

Jermyn Borough
Council Minutes
May 16, 2024

The Jermyn Borough Council held a council meeting on Thursday, May 16, 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 President Robert Hunt with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Open Council Seat Appointment: R. Hunt read two more letters of interest that were received. First was from Bobbiann Davis, who has been a resident of Jermyn for 24 years, and has experience serving on boards. The second letter of interest that was received was from Timothy Stangline, who has been a resident for the past seven years. He is currently the scout leader of BSA Troop 21, giving him the experience of working in a board group. And the previously received letter from Jerry Bruno was reread.

R. Hunt requested a nomination from the three applicants who submitted a letter of interest. C. Tomaine nominattted Bobbiann Davise. T. Dabney Nominated Jerry Bruno.

-C. Tomsaine nominated Bobbiann Davis.
R. Hunt asked for a roll call vote on Bobbiann Davis:
R. Hunt – No
T. Dabney – No
M. Kilmer – No
J. Morcom – No
C. Tomaine – Yes
C. Cook – Absent

-T. Dabney nominated Jerry Bruno.
R. Hunt asked for a roll call vote on Jerry Bruno:
R. Hunt – Yes
T. Dabney – Yes
M. Kilmer – Yes
J. Morcom – Yes
C. Tomaine – No
C. Cook – Absent

Mayor T. Fuga halted any further action from being taken upon appointing the open council seat based on the voting. T. Fuga questioned as to when Jerry Bruno's letter of interest was received. R. Hunt advised that it was submitted on April 8th, when it was accidentally posted on the borough's Facebook page temporarily. T. Fuga argued that it was submitted before the position was actually posted, making it a violation of the sunshine law, and would now like the borough solicitor to clarify this. To make sure that this is handled fairly for the others who submitted for this open seat.

B. Fitzgerald stated that he would into this matter, and requested a hold be put on the appointment as well to give him time to get advisement on this matter.

Minutes: C. Tomaine made a motion to accept the minutes of 4/18/2024 as presented, and J. Morcom seconded. 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 | 135,754.12 |
| Capital Reserve - DPW | 909.55 |
| Capital Reserve - Police | 5,714.82 |
| Crime Watch Fund | 222.69 |
| General Fund - Community | 146,920.61 |
| General Fund - FNB | 5,949.57 |
| Holiday Lights Fund | 1,459.09 |
| Investment - General Fund | 1,083.21 |
| Investment - Liquid Fuels | 23,850.15 |
| Investment - Paving Fund | 1,094.49 |
| Investment - Recycling | 119.62 |
| Investment - Refuse | 170.58 |
| Liquid Fuels - FNB | 61,595.80 |
| Petty Cash | 196.50 |
| Recreations Fund | 25,190.64 |
| Recycling - Community | 3,468.14 |
| Refuse Checking - FNB | 195,916.95 |

Total Checking/Savings 609,616.53

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| 200000 - Accounts Payable | 54,657.67 |
| Long Term Debt | 163,710.54 |

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

Ratify Bill Paid on 5/13/24: Motion was made to accept bills paid on 5/13/24 by M. Kilmer. Seconded by J. Morcom. All in favor, motion carried.

Secretary Report: Absent

Correspondence: R. Hunt read a letter received from Randy Perry, As I have mentioned many times before, Main st Jermyn being a great small business street when I was a kid. I still believe it can be. I read the article in the paper about the old Sullums building in Olyphant being torn down and replaced with a new building with a business space on the ground floor and apartments above. Not sure how all that came about, but it gave me hope that we can revitalize our Main St. I remember the tree committee saying that new sidewalks and trees would make it more appealing for businesses to move in. I agree with them, but I think that's only the first step in revitalizing Washington Ave. and would like to see progress and a plan to help make this come to fruition.

Public Comment: Mark Cordelli from Lackawanna County, representing the commissioners. Just wanted to reach out and see if the town had any needs that we may help with, also wanted to pass along some flyers for some events that will be taking place within the county that will be coming up in the coming months.

Dylan 624 Washington Ave.- My partner and myself are looking to start up a landscaping company, and we notice there are some properties in town that appear to be abandoned and we would like to clean up these properties for free of charge to help the community. I was advised to attend tonight's meeting to see if this would be allowed as they may be considered private property and would like to be advised on how to proceed or if this would be acceptable by council.

B. Fitzgerald advises that the council would not be allowed to permit them to as these are considered private property. And advised possibly placing flyers at the locations to get a hold of property owners, and if they can collect addresses that the borough secretary may be able to help collect the owner information for them to send out mailings.

Jerry Bruno wanted to address and make it clear that he wrote his letter of interest the day that he found out Frank had resigned, not when the open seat was posted.

Professional Reports:

Police: Chief Arthur wanted to report that he had attended the Lackawanna County police Chiefs meeting that was held to discuss rising issues within our neighboring towns. Also, we are starting to have an issue with ATVs in town; most of these issues involve kids under 18, so we are asking parents to help us crack down on this issue, as the kids are running, which can cause another safety issue. We have stepped up speed enforcement you will see new lines placed down in different areas. As for the explosions everyone is worried about and keeps posting on social media. What they are using is called Tannerite, a material which can be purchased over the counter, and leaves no real evidence except for a cloud of smoke when it goes off. The issue every town is having, as it is all around us and in other states, and not just us, is that this is being set off randomly and typically in the nearby wooded areas on trails. The chief advised that they had just passed a new case law that if this product is set off after dark, it can be considered disorderly conduct, and you can now be arrested if caught.

Fire: Absent

EMA: Absent

Solicitor: B. Fitzgerald advised that today resolves to revise the signers for our grants to prevent any delays in signing off on grants if and when awarded.

Code Enforcement: Absent

Grants: None

Zoning: Absent

Engineer: Absent

Tax Collector: Absent

Mayor: None

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: None

Public Safety: T. Dabney had met with Chief Arthur two weeks ago about the speeding after the child was struck on Main St., as stated by Chief Arthur, actions have been taken to address this concern.

Mayor: None

Finance: None

Shade Tree: None
Grants: None
MS4: None
Recreations: Absent

Revised Garbage Ordinance: Motion to pass Ordinance 08-2024, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 02-2020, providing for. The charge and collection of fees for the collection and disposal of refuse, and providing penalties for the violation of the provisions of this ordinance, by T. Dabney. Seconded by J. Morcom. All in favor, motion carried.

Revised Resolutions for Grant Signatures: Motion to pass resolution 10-2024 through 14-2024 be it further resolved, that the Borough of Jermyn does hereby designate Robert Hunt, President of the Borough of Jermyn Council and Shannon Lee, Borough of Jermyn Secretary as the officials to execute all documents and agreements between the Borough of Jermyn and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grants. By T. Dabney. Seconded by J. Morcom. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution Bridge Street Parking: Motion to allow the advertisement of Resolution 15-2024, an ordinance governing and limiting parking on Bridge Street between Washington Avenue and Delaware Street in Jermyn borough by J. Morcom. Seconded by M. Kilmer. All in favor, motion carried.

Executive Session Council convened into executive session at 8:28 pm for to discuss litigation matters. Council reconvened from executive session at 8:41 pm.

New business: R. Hunt advised that S. Lee left a request for council to decide what they would like to do with the CD for the town clock, as it is time to renew the CD if we want to reinvest for another 13 months. Motion to renew the CD for the Town Clock fund for 13 months by C. Tomaine. Seconded by T. Dabney. 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 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Lee, Secretary/ Treasurer