

Jermyn Borough  
**Council Minutes**  
September 19, 2024

The Jermyn Borough Council held a council meeting on Thursday, September 19, 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 Vice President Pro Tem Chris Cook with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Minutes:** J. Morcom made a motion to accept the minutes of 8/15/24 as presented, seconded by C. Tomaine. 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  | 124,767.66     |
| Capital Reserve - DPW      | 909.60         |
| Capital Reserve - Police   | 6,064.82       |
| Crime Watch Fund           | 222.69         |
| General Fund - Community   | 132,578.22     |
| General Fund - FNB         | 6,122.08       |
| Holiday Lights Fund        | 300.59         |
| Investment - General Fund  | 1,102.36       |
| Investment - Liquid Fuels  | 24,271.69      |
| Investment - Paving Fund   | 1,113.84       |
| Investment - Recycling     | 121.74         |
| Investment - Refuse        | 173.59         |
| Liquid Fuels - FNB         | 11,466.51      |
| Petty Cash                 | 196.50         |
| Recreations Fund           | 28,616.85      |
| Recycling - Community      | 4,636.39       |
| Refuse Checking - FNB      | 195,900.09     |
| <br>Total Checking/Savings | <br>538,565.22 |

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| 200000 · Accounts Payable | 9,454.38  |
| Long Term Debt            | 79,439.47 |

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

**Ratify Bill Paid on 9/3/24:** Motion was made to accept bills paid on 9/3/24 by C. Tomaine. Seconded by B. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

**Secretary Report:** None

**Correspondence:** C. Cook read a letter received from Thomas Terpak, 426-428 Madison Ave. He would like someone to address the property next door to him and their neglect of the property maintenance code. Along with the housing structure of their newly acquired chickens, not meeting the borough's required standards.

**Public Comment:** Genie Lupini 1234 Livey St., Archbald. Discussed a fundraiser she runs for the Valley Community Library in honor of her late husband. The fundraiser is called Cars for Books, and any vehicles donated will either go up for auction or be taken to the

scrap yard. All donations would be tax-deductible for the donors, and all proceeds will go to the library. These donations do not need to be just cars/trucks, they can also be campers, boats, etc.

Council will have these concerns addressed once they have appointed a new code enforcement officer.

Sean Vietmeier, 284 Mikridge St. Jermyn. He would like to have the pothole addressed from a sewer pave cut that was never restored properly.

T. Fuga advised that he is aware of the issue, as he hits it every time with the plow. We have run into the issue that none of the utilities are willing to take ownership of the pavement cut that was done, so at this time, it will be a borough issue to have resolved.

T. Fuga advised that he would be able to do a temporary fix to the location, as the storm drain doesn't belong to the borough and it will be getting replaced under the Rushbrook creek project. As for getting to the trail we have already reached out to the heritage trail office about the concerns with in this area, and for residents who are walking to this area.

Ann Boylan, on behalf of the Jermyn Shade Tree, wanted to advise the council that they are looking into having some branches cut down over the gazebo and some others. As there have been some branches that have already come down during a couple of storms. All branches will be taken away, but we will have them stack any large pieces for the public to take for firewood. Joanne Wilson would like to ask the council if they were ok with using the rest of their yearly allotment to cover this project.

In this case council agreed to provide the rest of their allotment to use towards the project. At this time, S. Lee asked the council that being this is a recreational park, would the council then also approve for the remaining balance of this project to be paid out of the Jermyn Recreations account, which they have also agreed to.

A motion was made to approve the payment of \$872.37 to be made to the Jermyn Shade Tree committee to help cover the cost of the tree trimming project located at the WWI park by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All in favor, motion carried.

Chasity Black 642 Jefferson Ave. Jermyn. Was looking to the council to help with a drainage issue in front of her house, as the water is not making it to the storm drain and instead is just puddling up where they park.

#### **Professional Reports:**

Police: Chief Arthur advised that, year to date, they have covered 7,272 incidents, with 305 being traffic stops. The juvenile issues we have been having have been dealt with and are going through the magistrate. He would also like to advise that the Steamtown Marathon will be held on October 13<sup>th</sup>. They are looking for help with traffic control. If anyone is interested if they would please call John Cummings at the given phone number.

He would like to ask the council if they would authorize a letter of accommodation to be sent to the Carbondale K-9 Officer and his dog, for their assistance with a mentally ill patient in town who was being destructive within a transport vehicle. With their assistance, the dog was able to calm the patient down to the point that they were able to remove him from the vehicle with no issues, and he walked himself to the ambulance that was waiting for treatment.

Lastly and due to recent events, he advised that they have received 15 reports of suicidal warnings; unfortunately, two were lost. Most victims or threats are announced by those with these thoughts before the incident. Most of the time, these people are looking to be helped beforehand, and so you can help just by listening to them and reporting it to the proper people. All students are taught about the website Safe2saypa.org in the schools, but for those of you who are not, this is a website Safe2Say Something is a youth violence prevention program run by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. The program teaches youth and adults how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, from individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others. This website is an easy and confidential way to report safety concerns and to help prevent violence and tragedies.

A motion was made to approve the letter of accommodation to be sent to Officer Rob Williams and his K-9 Axle by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All in favor, motion carried.

Fire: Absent

EMA: Absent

Solicitor: B. Fitzgerald advised that DEP has given updates to the Rushbrook Creek project, they are working on submitted all the final paperwork for this project.

Code Enforcement: None

Grants: None

Zoning: Absent

Engineer: Absent  
Tax Collector: Absent  
Mayor: None

**Committee Reports:**

Planning Commission: None  
Public Safety: None  
Finance: None  
Shade Tree: None  
Grants: None  
MS4: None

Recreations: S. Lee advised council that more damage has been done over at the park. With this said she would like to move forward with the placement of two more cameras placed on the Pavilion to extend the coverage at the park. This project was delayed do to us needing electric in the DPW garage in order to move some of the transmitters to ensure a better signal. The approximate quote received for the additional equipment needed and time to set everything up is going to be around \$1,500.00.

DPW: None

**Bid Opening Old Mill West Rd. Paving:** C. Cook opened the first bid from Stafursky Paving Company, Inc with a bid amount of \$156,320.25, Leeward Construction, Inc amount of \$ 178,000.00, American Asphalt Paving Co. amount of \$168,373.90, New Enterprise Stone & Lime amount \$165,606.45, And last Kobalt Construction, Inc amount \$186,542.00 After Bids where opened and read to council it was anounced that Stafursjy Paving Company came in at a lower Price.

A motion was made to award Stafursky Paving Co. with the paving project of Old Mill West Rd.. at the amount of \$156,320.25 by B. Davis. Seconded by J. Morcom. All in favor, motion carried.

**Executive Session:** A motion was made to enter executive session by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All members in favor. Motion carried. Council convened into executive session at 7:59 pm to discuss litigation matters. Council reconvened from executive session at 8:09 pm.

**New business:** A motion to pass resolution 19-2024, a resolution of the governing board of the borough of Jermyn, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, hereby authorizing the submission of a DCED Monroe County local share account grant application for the Rushbrook Creek project – phase 1, was made by J. Morcom. Seconded by B. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion to approve the grant administration agreement for Ashburn to submit for the grant under resolution 19-2024 for the DCED Monroe county local share account grant application for the Rushbrook creek project – phase 1 was made by C. Tomaine. Seconded by B. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All members in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Lee, Secretary/ Treasurer