JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
August 13, 2026
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m. by President Connor Rodgers with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the armed forces, first responders, and their families.

Roll Call of Members

Police Chief Schatz
Borough Manager Sterner
Borough Secretary Klotz
Solicitor Nanovic
Mayor Cinicola-absent
Joanne Klitsch
Mike Yeastedt
Tom Chapman
Alice Roberti
Sydney Wernett-absent
Connor Rodgers
Lyle Augustine

Announcements

There is a vacancy on the International Property Maintenance Board, five-year term ending December 31, 2029. If anyone is interested, please submit a letter of interest.

There is a vacancy on the Planning Commission, four-year term ending December 31, 2027. If anyone is interested, please submit a letter of interest.

There is a vacancy on the Shade Tree Commission, five-year term ending December 31, 2029. If anyone is interested, please submit a letter of interest.

The America 250 PA Celebration took place July 2nd through July 5th. Overall, the events were well attended by residents. A special thank you to Dave Gasker who headed the Borough's celebrations, as well as the many volunteers who helped to make this a successful event. There will be a proclamation given to him after Public Comment.

National Night Out took place on August 4th and was very well attended. Thank you to the residents who attended and to those who were involved in making it so successful.

The Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley is having their Day of Caring on September 17th. The Borough registered a project for the cleaning of dishware in the Memorial Hall Kitchen.

This year's Halloween Parade will be taking place on Saturday, October 24th at 2:00 p.m. The rain date is Sunday, October 25th.

Trick or Treat will be taking place on Thursday, October 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A reminder for residents – pertinent information can be found on the Borough's website and Facebook page. Residents are encouraged to sign up for the All-Call system to receive information as well.

Mayor's Report

Chief Schatz thanked the community and businesses for a successful National Night Out.

Public Comment

Jerry Hoare – He addressed his concerns about the Police Department potentially working with ICE and the potential lawsuits that the Borough could get into because of it. He addressed his concerns about flock cameras photographing everything and not just license plates. He wanted to alert the Borough that the Federal Government can seize land through eminent domain for data centers.

Bill Malatak – He expressed his dissatisfaction with Memorial Park and how there are no events at the Hall. Mike Yeastedt explained there have been ongoing issues with the contractor and that is why the park is still not completed. Bill Malatak then discussed he read an article in the Times News about the County using parking funds to cover $1,400,000.00 for the Open Space Program and have not used the bond. He expressed his displeasure about the railroad charging the Borough $600,000.00 to cross the tracks to get to the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Matt Cohen – He requested the status of his question as to what 20 West Broadway is zoned as from last week.

Justin Hydro – He requested a continuance for the Public Hearing. Solicitor Nanovic explained prior to the hearing is not the time to make this request and to ask when the hearing is opened.

Proclamation

Connor Rodgers thanked Dave Gasker for all of his dedication to the community in putting the America 250 celebration together and then read Dave's Proclamation out loud.

Report/Presentation

Dave Gasker-JTB A250PA Celebration – He thanked Borough Council for the Proclamation. He thanked the Fire Department for hanging the American Flag from the ladder truck. He thanked Secretary Klotz and Gary Heydt for getting things set up in Memorial Hall throughout the weekend. He thanked everyone who volunteered. He discussed all the various events that took place over the 4-day weekend that was

funded all through fundraisers. He presented a $4,171.08 check on behalf of the social clubs that participated and the SQ committee for the Fire Department.

James Logue – He was there on behalf of the Lion's Club. He thanked everyone who was involved in the celebration. He presented a $1,000.00 check on behalf of the Lion's Club for the Fire Department.

Public Hearing

Solicitor Nanovic opened the floor and explained this was advertised as a Public Hearing request for a Borough Council appeal. Smoke shows Nitro Ice Cream is appealing the revocation of their Transient Merchant License under Borough Code Chapter 333, Section 6G. Justin Hydro was then sworn in. Justin Hydro then requested a continuance of the hearing due to not receiving all the information he requested in a Right to Know Request that he wanted to present during the hearing. Solicitor Nanovic explained in the many years he has been a Solicitor, there has never been an appeal to Borough Council for this Ordinance, so this is a unique situation. Justin Hydro explained there is an extension until August 29th for his Right to Know Request. Solicitor Nanovic explained that the Right to Know Officer may still deny his request, therefore he still may not have the information he is seeking. If he is dissatisfied with the denial, he may appeal to the Office of Open Records. Those types of appeals take several months. Solicitor Nanovic then asked how long of a continuance did Justin Hydro want. Justin Hydro explained that he would like at least 20 days after August 29th to review the documents he receives from his Right to Know Request. **MOTION** by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **continue the hearing until the 2nd Thursday in October.** There was a roll call vote:
Joanne Klitsch – yes
Mike Yeastedt – yes
Alice Roberti – yes
Tom Chapman -yes
Lyle Augustine – yes
Connor Rodgers – yes

Motion carries 6-0.

SALDO (Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance)

NONE

Action

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Council Meeting Minutes from July 9, 2026.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve Expenditures from all Funds as presented.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve the Treasurer's Report.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Ordinance 2026-03 Zoning Amendment for Data Center Provisions.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Ordinance 2026-04 Jim Thorpe Fire Department Updates.** This includes the Fire Commissioner position. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **close the request for a Vehicle and Traffic Ordinance Amendment for Truck Restrictions.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Tom Chapman, second by Joanne Klitsch to **authorize the Solicitor to advertise for consideration at the September meeting the Sewer Ordinance Amendment for EDU calculations.** Solicitor Nanovic explained he will add in the amendment a fire suppression EDU as requested. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **authorize the Administration Committee to work on a draft amendment to the Transient Merchant Ordinance to allow for a vendor with an annual license to operate in multiple locations.** This was based on discussions from last week's Work Session meeting. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **table Resolution 2026-11 Housing Unit Renumbering to Comply with Carbon County Public Safety System.** Manager Sterner explained she still had not heard from the Zoning Officer on the number verification. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Lyle Augustine to **authorize see the fee by Resolution for EDU Fees based on the Ordinance change.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **authorize setting the fee by Resolution for SALDO Recreation Fee in Lieu of Land Dedication.** The fee will be set to $4,000.00 per dwelling unit. Motion carries 6-0.

Facilities Project

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellot Litigation Rates for 2026 – No action taken.

Public Works Building – NONE

Memorial Hall – NONE

Memorial Park Project - NONE
Phase I

Phase II

Center Avenue Water Main Project
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Entech Engineering Invoice #103385 totaling $810.00.** This is for professional services from May 30, 2026 through June 26, 2026. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve PACT One Change Order #2 for a $24,352.79 increase in contract price for additional quantities of items used in the project.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve PACT One Payment Application #6 totaling $363,661.90.** This is for the remainder of the work that needed to be completed for the project. There will be one final payment application for the retainer. Motion carries 6-0.

Memorial Hall Insurance Restoration Project
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve Kresge Services Invoice #6960 totaling $9,500.00 for lighting.** This will be submitted to the insurance company for reimbursement. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve Kresge Services Invoice #6961 totaling $29,582.54 for lighting and electrical work.** This will be submitted to the insurance company for reimbursement. Motion carries 6-0.

Silk Mill Run Dam Removal and Stream Restoration Project
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **approve Wildland's Invoice #071026 totaling $13,807.00.** This is for services for the Silk Mill Project through July 10, 2026. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **approve Flyway Excavating Payment Application #1 totaling $80,100.00.** This is for work completed on the Silk Mill Project through July 31, 2026. Motion carries 6-0.

2026 Street Paving Project
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Lyle Augustine to **approve New Enterprise Change Order #1 for a $20,744.50 increase.** This is due to unforeseen circumstances involving additional work and material needed. Motion carries 6-0.

Change Order #2 – This was not submitted in time for the meeting. No action taken.

Change Order #3 – This was not submitted in time for the meeting. No action taken.

Payment Application #1 – This was not submitted in time for the meeting. No action taken.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve Insurance Claim No.009196-003272-GB-01 Settlement Approval**. This is for an insurance claim. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve Insurance Claim No.009196-003340-GB-01 Settlement.** This is for an insurance claim. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **ratify the WWTP Purchase Order for Mr. Rehab Sewer Main Repair totaling $6,975.00.** This is for work completed on the sewer main along Broadway. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the purchase of an Audible Fire Alarm System for the Public Works Garage.** There is currently no audible fire alarm in the new garage and in the event of a fire, the crew would need to be notified to get out of the building. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Mike Yeastedt to **authorize the Borough Manager and Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary to attend the Fall 2026 PSAB Conference.** The conference takes place from October 9th through October 11th. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **authorize forwarding the Asa Packer Mansion Porch Project Specs to COSTARS vendors**. Bids will be due back by August 27th to be reviewed for the September Council meeting. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Mike Yeastedt to **table the Asa Packer Mansion Endowment Fund – Carbon County Community Foundation Partnership**. Solicitor Nanovic did not have a chance to view the information provided by Carbon County Community Foundation. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Lyle Augustine to **approve the Utility Rate Change Report (1)**. There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Utility Lien Report (3)**. There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **offer part-time employment to Applicant #891, Applicant #815, Applicant #952, and Applicant #628 as Asa Packer Mansion Tour Guides at a rate of $13.50 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **accept, with regret, Sydney Wernett's resignation from Borough Council effective August 13, 2026**. Letters of interest will be accepted through August 21st for this vacant seat. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Lyle Augustine to **approve the JTFD Memo.** This memo is to advise each member of the new SOPs that were approved at the July meeting. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Kemmerer Park Rental Rate.** There has been growing interest in renting Kemmerer Park, but currently there is no fee set. The Kemmerer Park Association recommended $100.00 residential and $150.00 non-residential rates. Joanne Klitsch would handle the rentals as she does for Memorial Park. This will be added to the fee schedule. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve starting a PLGIT Savings Account for the Asa Packer Mansion.** PLGIT holds a higher interest rate than MCTC. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve AMG Payment Solutions as the Park Mobile Credit Card Financial Institution.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **authorize the Borough's Engineer to conduct a site visit to determine the severity of the 62 West Broadway Arch Failure.** UGI was installing a lateral into a home on West Broadway and when they removed the main slab and under the adjacent main slab, they could see that there was a hole in the roof of the creek tunnel. PennDOT has determined that this is not their responsibility to repair. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **invite Van Camberis to a Borough Council meeting to further discuss his Station Home and Caboose Community concept.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Lyle Augustine to **invite a DCNR Representative to attend the September Borough Council meeting.** Council would like to further discuss with DCNR the upcoming Glen Onoko Falls Trail project. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Lyle Augustine to **approve sending a formal request to DCNR for assistance with the Borough's request for the Glen Onoko Falls Trail.** The Borough is requesting to be part of the planning and coordination in the project, as well as assistance with the roadway leading to the park. There is an additional request for training opportunities for emergency services and fire department. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **authorize the Solicitor to draft an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to prevent parking on public Borough streets for Bed & Breakfasts.** Troy Brown submitted a request for action asking for the verbiage to match the parking regulations in the Short-Term Rental Ordinance. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Mertz RFA – Closing of West 9th Street on August 22, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.** The request is to close one lane of West 9th Street from North Street to School Street for an anniversary party at the Fairview Hose Company. In the event of an emergency, they will need to ensure fire apparatus is able to get out of the fire house. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the JTTA Day of Giving on September 11, 2026.** The downtown merchants will be accepting donations to give to the Fire Department for this year's inaugural event. There will be music in the Josiah White Park. Members of the Fire Department will also be in the park to collect donations directly. Donations will be collected from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be a one-time waiver of parking fees after 4:00 p.m. on Borough owned paid parking spaces. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Return to Mauch Chunk Pow Wow Event Request.** The Pow Wow will take place at Mauch Chunk Lake on September 12th and 13th. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Jim Thorpe Hall of Fame Event Request for the Unveiling of the new Baseball Statue.** Manager Sterner explained she reached out to the Hall of Fame to switch dates, but they were unable to due to the plaque being made for the event has the October 3rd date on it. The Hall of Fame will need to verify parking will be available at CCTI. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve South Schuylkill Unified's Request – Sharing of the Downtown Revitalization Story.** Lisa Lux and Betty Lou McBride have been authorized to share this information. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the 911 Surcharge Letter of Support Request.** The County is currently circulating requests for letters of support to increase the 911 Emergency Communication Services Surcharge. The money derived from the increase will go towards upgrading the system. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the PMVB Marquis Grant Letter of Support Request.** PMVB is applying for a grant to help offset costs associated with Fall Foliage Weekends, such as porta potties and garbage collection. Motion carries 6-0.

Exoneration Request

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve the monthly Exoneration Report.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

Committees

Administration
NONE

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)
NONE

Police
NONE

Buildings/Parks
NONE

Kemmerer Park
NONE

Asa Packer Mansion
NONE

Shade Tree Committee
NONE

Emergency Services
NONE

Planning Commission
NONE

Old Business

NONE

Executive Session

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **adjourn the meeting into Executive Session.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0. The meeting paused at 8:11 p.m.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **resume the meeting.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0. The meeting resumed at 9:04 p.m.

Adjourn

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **adjourn the meeting.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0. The meeting ended at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Klotz
Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary