JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
March 12, 2026
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m. by President Rodgers with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the armed forces serving in Iran, first responders, and their families, former Councilwoman Edie Lukasevitch, and fallen Stat Trooper Timothy O'Connor.

Roll Call of Members

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

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 your letter of interest.

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

There is a vacancy on the Shade Tree Committee. This is a five-year term expiring December 31, 2029. If interested, please submit your letter of interest.

The opening day of the 2026 Operating Season for the Asa Packer Mansion is April 4th.

Street Sweeping is scheduled to place on April 13th through April 24th. Residents are asked to move their cars to avoid ticketing and towing.

This year's Pick Up the Poconos event is taking place on April 25th.

The Spring Tire and Electronics Recycling Event is scheduled for May 9th from 7:00 a.m. through 11:00 a.m.

The Jim Thorpe Birthday Celebration will be taking place on May 16th starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Mausoleum.

The Borough submitted a Federal Appropriations application for the third and final phase of the High Street Wall Project.

The Borough was not awarded the T-Mobile Hometown Grant for kitchen appliances for 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.

Mayor's Report

NONE

Public Comment

Troy Brown – He explained last April he asked Borough Council if the railroad approached Zoning or Planning, and he is asking again. There is no parking for patrons. The Borough's Zoning laws applies to the railroad as well. The train rides are causing unsafe traffic patterns and pedestrian overcrowding. Solicitor Nanovic explained any Zoning violation gets turned over to Zoning to address.

Bill Malatak – He explained he read an article in the Times News about road conditions and the use of AI to find potholes. He claims Germantown did not have any pot holes filled for two years. He requested that if the Borough has financial issues, it needs to find a way to generate revenue.

Donna Donati – She explained she is concerned about the speeding on North Street and the number of accidents that have recently happened. She claims speed is an issue. Chief Schatz explained officers have been out and will continue to be out enforcing speed.

Jerry Hoare – He explained he read in the Times News about a new law addressing large trucks in the Borough. He has concerns about early morning deliveries to the Marion Hose. The trucks have been parking on Hill Road.

SALDO (Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance)

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Kanick Minor Subdivision dated April 2, 2025 (revised January 28, 2026) Lot 1 Sewer Connection subject to the applicant obtaining the easement, the comments from the Borough's Engineer, and the execution and recording of the Operations and Maintenance Agreement.** Mike Yeastedt asked if the shut off valve could be included. Matt Evans, the Kanick's engineer, explained it will be added. All comments have been addressed from the Borough Engineer's review. All comments from Carbon County Planning Commission have been addressed from their letter. Secretary Klotz explained the Kanick's should have an agreement with the County since they will be connecting to the sewer line on the County's property. Matt Evans said he would reach out to the County about this. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Kanick Minor Subdivision dated April 2, 2025 (revised January 28, 2026) Lot 2 Sewer Connection subject to the applicant obtaining the easement, the comments from the Borough's Engineer, and the execution and recording of the Operations and Maintenance Agreement.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Kanick Minor Subdivision dated April 2, 2025 (revised January 28, 2026) conditioned upon addressing comments from the Jim Thorpe Planning Commission, addressing comments from the Carbon County Planning Commission, addressing comments from Borough Engineers, Sewage Planning Module approval, including emergency shut off valves to the Grinder Pumps, and signed and notarized plans.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Mauch Chunk Parking II Land Development dated January 7, 2026 time extension.** The extension is through June 18, 2026. Motion carries 7-0.

Action

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve Council Work Session Meeting Minutes from February 5, 2026.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve Council Meeting Minutes from February 12, 2026.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve Expenditures from all Funds as presented.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve the Treasurer's Report.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **authorize the Solicitor to redraft the Zoning Ordinance Amendment for Data Centers.** Louis Hall, who was in the audience, explained the draft Ordinance states the building can be 60 feet in height. He would like the height to be restricted to a height that is acceptable to fight a fire. Penn Forest Township discussed and added to their Ordinance requiring a decommissioning bond. He also would like to have added to the draft mandating a closed loop coolimg system. Solicitor Nanovic explained data centers cannot be required to have a closed loop system. It can be highly recommended and preferred, but not mandated. Manager Strener asked if the proposed use in the Industrial District would be large enough to accommodate. She explained in Section D the way that its written, it seems like the developer would have to pick all of the options and not select from one or more of the options. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Mike Yeastedt to **authorize the Solicitor to draft a Vehicle & Traffic Ordinance Amendment for Large Vehicle Parking on Streets Restriction.** Alice Roberti asked if trailers have to be moved every 72 hours like cars do. Connor Rodgers explained they did need to be moved. Alice Roberti explained she has concerns about including boats and campers as then residents would have no where to park them. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Resolution 2026-03 Fee Schedule.** This update includes rental fees for Memorial Hall and updated Zoning fees. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **approve Resolution 2026-04 2025 Audit.** This is a reauthorization due to USDA audit reporting requirements. The Borough will switch from a cash basis to a GAAP basis. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Alice Roberti to **approve the updated Auditor Proposal.** This is an update due to USDA reporting requirements. There was an increase due to switching from a cash basis to GAAP. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Resolution 2026-05 High Street Wall Project – Federal Appropriations.** This resolution authorizes and supports the Hogh Street Wall Project Phase III. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the High Street Wall Project Commitment Letter - $100,000.00.** This letter approves the High Street Wall Project and commits $100,000.00 by the Borough towards the $2,064,500.00 project. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve reallocating funds from the Silk Mill Restoration Planning Project interest earned.** Manager Sterner explained the Borough earned interest on money that was placed in an account to open for the Silk Mill Restoration Planning Project. She recommended Borough Council use those funds towards a new commercial hot water heater for the Memorial Hall kitchen. Connor Rodgers recommended reallocating it to recreation. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **adjourn into executive session.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0. The meeting paused at 7:50 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 8:04 p.m.

Facilities Projects
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **table Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott Litigation rates for 2026.** They have not yet submitted a proposal as requested. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Settlement between Bracy and the Borough.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

Memorial Park Project
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **authorize the Solicitor and Borough Manager to notify LB Construction's bond company if the Memorial Park Project isn't completed by March 31, 2026.** Mike Yeastedt explained some of the items on the project review list were completed. Manager Sterner explained there are items that still need to be addressed and have been asked for an update since November 2025. That list includes as-builts, lighting code inspection, change order for refund, wiring, sensory garden markers, and installing the playground equipment. Mike Yeastedt explained there is an option to install wireless cameras in the park. Manager Sterner explained LB Construction requested the Borough write a letter to Bureau Veritas to waive the inspection. Motion carries 7-0.

Phase I – No action taken.

Phase II
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Barry Isett & Associates Invoice #208779 totaling $1,026.25.** This is for professional services from January 4, 2026 through January 31, 2026. Motion carries 7-0.

Center Avenue Water Main Project
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve PACT One Payment Application #5 totaling $7,917.46.** This is for work completed though February 20, 2026. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Entech Engineering Invoice #100826 totaling $2,398.75.** This is for professional services from December 27, 2026 through January 30, 2026. Motion carries 7-0.

Paving Update – Paving will take place in the spring once the weather breaks. Not every block will be paved curb to curb and there will be some sections only paved where work was completed.

Memorial Hall Insurance Restoration Project
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **approve submitting Duggan & Marcon's proposal for drywall/insulation/paint totaling $60,250.00, Jim McLaughlin's proposal for carpet/LVT totaling $72,764.84, Control Security's proposal for fire/security alarm systems totaling $51,180.00, Diversified Group's proposal for electric system panel totaling $1,500.00, Kresge Services' proposal for electrical totaling $19,336.32 and $5,983.17, Reading Mechanical's proposal for plumbing totaling $16,261.25, Mountainview Restoration's proposal for emergency remediation totaling $99,803.19, NEPA Business Technologies' proposal for computers/battery backups totaling $21,762.40, and Valley Business System's proposal for printers totaling $3,540.00.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the purchase of Borough Flags totaling $5,853.17.** This is an annually budgeted item and includes poles and brackets. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **ratify the Water Treatment Plant Purchase Order for the East Plant pH Upgrade totaling $5,539.50.** This is for a new pH sensor and controller, and warranty. It was previously approved by the Water Committee. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Purchase Order for All Departments Email Migration totaling $2,527.25.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve 3 Police Mobile Unit Computers totaling $10,125.00 and IT installation totaling $1,085.00.** This is an update to Windows 11 and to be able to utilize the equipment in the vehicles. This is a budgeted for item. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve purchasing Chairs for Memorial Hall totaling $10,174.45 or less.** The Borough will be purchasing 220 chairs for the Hall. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve and advertise the 2026 Street Paving Bid Specs.** Mike Yeastedt explained he, Secretary Klotz, and Street Supervisor Schoch met with John Davis and compiled the bid specs. It includes Mauch Chunk Lane, the 300 block of Center Street, Flagstaff Road, Silk Street/5th Street, 10th Street and part of the parkin lot, and Germantown Road as an alternate. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve and advertise the 2026 Chemical Bid Specs.** This is for chemicals the Water and Sewer Plants use. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Tom Chapman to **acquire updated pricing from Traffic Planning & Design for the Downtown Pedestrian Safety Project and authorize the Public Service Committee to decide if the Borough should apply for the 2026 Multi-Modal Grant with this project.** At the Work Session meeting, Council had discussed using the High Street Wall Project for the Multi Modal Grant application. This same project was applied for with the Federal Appropriations application. Manager Sterner explained she could reach out to Traffic Planning and Design to update the project to take out the items that have already been completed by the County or Railroad. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **authorize the Borough Manager as the PSAB Voting Delegate for the Borough.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **accept, with thanks and regret, Bob Schaninger's resignation letter from the Shade Tree Committee.** He was thanked for his service to the community over the years. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve 2121 Hemlock Drive's Stormwater Management Waiver Request conditioned upon the property owners**

signing the agreement. Due to the size of the property and the size of the home being placed on it, the property owner is requesting a Waiver of Strict Compliance. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **approve the 101 East 10th Street/BRC Right of Way Agreement.** This allows BRC to construct and maintain its facilities at the Borough's old office. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve a Payment Plan for Account #8095.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **approve Account #7945 Sewer Credit Request totaling $146.10, Account #7071 Sewer Credit Request totaling $163.82, and Account #1178 Sewer Credit Request totaling $185.97.** These requests are being made due to a leaking hot water heater and the water not going into the Borough's sewer system. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Utility Collectable Report (1).** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Utility Lien Report (9).** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Jim Thorpe Running Festival Request for blocking off Hazard Square during Race Weekend.** The closure would only happen while the race is ongoing. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the JTTA Porch Festival Celebration.** The event will be held on June 20, 2026 due to it being a quieter month for tourism. No more than 2 musicians at a time will play. It is a community type event designed to get people to walk through the community. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Little League Parade on April 18, 2026.** The parade route and time will be the same as in years past. Motion carries 7-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the Lion's Club Request to hold the Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 24, 2026.** The parade will start at 2:00 p.m. and follow the same route as last year. The rain date is Sunday, October 25, 2026. The Lion's Club will also need a letter to PennDOT confirming the event. Motion carries 7-0.

Exoneration Request
NONE

Committees

Administration
NONE

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

Police
NONE

Buildings/Parks
NONE

Asa Packer Mansion
Secretary Klotz thanked a local contractor for donating time and material to fix the third floor ceiling in the Mansion. The third floor will now be open for extended tours.

Emergency Services
NONE

Old Business
NONE

Executive Session

Adjourn
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Sydney Wernett to **adjourn the meeting.** There were no comments. Motion carries 7-0. The meeting ended at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Klotz
Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary