

Jermyn Borough  
**Council Minutes**  
August 15, 2024

The Jermyn Borough Council held a council meeting on Thursday, August 15, 2024 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 Robert Hunt with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following members were present: Trish Dabney, Mark Kilmer, Jeff Morcom, Robert Hunt, Chris Cook. Mayor Fuga and Attorney Brendan Fitzgerald were also present. Carl Tomaine, KBA, Bob Chase, NEIC, Jim Perry, Nicole Stephens, and Stanley Hallowich were absent

**Executive Session:** A motion was made to enter executive session by J. Morcom. Seconded by M. Kilmer. All members in favor. Motion carried. Council convened into executive session at 7:01 pm to discuss litigation matters. Council reconvened from executive session at 7:23 pm.

**Minutes:** M. Kilmer made a motion to accept the minutes of 7/18/24 as presented, seconded by J. Morcom. 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	135,764.36
Capital Reserve - DPW	909.60
Capital Reserve - Police	6,049.82
Crime Watch Fund	222.69
General Fund - Community	140,780.12
General Fund - FNB	6,119.23
Holiday Lights Fund	300.59
Investment - General Fund	1,097.46
Investment - Liquid Fuels	24,163.87
Investment - Paving Fund	1,108.89
Investment - Recycling	121.20
Investment - Refuse	172.82
Liquid Fuels - FNB	33,429.67
Petty Cash	196.50
Recreations Fund	22,524.75
Recycling - Community	3,915.08
Refuse Checking - FNB	222,175.09

Total Checking/Savings 599,051.74

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

200000 - Accounts Payable	15,588.39
Long Term Debt	80,186.16

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report and pay bills by J. Morcom. Seconded by M. Kilmer. All members in favor. Motion carried.

**Ratify Bill Paid on 8/6/24:** Motion was made to accept bills paid on 8/6/24 by T. Dabney. Seconded by J. Morcom. All in favor, motion carried.

**Secretary Report:** S. Lee advised that the reimbursement checks have come in from the insurance company for the concession stand claim. She is just waiting for the auditor to get back to her regarding proper coding to receive them into the recreation account that was used.

**Correspondence:** R. Hunt read a notice from William Walker Hose Co. that they will be hosting a (SCOPE) outreach program at their facility on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm. It will be a 4-hour class and they ask that any who would like to attend register.

Next, R. Hunt read a letter received from Frank Kulick, 546 Garfield Ave. I am writing to respectfully ask that, as you make your decision this evening in filling the open council seat that you consider the following to make that decision. You previously chose Mr. Bruno over 2 other candidates, both of whom at least made some effort in their letter to be considered to list some qualifications, whereas Mr. Bruno made no effort to do so in his letter. The borough code clearly states that anyone to be appointed must have continuously lived in the borough for a year before being elected/appointed. Mr. Bruno may have a home and pay taxes on a property in Jermyn, but it is obvious that he spends very little time living here. Although there may be legal loopholes around that code stipulation, I would question how Mr. Bruno could adequately serve the residents of Jermyn as an absentee council member. I would also hope the council would take into consideration Mr. Bruno's open disdain for the police department, the police chief, and Tony Fuga in both his roles as Mayor and DPW supervisor. His FB comments regarding such are at best in poor taste and at worst bordering on being slanderous. Before simply appointing him based on his simple I want to be considered for the council seat note, I would think it would be in the best interests of both the council and the borough to question his motives.

**Public Comment:** Ron Novotny, 427 Rear Madison Ave., would like the council to consider having the unpaved portion of Shields located behind the borough building heading towards Gibson St., as now that the gas company came through this alley and our DPW laid millings, it's the perfect base to have this paved. As a resident who lives in this alley, I have seen how the rain water can erode this section, which then makes it hard for vehicles to go through and even for me to get out of my property without hitting the underside of my car. I am hoping the council will consider this and look into seeing if there are any possible grants we could apply for to have this accomplished, along with some other possible roads or alleys that may need it as well.

R. Hunt responded that this will be looked into for a future project, and that M. Kilmer was able to secure the borough's millings at the Artisan's for any issues for the time being that may arise within the borough.

**Professional Reports:**

Police: Absent

Fire: Absent

EMA: Absent

Solicitor: None

Code Enforcement: None

Grants: None

Zoning: Absent

Engineer: Absent

Tax Collector: Absent

Mayor: T. Fuga wanted to discuss the issue brought up about the kids that were swimming in the river.

**Committee Reports:**

Planning Commission: None

Public Safety: T. Dabney discussed the parking on Bridge St., as there are still issues with people parking between the no-parking signs. It was mentioned about possibly making this a no-parking area except on Sundays during church hours.

Finance: None

Shade Tree: None

Grants: None

MS4: None

Recreations: None

DPW: None

**Appointment open council seat:** R. Hunt requested that those who applied for the open council seat who were in attendance speak about why they were applying for the open council seat and what they feel they could help to do for the town. Applicants that were in attendance were Mary Ann Fretz, Frank Kulick, Jerry Bruno, and a letter received from Bobbiann Davis.

C. Cook nominated Bobbiann Davis for the open council seat.

On a roll call vote, members voted in the following manner:

Cook – yes

Hunt – no

Morcom – yes

Kilmer – yes  
Dabney – yes  
Tomaine – absent

By a 4-1 roll call vote, the appointment is made.

A motion was made by C. Cook to appoint Bobbieann Davis to the vacant council seat. Seconded by J. Morcom. Four members in favor, to one opposed. Motion carried.

**DCED- CFA- multimodal grant:** The need to allow KBA to put together the bid spec and advertisement for the Jermyn Borough Roadway Improvements project, with the recommendation to add the 300 block of East Lackawanna St. to the project from the funds that where to have been used on the 100 Block of Bacon St.

Motion was made to a request in to modify the grant to include the 300 block of lackawanna St to the grant by repurposing the funds that where to have been used on the 100 block of Bacon St. and to allow KBA to handle the bid specs and advertizment for the Jermyn Borough Roadway Improvements Project by M. Kilmer. Seconded T. Dabney. All in favor, motion carried.

**Part-time code enforcement:** A Motion was made to advertise for a part-time code enforcement open position by J. Morcom. Seconded by T. Dabney. All in favor, motion carried.

**Resolution police pension:** Motion to pass Resolution # 18-2024, a resolution of the borough to the establishment and maintenance of the Jermyn police pension plan as presented by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Cook. All in favor, motion carried.

**New business:** None

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn by J. Morcom. Seconded by M. Kilmer. All members in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Lee, Secretary/ Treasurer