

Jermyn Borough

Council Meeting

4/20/2023

The Jermyn Borough Council held a council meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Jermyn Borough Building, 440 Jefferson Ave. Jermyn, PA 18433.

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Kulick with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following members were present: Frank Kulick, Trish Dabney, Kevin Napoli, Carl Tomaine, Robert Hunt, Chris Cook. Mayor Fuga and Attorney Representative Brendan Fitzgerald were also present. Jeff Morcom (on fire call), Nicole Stephens, KBA, Bob Chase, NEIC, Jim Perry, and Stanley Hallowich were absent.

Minutes: A motion was made by K. Napoli to accept the minutes of 3/16/23 as presented, seconded by T. Dabney. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report/Bills Payable: S. Lee read the treasurer's report:

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
American Rescue Plan Fund	135,709.98
Capital Reserve - DPW	10,728.61
Capital Reserve - Police	5,021.82
Crime Watch Fund	222.69
General Fund – Community	115,614.18
General Fund – FNB	6,270.88
Holiday Lights Fund	1,459.09
Investment - General Fund	1,024.46
Investment - Liquid Fuels	22,556.55
Investment - Paving Fund	1,035.11
Investment - Recycling	113.16
Investment - Refuse	159.81
Liquid Fuels - FNB	67,871.38
Petty Cash	223.00
Recreations Fund	27,190.73
Recycling - Community	1,875.76
Refuse Checking - FNB	112,559.95
Total Checking/Savings	509,637.16

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
200000 · Accounts Payable	91,853.04
Long Term Debt	240,331.54

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report and pay bills by C. Tomine. Seconded by T. Dabney. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Ratify Bill Paid on 3/28/23: Motion was made to accept bills paid on 3/28/23 by C. Cook. Seconded by K. Napoli. All in favor, motion carried.

Secretary Report: S. Lee reported to the council the following information.

- I have been trying to reach out to get quotes for Mellow Ct... will advise the council once I have all three quotes
- Rental Permits- Still receiving in retail permits, I am down to only missing 33 responses for permits.
- Financial Audit was completed and submitted.
- Pension Audit- Still working on, hoping to close the audit on April 25th
- KBA had the first pre-bid meeting for the DPW floor
- My Peer training with DCED has started. Currently, we have been able to meet with each other twice, she is trying to come in at least once to twice a week to sit with me for half the day.
- Need the council's approval for a handicap sign placed at 631 Jefferson Ave.
- Jermyn Cleanup month will run from April 17th- May 22nd
- Quote received from Stafursky's for Roosevelt St. Mine subsidence paving, as they are paving for the PAWC watermain break at the same location.
- I have a garbage lock list ready to be sent out to Mascaro's for the residents who did not pay their garbage fee for 2022. We have 49 violators, totaling \$19,125.00

Jeff Morcom arrived at 7:05 pm.

Correspondence: F. Kulick read a letter from the Scranton city council, advising that on Tuesday, March 28th, at the Scranton council meeting, proclamations were read and distributed to the women of Lackawanna County who were among the first to hold notable public offices throughout the county. For Jermyn Borough, those noted were Eleanor Cawley as Mayor in 1974, Janice Young as Council member in 1984, and Katie Hosie as Council President in 2011.

F. Kulick then read a letter from the Jermyn Shade Tree Committee. This is the tree removal estimate, The Council requested the JSTC acquire the tree located at the corner of Lincoln Ave and Roosevelt, from our tree arborist. Please forward to the property owner. JSTC sees nothing wrong or hazardous with this street tree (maybe trimming). If a property owner wants it removed, he is to contact Mr. Perrault personally and pay for all expenses incurred.

Council advised that they have already contracted with a company to have the tree removed. As they agreed with the resident that it is causing damage to his property, and a safety issue, as the garbage truck also keeps hitting it when going down the road, and it is in the electrical wires.

Public Comment: Lou Demarco from IWDA approached the council about returning to IWDA as the town's pavement cut inspectors.

A motion was made to accept IWDA as the borough's pavement cut inspectors from Geo-Science by K. Napoli. Seconded by J. Morcom. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Professional Reports:

Police: Absent

Fire: None

EMA: None

Solicitor: B. Fitzgerald advised that there is a project starting in Mayfield involving a sewer line that will be passing through Jermyn Borough property. He is working on creating a municipal cooperation agreement; however, he is still waiting on the final plans to submit to the insurance company. He wants to see if there will be any additional fees, we would incur in case we need to ask for a pass-through fee from Mayfield borough to cover any additional costs to our premium.

Also, he will be taking over the paperwork for the Rushbrook Creek project that Alex was handling going forward, in hopes of getting things pushed through faster for resolutions.

Code Enforcement: Absent

Grants: None

Zoning: Absent

Engineer: Absent

Tax Collector: Absent

Mayor: T. Fuga received a call from Bill Davis from Representative Kyle Mullins' office, they have been discussing some of the upcoming projects in the borough. They talked about the Woodlands project that we just got a grant for, and such. They would like to help us go for more Federal grant money for projects like this and the Rushbrook Creek project, as we are not going to get these high-dollar amount projects funded properly by the LSA grants we have been submitting for.

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: None

Public Safety: None

Finance: None

Shade Tree: None

Rec: None

Grants: None

MS4: None

DPW: T. Fuga is working on cleaning up the park for the spring and summer season. Also fixed the catch basin at the corner for Bacon and Washington. I will be going out to work on some patchwork, now that the weather has gotten nicer. Brush collection will start on the first Monday of May, as the recycling center will start to accept these items at that time.

Code Enforcement: F. Kulick states that NEIC was notified that we will no longer need their services for code enforcement. In the meantime, anyone will be able to report to Shannon if they see an issue to have a notice sent out, until we can find a new code enforcement officer.

Opening of Bids for DPW Building Garage Floor: F. Kulick opened the first bid from Bognet Inc. with a bid amount of \$59,674.00, Milnes Construction amount of \$62,880.00, Stafersky Paving amount of \$62,371.00, Sean Byene Construction amount of \$ 54,805.00, D & N Construction amount of \$110,700.00, Machesky Construction amount of \$48,800, and finally Rock Bottom Construction with an amount of \$ 58,384.00. After Bids were opened and read to the council, it was announced that came in Machesky Construction came in at the lowest price.

Council discussed the issue that we only received a grant for twenty thousand, which is less than half the cost. At this time council agreed to table the project to find additional funding and further review.

Woodlands Sewer Project: F. Kulick wanted to follow up with this project and see where we are with reducing the size of the project with KBA, as, again, we only got an LSA grant for half the cost.

Resolution for Pension: B. Fitzgerald addressed that we need to pass the following resolutions, as we need to clarify that the Borough Chief Administrative Office will be appointed to handle the handling of General pension fund and the police pension fund.

Also, in the police pension plan, the employee contributions have always been 0%. We were required to pass resolutions each year noting such. So, we are retroactively correcting this with the following resolutions as well.

A motion was made to pass resolution 02-2023 assigning the Chief Administrative Officer as the borough's General Pension and Police Pension plan officer by C. Tomaine. Seconded by K. Napoli. All members in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made to pass resolutions 03-2023 through 07-2023 for years 2018 through 2023, whereas the Borough intends to reduce the contribution rate to 0% of compensation for the police pension by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Jermyn 150 Donation: S. Lee advised that an appointment of signers is needed to open a CD for the 1 yr/ 13 Month CD, with the Jermyn 150 donation funds.

A motion was made to accept the three current bank signers we have on the borough accounts, and for Shannon to coordinate with a bank on setting up the 1-year CD with whomever has the highest rate by F. Kulick. Seconded by K. Napoli. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business: S. Lee requested a follow-up on the apartments on Washington Ave., where the fire hazard notice was given. K. Napoli will get with Denise to have it inspected.

New Business: F. Kulick advised that we got a quote from Stafursky for paving at the corner of Garfield and Roosevelt, for the mine subsidence work that was done in the amount of \$3,525.00. As they will already be on location, paving for PAWC for the water line that was damaged.

A motion was made by F. Kulick to have Stafursky complete the paving at the corner of Garfield Ave and Roosevelt St. for \$3,525.00. Seconded by C. Cook. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn by K. Napoli. Seconded by J. Morcom. All members in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Lee, Secretary/ Treasurer