertise this a year ago. Are those applications not valid anymore?

Borough Manager Sterner said it's not a full year. If you want us to contact people and consider those, we can do that. She does not know who would be available she can find out, that is council's choice.

President Strubinger said we can communicate to them if they want to reapply, they can. He would ask them if they are still interested.

Mr. Miller stated we don't have a policy that we keep an application for active for 6 months or a year.

Borough Manager Sterner said no.

Police Chief Schatz said they keep the police application for 2 years.

Borough Manager Sterner said she will contact them to see if they are still interested or not.

Discuss Collection of Back Taxes

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Borough Manager Sterner said this is for the Per Capita taxes. If you remember we had Powell, Rogers, & Speaks that collected our delinquent taxes and they closed their doors. Everything has been turned over to Berkheimer to be collected as it has been in the past. What we are running into Berkheimer is going back forever to collect these back taxes. Most people follow the IRS rule they keep their records for 7 years, so they don't have any proof that they paid the taxes prior to 7 years ago because they didn't keep their records and they aren't required to. We are just running in to difficulty with people for this, and she checked with Berkheimer to find out if there is a statute of limitation for collecting the taxes and there is not any. What they recommend is that you don't pursue anything that is older than 7 years because of the IRS limitation, unless they are specifically told otherwise by the taxing district. When we turned everything over to them that was provided to Powell, Rogers & Speaks they continued in the manner they were doing it. We want to let you know this is starting to be a problem for people. Does council want to consider changing the instruction to Berkheimer and go with the 7 year or do you want to remain collecting what they can collect?

President Strubinger asked if we knew what was beyond 7 years?

Borough Manager Sterner said no we don't. You can think about this. Berkheimer is the collector for this tax that is who the residents should be contacting.

Discuss JT Rotary – use of Memorial Parking Lot

President Strubinger said they requested to use the Memorial Parking lot for the blood mobile on March 2 and September 14, 2021.

Discuss RUNegades Marathon 2021

Police Chief Schatz said there will be no police service contract needed because they are not using any roadways this year, it is all county.

Discuss Checking Accounts

Borough Manager Sterner said we have some new checking accounts. This is for council to ratify, we opened one up for the garage facility, one for the memorial hall facility and one the parks. The parks is the Mary Packer Cummings trust money that council approved to use for the parks. We are expecting \$81,129.00, the courts did approve the disbursement of that, the check was written earlier this week, we are waiting for that to come in.

Mr. Miller said this is under a will, he does not know what the MCTC said about this trust. He understands the urgency to get rid of it, he doesn't understand the reason. Mrs. Mary Packer Cummings put that trust for the mansion.

Borough Manager Sterner said that was not designated for any specific use, we did make sure of that with the bank and solicitor Nanovic to make sure we did not have any specific items that we needed to use that money for. We also have the Packer Trust that is used for the Asa Packer Mansion, that is specified for the mansion. We generally pay the insurance for the mansion with that money.

Mr. Miller said he just wants to make sure; he is worried, the home was entrusted to the Mauch Chunk Borough. Some money was put aside to upkeep that, we all know the trust cannot handle the upkeep of the mansion. The Lion's club took it over. He is worried about the intent of this money. If she felt 125 years ago to do this, are we clear today to do this?

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Mr. Miller stated this is Mary Packer Cummings trust, she put this money aside and now all of sudden it's ok to spend it. This is what he doesn't understand. Trust documents flow over the years, they don't change. The MCTC can say they don't want it because it's losing money, that is one issue. Another issue is the legality of it. We have a gem on the hill and he doesn't want to be bucking the intent of these trusts. He understands the willingness to get rid of the trusts, he can't understand for 100 years we held this money in a trust and now all of a sudden, it's ok to spend somewhere else. He has concerns with this. We are supposed to be the ones to make sure these things last.

Borough Manager Sterner will double check with the solicitor.

Discuss FP – Public Service Garage

Discuss FP – Administration/Police

Discuss Parks

Discuss Borough Facilities Projects

Discuss Spillman Invoice 7849.18.02 – Hall \$10,125.00

Discuss Memorial Hall Renovations Bids

Discuss Public Service Garage Bids

President Strubinger said the committee met with Spillman Farmer to discuss the bids. We are concerned about the bids.

Borough Manager Sterner said the bids came in.

Low bid for Memorial Hall \$3,722,803.00. Public Works garage \$3,273,109.00. There are some alternates that it could be reduced. Council needs to have the discussion what you would like to do. The salt sheds could be taken out of the bid price.

Mr. Miller said he did see some numbers that this is over \$7.5 million dollars. That would be to renovate the hall and put a garage up that seems like an awful amount of money.

Mr. Yeastedt said how can we estimate \$75,000.00 for HVAC and the cost came in at \$404,000.00? There is no way this could happen.

Mrs. Klitsch said this is horrible.

Mr. Miller said there is nothing great, the hall is getting renovated to an extent. Is that \$7 million dollars' worth? He does not think it is, it seems more costly to renovate than it is to build. There are a lot of costs in here that they considerably jumped in costs. He studied the numbers that the Manager had sent him, this is a lot of money for not a lot. To renovate the plumbing and electrical for the hall is ridiculous, we would be better off tearing it off and starting from scratch.

Borough Manager Sterner said she has spoken to Spillman Farmer, these contractors have bid on jobs and due to COVID-19 and prices escalating or not being able to obtain what they need, they have been losing their shirts. They are trying to make sure that doesn't happen.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Mr. Miller said he knows there is work that needs to be done in the hall. The next question he has if it is due to COVID-19, there is a 5-year projection out here and it scares him. He would say let's wait until COVID-19 is over. That may be radical statement. These numbers are crazy! The taxes have been raised, put that money aside and wait this out. There has been money spent but we don't want to spend any more. That is his opinion. This just doesn't look right. Yes, we need these items but these prices are ridiculous.

Borough Manager Sterner said you do have to keep in mind if you do not move forward with the garage you have to put money into the current garage. At the very least it needs a roof and we all know it needs more than a roof. That is to be converted for park use, so we wouldn't be losing the money putting the roof on. The hall needs some repairs too. Think about what has been happening in the federal government and seriously do you think these prices are going to come down? Is the other stuff that is not COVID-19 related going to play a part in the costs to do these projects?

Mr. Miller said the cost that were presented here overrides us doing this no matter what we are in COVID-19 or anything else, we have to hope for better times. Are we going to have change orders? The garage, we need the salt bins, we need it paved, the drainage, all of that we need. You put this together the way you want it, you do what you want, the prices outweigh us doing this.

Mrs. Klitsch said we all want to see this happen but the price she agrees with him.

Mr. Miller said put the money to the side. Whatever bills Spillman Farmer have we should not beat around the bush with them. If we decide we are not going to do this we need to stop them. We will keep all the drawings and stuff. The cost involved to renovate this building is just too much. He does not think the price warrants this.

Mayor Sofranko said maybe you should get a list from them of what needs to be addressed immediately and repaired. You can't afford to do this; the tax payers can't afford this, it's that simple. You have to address some of these concerns.

President Strubinger said 10 years ago we should have addressed them back then but that wasn't the will of council.

Council discussed this for several more minutes.

Discuss Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) Grant

Borough Manager Sterner said this is a 50% match, this is a line item in the State budget. You have to get the legislatures on board and this is not an easy one. It's less of a technical application, more numbers and they are looking for shovel ready stuff.

Borough Manager Sterner said the WWTP Upgrade Project – Requisition #47 - \$26,967.82, this is for supplies that we have purchased, we are using up the final grant money, extra supplies for the operation. We may have one more after this, then we can take the sign down.

Utility Action

Utility Accounts Lien Reports

Active Utility Accounts Garbage & Others Lien Report (0)

Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (0)

Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)

Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (0)

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

President Strubinger said we have an Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (1)

Temporary Off Lien Report (0)

Inactive (0)

Uncollectible Accounts Report – (0)

President Strubinger said we have Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (2)

Exoneration Request

Committees

Administration

Vendor Permits

Borough Manager Sterner said for 2020 we issued permits to the four vendors that were in the Josiah White Park and one for the horse carriage. We are getting calls; the County has not inquired about them yet. St. Patrick they are not doing it, we have not heard anything on the Earth Day. We can keep this as an item and go month by month.

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

Stormwater – Center Avenue Notice

Stormwater – 13th St Notice

Borough Manager Sterner said these are two areas where we are consistently had problems and PSM Yaich feels it is time for us to step up. She has spoken to the school; they are aware a letter is coming.

Mr. Miller said on Center Ave, when we repaired the sewer at Center Ave and Cedar Ave, we did have Penn Dot up there to look at the feasibility of putting a storm drain in there, and run it under Center Ave and that didn't work out. It was looked at. The water is coming from private inground drains that were taken to light on our street's years ago.

Mr. Yeastedt said the one on 13th St., they made repairs to their carport and it runs down across.

Borough Manager Street said the one gentleman from the school said is there are storm drains from the houses that they built, that come down and drains across CCTI's property. She does not know if CCTI has a swale there, that needs to be addressed. They need to address the issue. She did talk to the solicitor and they are the ones who should address the issue with the neighbors, if they are discharging onto our property and causing a problem.

Mr. Yeastedt said there is a stone culvert between Borosh's property and the next property and when it rains heavy it just blows out.

Borough Manager Sterner said the CCTI said this is coming from private properties, but the Vo-Tech needs to address that because it's coming from the Vo-Tech property, our responsibility per the solicitor, we are to notify the Vo-Tech. These will be placed on the action agenda.

2021 Street Projects

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Mr. Yeastedt said the PSM Yaich list of streets to be done are: Center St. – 8th St., 2nd St, Front St. and the two streets with the project. The big one is Center St from Rt 903 to 13th St. If we are going to pave it correctly, we should put curbing and storm drains in. There are a lot of driveway drains that have been put on the borough's right-of-way. They are proposing to have curbing installed from Rt 903 all the way to 13th St. Put the proper storm drains in, it may be a two-year project, then actually black top the road so it would be a good road. The question at hand is; we don't have a lot of money, we have \$90,000.00, we talked maybe it would be a two-year project, where we would get the storm drains done and curbing done and then go back the following year and black top it. It comes down to are we going to have the residents install curbing and then do the road correctly or do we just continue on? Another part of this is the park on Front St we would have to install curbing there, there is an estimate. Do we want to properly do the job and install curbing? We would have to install curbing along Center St., the residents would have to install the curbing. If we want to resolve the issue and never have to go back, the correct solution would be to put drain pipe in there, curbing and black top it.

Borough Manager Sterner asked Mr. Yeastedt are you looking for Center 8th, 2nd and Front St are you looking just Center and Front St with the curbing and storm drain?

Mr. Yeastedt said yes.

Borough Manager Sterner said you are going to need engineering money for these items and this was not budgeted. We did have a number of \$215,000.00 for curbing on Front St.

Mayor Sofranko said what needs to be included in there the contractor is going to want an engineering site lines and grades. The guy putting the curbing in is going to want survey pins, site lines and final grades and have someone to sign off on. So, your estimates are going to have to include borough engineering. You will find out how wide the roads are.

Borough Manager Sterner said you are proposing a new manner in how we do our road resurfacing, from this point on it should include storm water facilities and curbing prior to the paving.

Mr. Miller said this is the way we should go; it will take two years. If you pitch it and grade it you won't have to touch that for many years.

President Strubinger said he is good with this; he just wasn't sure if we are going to just look at certain areas when we are repaving the streets or just across the board. Everywhere we are repaving. He believes the borough should do this; this is the only way we are going to solve some of these issues.

Mr. Miller said we should enforce the ordinance, if someone doesn't pay you put a lien on the property. He doesn't know how long a lien is good for?

Borough Manager Sterner said she doesn't think they expire. She said the ordinance will need to be reviewed before the next meeting to see what's involved, request a work order for the engineering that needs to take place.

Council discussed storm water issues and runoff for a few more minutes.

Yost Stormwater Inspection Fees

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Borough Manager Sterner said this is to bring council up to date, we had the issue up there that was taken care of, and the stormwater management engineer was out there to do inspections. We sent a bill to Ryan Yost and he keeps telling her he is coming in to pay it, but something keeps happening, she left him know if this wasn't paid by 2/4/21 she would have to have this on the agenda so council is aware of this. He has not paid this yet.

Police

Hoffman – Oak St no parking sign request

Police Chief Schatz said he did look at her request for action. It is tough for someone to get in and out of the driveway. He does not know if you want to post it no parking here to corner, that way fire apparatus can get through there.

Hotel Tax Grant – 2021 Application

Borough Manager Sterner said she worked with the Chief and Public Services and Mike to accumulate costs for the events throughout the year. They will submit this to the vacation bureau, this will be done on a case-by-case situation because of COVID-19. Looking for council's permission for the grant submittal.

Buildings/Parks

DCNR Grant Application – Memorial Park Improvements

LSA Grant Application – Memorial Park Improvements match

Borough Manager Sterner said this is the Mary Packer Cummings trust money. The DCNR application does require a 50% match. We have the master site plan completed, so we can begin work to make park improvements. We don't have specific items at this point and time. We did get some sensory panels in, the ADA stuff and look and see what would be the best thing to do first. We would apply to DCNR use the Mary Packer Cummings money as the match. While that is going through the process, we would also apply to DCED for matching funds and LSA Monroe for matching funds. The DCNR Barry Isett would be willing to write that grant for us. She did ask them for a cost estimate for the designing, engineering, spec document preparation and construction over sight, this would all be part of the grant. If council wishes to go forward with that, we will make sure solicitor Nanovic answers Mr. Miller's questions on the trust funds, unless council has changed their minds on the use of the funds.

General consent of council is they are fine with this.

LSA Grant Application – Meeting electronics

Borough Manager Sterner would like to ask permission to submit an application for meeting electronics for tablets for council to have with you at the meetings.

APPI Energy – electric service quotes

Borough Manager Sterner said is the firm we use for our electricity. They did get us current prices, we do have two new accounts, they did get a 19-month rate for those two accounts to bring them up to the end date of 2022, this way all our accounts will be on the same cycle. These prices change every day. Do you want to authorize the Building committee to look in to it? How does council want to handle this?

Mr. Miller said this is a very reputable company, we are still digging out from the last situation with MEM.

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES

Borough Manager Sterner said they are through the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. This will be placed on the action on the agenda.

Emergency Services

Fire Training

Mr. Sheckler said they are looking to do training for Jim Thorpe and all the surrounding municipalities. He said he would be ok with them using the hall for the training.

Borough Manager Sterner asked if this would-be week night training or weekends. The only reason she is asking because of the pharmacy using it for the vaccine.

Mr. Yeastedt said they maybe able to use the Dili's station upstairs this will all depend on how many people register.

Borough Manager Sterner said we have been allowing people to use the hall without any charge because we have been in limbo with the project. If you are not going to do the project, just advise if you are going to change the policy for the use of the building.

President Strubinger said a non-profit group of the community he would say allow the use no charge.

Old Business

Flizack Request – 4th St Quit Claim Deed

457 Plan

Parking Study

Readdressing Phase II

Blight Landbank

STR Ordinance

Parking Ordinance Amendment – permit parking WB

Reitz Request – Plan of Action to ban target ranges

Executive Session

Personnel

Adjourn

MOTION: Michael Yeastedt second Jay Miller to adjourn and go into executive session for personnel.

YES 7

NO 0

Adjourned at 9:20 pm

Respectfully submitted

Louise McClafferty
Borough Secretary