JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
May 9, 2024
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m. by President Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the armed forces, first responders, and their families, as well as the service members who lost their lives while serving our country.

Roll Call of Members

Police Chief Schatz	Mayor Cinicola	Sydney Wernett
Borough Manager Sterner	Mike Yeastedt	Connor Rodgers
Borough Secretary Klotz	Tom Chapman-absent	Ted LaRizzio
Solicitor Nanovic	Joanne Klitsch	Greg Strubinger

Mayor's Report

The Jim Thorpe Birthday Celebration will be on Saturday, May 18th from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The next Community Watch meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 28th at 6:30 p.m.

Announcements

The Borough is accepting letters of interest for two (2) vacancies on the Shade Tree Committee, terms ending December 31, 2028 and December 31, 2025.

The Borough is accepting letters of interest for the Planning Commission, term ending December 31, 2027.

The Spring Tire and Electronics Recycling Event is being held on Saturday, May 18th from 7:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Residents are asked to arrive prior to 11:30 a.m. as the truck will be leaving promptly at that time.

Executive Session was held on 4/18/2024 for Real Estate.

Reminder to residents that pertinent information can be found through the Borough's All Call, Website, and Facebook pages. Residents needing assistance signing up for the All Calls should contact the Borough office.

Presentation

Mabacol Scholarship – Maria Loyd, who owns Mabacol, has been in business for the past 7 years. She started the internship program during Covid. Three local students were initially selected for the program. In her internship program, the students are taught life skills, creativity, and independence. She would like to expand her program to CCTI and LCCC. Adrianna Day was selected for the $350.00 scholarship and awarded it at the meeting. Adrianna spoke about her experience in the program, as well as her mother. Greg Strubinger thanked Maria for everything that she has done for the community.

Public Comment

NONE

Public Hearing

NONE

SALDO (Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance)

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve the acknowledgement of the Williams Preliminary/Final Lot Line Revision Subdivision Plans.** There is no actual subdivision or land development happening within the small section of the property within the Borough. The entire subdivision and lot line revision is taking place on the main portion located in Franklin Township. The only change to the section within the Borough is a name change. Borough Council is only acknowledging on the plans that there is no subdivision or land development taking place. Motion carries 6-0.

Action

Memorial Hall New Phone System – Greg Strubinger asked if the phone system would be across all Borough Facilities. Manager Sterner explained the quotes the Borough has received is just strictly for the Administrative offices and Police Department. George Monaghan from Guyette was in attendance to discuss their proposal. He explained as technology continues to advance and equipment gets out dated, more and more institutions are switching from land lines to a cloud-based system. Greg Strubinger asked how the quality would be with the traffic going through the public domain. George explained Guyette's cloud-based system strictly goes through the internet. He explained their system can be used anywhere, that it's not restricted to one area. They have an app for the phone system that can be accessed anywhere. Mike Yeastedt asked if there were any extra costs for the app. George Monaghan explained there is no extra costs. Their system lets you connect to five (5) different devices per user, get E-Fax built in for free, and includes meeting applications. Mike Yeastedt asked if there is any limit on the data. George Monaghan explained there are no restrictions. Greg Strubinger asked if the voice traffic and regular internet traffic "bumps" into each other, effecting the quality. George Monaghan explained that if it were seven (7) or eight (8) years ago, then the quality would not be as good as it is today due to advances in technology. Manager Sterner asked if the minutes are pooled. George Monaghan explained Guyette only has one client that uses over ten thousand (10,000) minutes a month. The Borough would not come anywhere close to using that many minutes per month. According to their fair use policy, as long as the minutes are not abused, there will be no surcharges. To date, no client has ever had any excess surcharges. Guyette is part of NEC, which is a world-wide company that serves over one hundred fifty million (150,000,000) customers. NEC has servers all across the United States. With the cloud-based phone system, there is a rolling thirty (30) day archive period that's free. The Borough has the option to pay for a yearly archive subscription. The Borough will also be able to call thirty-three (33) countries world-wide for free. Greg Strubinger asked if there is an equipment upgrade surcharge. George Monaghan explained there is not. Greg Strubinger asked if the phone system can split the Police and Administrative systems. George explained the systems can be split as required. Mike Yeastedt asked what the technicians do during installation. George Monaghan explained the technicians port the phone numbers to NEC, take the phones and plug them into the cabling, communicates with the Borough's IT company, assign a customer service representative to help with set-up, and send trainers on site. NEC also offers free training classes the first or second Tuesday of every month. Once the contract is done, it will auto renew for one (1) year. After the auto renewal happens, the Borough has sixty (60) days to cancel. Ted LaRizzio asked if the equipment the Borough would receive would be brand new. George Monaghan explained the equipment they provide is state of the art and updated. Their system uses A.I. Greg Strubinger asked about NEC and Guyette's participation. George Monaghan explained NEC and Guyette have partnered since the 1970's. Connor Rodgers asked to clarify the functionality of the app. George Monaghan explained the different uses of the app and accessing it through cell phones, laptops, and computers. Borough Council had no other questions.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve Council Meeting Minutes from April 4, 2024.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve Council Meeting Minutes from April 11, 2024.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve the March 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes correction.** The motion in the original minutes was to authorize the Solicitor to draft and advertise an Amendment to the On-Lot Sewage Management Ordinance. This was incorrect. The motion should have been to authorize the Solicitor to draft an Amendment to the On-Lot Sewage Management Ordinance. Motion carries 6-0.

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

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve the Treasurer's report.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Connor Rodgers, second by Sydney Wernett to **approve Ordinance 2024-02 Vehicle & Traffic Amendment: Kiosk Fees & Hours, Local Roadways, and Right Turn.** This changes the hours the kiosk would be in use from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and to increase the rates to $2.50 for payment by credit card and a $0.50 discount when paying by cash on weekends (Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays) and holidays, $2.00 for payment by credit card and a $0.50 discount when paying by cash on weekdays (Monday through Thursday) and change the fees by Resolution going forward. This amendment designates Packer Hill Road, Hill Road, Race Street, and High Street as local roadways. This amendment also prohibits right turns being made from Packer Hill Road onto Hazard Square. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Connor Rodgers, second by Sydney Wernett to **approve Ordinance 2024-03 On-Lot Sewage Maintenance Amendment: Pumping Inspection Intervals.** This changes the required pumping interval from every three (3) years to at least every five (5) years or when recommended by the pumper/hauler. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **authorize the Solicitor to draft an Amendment to the Vehicle & Traffic Ordinance for no parking on the East side of Chestnut Avenue and for stop signs at the intersection of 4th and Oak Streets and advertise it.** Solicitor Nanovic asked from what street to what street should the no parking start and end along Chestnut Avenue. Police Chief Schatz explained it's from Center Avenue to South Avenue. Connor Rodgers asked if other alley ways for stop signs that should be placed. Manager Sterner explained it was discussed during the Work Session meeting; this will be something that will be looked into further. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve Resolution 2024-13 Housing Unit Re-Numbering to Comply with Carbon County 911 Public Safety System.** There are two (2) homes on River Street that need numbers assigned/reassigned to them. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Connor Rodgers to **cancel the July 4, 2024 Work Session Meeting.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve the Main Street Grant application for the Mausoleum kiosks.** Secretary Klotz explained the informational kiosks that describe Jim Thorpe's life at the mausoleum are in need of replacing. The plexiglass is crackled and the information is hard to read. Secretary Klotz explained the Borough would be asking for grant funding to replace the plexiglass and embedded information. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve Employee #422 to transfer from Part-Time employment to Seasonal Full-Time employment for Parking Enforcement and Codes Official with an hourly rate of $17.00 effective May 12, 2024 through the end of October 2024.** This employee will not be eligible for additional benefits, such as medical insurance. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Connor Rodgers to **offer Part-Time Employment for Parking Enforcement and Codes Official to Applicant #011 at a rate of $15.00 an hour and not to exceed 28 hours per week (3 ½ days per week).** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Mike Yeastedt to **approve the 2024 Tourism Pedestrian Traffic Control conditioned upon PMVB funding, and contract approval by the Police Chief, Borough Manager, and Borough Solicitor.** Police Chief Schatz explained BCM will be the company that will assist the Police Department with traffic and pedestrian control over the Summer Holidays and during Fall Foliage Weekends. Connor Rodgers asked if there is a grant match requirement. Manager Sterner explained it would be dependent upon the source of the funding. Connor Rodgers asked if BCM would be replacing the Penn Forest Fire Police. Police Chief Schatz explained they are volunteers and they aren't getting paid to help oversee the traffic control. There were a few instances in the past where the Borough thought they would be receiving help from the Fire Police, only for something to come up and Penn Forest was unable to send the number of volunteers needed. Penn Forest Fire Police will still assist the Borough for other events, such as parades. Motion carries 5-1, with Connor Rodgers opposed.

MOTION by Joanne Klitsch, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve the repairing of the Heliflow Blower at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.** One of the two blowers needed to help operate the Sewer Plant is leaking. The cost to repair it is $8,350.36. Repairing the blower comes with a one-year warranty. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve the lowest bid from Alan Kunsman Roofing & Siding in the amount of $8,750.00 for the Kemmerer Park Pavilion Roof Repair Project.** The roof repair is part of the PMVB grant that was awarded to the Kemmerer Park Association. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Connor Rodgers to **approve the lowest bid from Concrete Alternatives in the amount of $9,700.00 for the Kemmerer Park Pavilion Floor Repair Project.** Two additional companies were contacted for quotes and they do not do this type of work. The floor repairing is part of the PMVB grant that was awarded to the Kemmerer Park Association. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Bracy Construction Inc Payment Application #3 totaling $122,526.90, KC Mechanical Services Payment Application #1 totaling $18,000.00, KC Mechanical Services Contract Change Order MC-**

CO-01 totaling $0.00, Requisition #3 – partial payment for work completed from March 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024 totaling $277,821.00, and Requisition #4 – partial payment for work completed from April 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024 totaling $149,758.90. There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve JBM Mechanical Inc Payment Application #2 totaling $174,375.00, Bognet Inc Payment Application #3 totaling $67,347.48, Reading Mechanical Contract Change Order PC-CO-01 totaling a $145,000.00 increase and to include increasing their bond, Requisition #3 – partial payment for work completed March 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024 totaling $233,655.75, and Requisition #4 – partial payment for work completed from April 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024 totaling $250,213.68.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Connor Rodgers, second by Mike Yeastedt to **approve selling the Water Department 2012 Ford F-450 Truck.** The Water Department has gotten a new truck that is to replace this older truck. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve adding Fridays to the Jim Thorpe Summer Basketball League schedule.** This would be in addition to Sundays and Thursdays and would be from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve Account #0420 Payment Plan.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve four (4) new Utility Liens to File.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **approve one (1) Utility Rate Change.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0.

Exonerations

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

Committees

Administration
NONE

Public Service
NONE

Police
NONE

Buildings/Parks
NONE

Emergency Services
NONE

Old Business
NONE

Executive Session
NONE

Adjourn
MOTION by Mike Yeastedt, second by Joanne Klitsch to **adjourn the meeting.** There were no comments. Motion carries 6-0. The meeting ended at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Klotz
Borough Secretary