JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
January 5, 2026
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Cinicola with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the armed forces, first responders, and their families.

Newly Elected Council Members
Alice Roberti
Lyle Augustine

Roll Call of Members

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

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

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

There is a vacancy on the Kemmerer Park Association Board. This is a three-year term expiring on December 31, 2028. If interested, please submit a letter of interest.

The America 250 PA Carbon County Kick Off Event will be held on Sunday, January 18, 2026 from 10:30 to 12:30 in Memorial Hall.

A reminder for residents: pertinent information for residents can be found and received through the Borough's All-Call, website, and Facebook page. Residents can sign up for the All-Calls through the Borough's website; just click on the Civic Ready button on the homepage to sign up.

Public Comment
NONE

Action
Nominations & Elections
Mayor Cinicola opened the floor for Nominations for Council President. Tom Chapman nominated Mike Yeastedt. Alice Roberi nominated Connor Rodgers. There were no other nominations. **MOTION** by Joanne Klitsch, second by Connor Rodgers to **close nominations for Council President.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

There was a roll-call vote for Mike Yeastedt's Council President Nomination:
Joanne Klitsch – yes
Connor Rodgers – no
Alice Roberti – no
Sydney Wernett – no
Tom Chapman – yes
Lyle Augustine – no
Mike Yeastedt – yes
Motion denied 3-4.

There was a roll-call vote for Connor Rodgers' Council President Nomination:
Joanne Klitsch – no
Connor Rodgers – yes
Alice Roberti – yes
Sydney Wernett – yes
Tom Chapman – no
Lyle Augustine – yes
Mike Yeastedt – no
Motion carries 4-3.

Mayor Cinicola opened the floor for Nominations for Council Vice President. Tom Chapman nominated Mike Yeastedt. There were no other nominations. **MOTION** by Lyle Augustine, second by Tom Chapman to **close nominations for Council Vice President.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

There was a roll-call vote for Mike Yeastedt's Council Vice President Nomination:
Joanne Klitsch – yes
Connor Rodgers – yes
Alice Roberti – yes
Sydney Wernett – yes
Tom Chapman – yes
Lyle Augustine – yes
Mike Yeastedt – yes.
Motion carries 7-0.

Connor Rodgers thanked Council and discussed his vision for the upcoming year. He would like to make meetings shorter and mor efficient, as well as Borough operations. He explained he looking forward for the public to be able to use Memorial Hall.

Executive Session
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **adjourn into Executive Session**. There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0. The meeting paused at 6:40 p.m.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **resume the meeting.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0. The meeting resumed at 7:20 p.m.

Monthly Meetings
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **advertise the following monthly meetings:**
Jim Thorpe Borough Council Workshop Session 1st Thursday of each month, 6:30 pm
Jim Thorpe Borough Council Monthly meetings, 2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30 pm
Jim Thorpe Planning Commission meeting, 3rd Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm
Jim Thorpe Zoning Hearing Board meetings, 4th Thursday of each month (as needed), 6:00 pm
Jim Thorpe Shade Tree Commission meetings, 1st Monday of each month (as needed), 6:30 pm.
There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

Appointments
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **name Mauch Chunk Trust Company, Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank, and PA Local Government Investment Trust as depositories for Borough funds.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Sean McFadden as a Jim Thorpe Planning Commission Member, 4-year term, term expiring December 31, 2029.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint James Igoe as a Jim Thorpe Zoning Hearing Board Member, 5-year rem, term expiring December 31, 2030.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint August Long as a Jim Thorpe Zoning Hearing Board Alternate Member, 3-year term, term expiring December 31, 2028.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Kevin Ruch as a Jim Thorpe Shade Tree Commission Member, 5-year term, term expiring December 31, 2030.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint James Dougher as a Kemmerer Park Association member, 3-year term, term expires December 31, 2028.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Michael DeHart as a Kemmerer Park Association member, 3-year term, term expires December 31, 2028.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint John McGuire to the Vacancy Board for a 1-year term.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Bob Schaninger as the Dimmick Memorial Library Board Representative for a 1–year term.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Doug Matofka as the Ligh Canal Recreation Commission Representative for a 1-year term.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint James Dougher as the Carbon County Council of Governments Representative for a 1-year term.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint John McGuire as the Carbon County Council of Governments Alternate Representative for a 1-year term.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint William Diehm as the Carbon County Communications Representative for a 1-year term.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Maria Sebelin as the Carbon County Tax Collection Committee Delegate.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Brooke Klotz as the Alternate Carbon County Collection Committee Delegate.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Joanne Klitsch as the Assistant Secretary.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0-1, with Joanne Klitsch abstaining.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Brooke Klotz as the Open Records Officer.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Charles Sgrillo as the Jim Thorpe Municipal Fire Commissioner with a $2,495.00 annual stipend.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Vincent Yaich Jr as the Jim Thorpe Municipal Fire Chief with a $2,495.00 annual stipend.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint William Diehm as the Jim Thorpe Municipal Deputy Fire Chief with a $1,885.00 annual stipend.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Charles DeHaven as the Jim Thorpe Municipal Deputy Fire Chief with a $1,885.00 annual stipend.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Bill Brior of Brior Environmental Services as the Borough's Sewage Enforcement Officer and Well Enforcement Officer, per proposal.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Rob Fugate of Brior Environmental Services as the Borough's Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer and Alternate Well Officer, per proposal.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint James R Nanovic as the Borough's Solicitor at a retainer salary of $16,650.00 plus rate, per proposal.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Matthew Schnell as the Borough's Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor, per proposal.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Entech Engineering as the Borough's Engineer for Water, Sewer, Streets, and any other Department on an "As Needed" basis, per proposal.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **appoint Barry Isett & Associates as the Borough's Stormwater Management, Sidewalks, Recreation Official, and Blight Engineer, per proposal.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Traffic Planning and Design as the Borough's Vehicle and Pedestrian Traffic Engineer, per proposal.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Bureau Veritas the Borough's Zoning and Building Codes Official, Property Maintenance/Nuisance Official, and Plumbing Inspector, per proposal.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Borough Manager Contract.** There were no comments. There was a roll call vote:
Joanne Klitsch – yes
Connor Rodgers – yes
Alice Roberti – no
Sydney Wernett – yes
Tom Chapman – yes
Lyle Augustine – no
Mike Yeastedt – yes
Motion carries 5-2.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary Contract.** There were no comments. There was a roll call vote:
Joanne Klitsch – yes
Connor Rodgers – no
Alice Roberti – yes
Sydney Wernett – yes
Tom Chapman – yes
Lyle Augustine – yes
Mike Yeastedt – yes
Motion caries 6-1.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Police Chief Contract.** There were no comments. There was a roll call vote:
Joanne Klitsch – yes
Connor Rodgers – yes
Alice Roberti – yes
Sydney Wernett – yes
Tom Chapman – yes
Lyle Augustine – yes
Mike Yeastedt – yes
Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Brooke Klotz as the Borough's Secretary, with wages as per contract.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-1, with Connor Rodgers voting no.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **appoint Maria Sebelin as the Borough's Treasurer at a rate of $25.52 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **set the Parking and Codes Official #1 at a rate of $20.80 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **set the Parking and Codes Official #2 at a rate of 18.72 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **set the Part-Time Police Officers at a rate of $28.00 to $32.00 per hour depending on experience.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **set the Utility Billing Secretary at a rate of $19.47 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **set the Administrative Assistant at a rate of $19.47 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **set the Water Department Supervisor at a rate of $37.69 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **set the Sewer Department Supervisor at a rate of $35.02 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **set the Streets Supervisor at a rate of $34.39 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **set the Part-Time Buildings/Groundskeeper at a rate of $21.28 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **set the Part-Time Asa Packer Mansion Tour Guide at a rate of $13.50 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **set the Part-Time Asa Packer Mansion Tour Guide Key Holder at a rate of $14.50 per hour.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

Adjourn

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **adjourn the meeting.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0. The meeting ended at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Klotz
Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary