

UNOFFICAL UNTIL MARCH 12, 2015

Jermyn Borough Council met on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. On roll call the following members were present: J. Wilson, J.McDermott, W.Estile and K.Hosie. J.Allan, J.Smith and B.Parks were absent. Attorney Nicholls and Mayor Smallacombe were absent.

MINUTES – A motion was made by J.McDermott, seconded by W.Estile to accept the minutes of January 8, 2015. All members were in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORT – W.Estile gave the financial report:

Beginning Balance	– \$92,641.84
Expenses	– \$ 61,339.98
Deposits	– \$ 156,934.25 (\$100,000.00 Tax Anticipation Loan)
Ending Balance	– \$ 156,934.25

A motion was made to accept the financial report as presented by J.Wilson, seconded by J.McDermott. All members were in favor.

MAYOR – The Mayor gave his report: He said the police gave multiple warnings and tickets for un-shoveled sidewalks and alternate parking, warnings for blighted property, obtained a vehicle lift, pallet jack, fireproof file cabinets computers and 22 tables through the surplus program, he thanked Councilman Estile, the police department and anyone else who helped with obtaining the items. He said this is the best group of police officers, the borough has ever had.

The Events Committee will be having their dinner on February 21 and will be honoring three people. The Crime watch will be having a pasta dinner on March 22 at St. Michaels. The Historical Society has obtained new stuff from Mr. Pete Whitney who used to own a barbershop in town. He asked if the Historical Society can use council chambers on the first Sunday in March, because they are having a speaker. Council said yes.

SOLICITOR– Attorney Nicholls said he needs an executive session for personnel.

Whitiak, 512 Garfield Avenue, addressed council to say that he is against the hiring of full time people who do not reside in Jermyn. Council President Hosie said that council tries to hire within the Borough. Mr. Whitiak said if they lived in town they would be more loyal. Mr. Whitiak said the minutes are cherry picked as it was not stated in the January minutes that he left the meeting in protest, because of the five minute rule for public input. He said a police officer came to his business establishment with the Hum –Vee, but it has no plates? Is it insured? Mr. Estile said the Hum-Vee is still a government vehicle and there are no plates on government vehicles and it is insured. Mr. Whitiak said at the last meeting the Mayor said Mayfield has 1/8 of the calls Jermyn gets, does that mean Jermyn has 800% more crime? Mr. Smallacombe said we have the Casey ramp and Rushbrook Street, leading to more traffic and we assist Mayfield, Scott and

Archbald. Mr. Whitiak approached council showing them pictures on his phone about the water issue in front of his house. Mr. Estile said we have obtained a tar buggy and in the spring we can address the problem. Mr. Whitiak stated that he still has a water problem after 14 years, it took Mr. Celli 14 months to get his problem solved but council passed the 5 minute rule in six weeks. It was explained that the Boroughs Rules of Order have been in place for years to be used when needed, this Council did not pass the Rules of Order. Mr. Whitiak felt the 5 minute rule is directed at Mr. Celli and himself. He asked why Council would enforce it. Mrs. Hosie said residents that were at a council meeting complained about the length of Public Input. Mrs. Wilson told Mr. Whitiak it was not his talking, he should keep the topic relevant and not get personal. Mr. Whitiak again expressed his displeasure with the 5 minute rule.

Floyd Celli, 642 Washington Avenue addressed Council concerning the surface water coming from his sidewalks. Attorney Nicholls said surface water is not the Borough's responsibility. Mr. Celli asked if the slop could be cleaned off Washington Avenue. Mr. Cellie said he got his permit, being pro-active, what has the borough done for him? Mr. Estile said didn't the Borough just do work on your alley? Mr. Celli said it is not his alley. Mr. Estile said no one else complained.

R.Chase, 257 Hudson Street, reported that the Artisan Fire Company will be serving potato pancakes on February 18th. The Artisan will also be hosting a Hunter Safety Education Class on March 22.

FINANCE– A motion was made to pay invoices in the amount of \$3,903.62 by J.McDermott, seconded by J.Wilson. All members were in favor.

ZONING OFFICER– Mr. Chase informed council that a storage facility was being built at the site of the former Chinese Restaurant and he had to shut the construction down, the owner obtained a zoning permit, but he has to obtain a building permit. Mr. Chase said he received a letter from a resident complaining about a neighbor running a business on Hudson Street. He said he investigated the matter and the neighbor is not running a business and sent a certified letter to the complaining person, explaining.

HERITAGE BIKE TOUR –A motion was made by J.Wilson, seconded by W.Estile to allow the Heritage Bike Tour come through Jermyn and giving the secretary permission to write a letter, allowing it. All members were in favor.

ARTISAN FIRE COMPANY REQUEST – A motion was made by W.Estile, seconded by J.Wilson to allow the Artisan Fire Company to use the plug on the street light for their sign promoting their fish dinner and other functions. All members were in favor.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Attorney Nicholls said he has reviewed the correspondence from the Historical Society and has a few corrections:

1. Must be specific what area of the building they will be using.
2. Cannot have a forever clause.

He will incorporate the changes into a document. Mrs. Wilson said that # 8 on the document will be discussed at the next work session. Fire Chief Rood again reminded council about the fire siren in the borough garage.

RE-APPOINT WILLIAM ARTHUR – A motion was made by J.McDermott, seconded by W.Estile to appoint William Arthur as Acting Chief until the next meeting or if Chief Zellers returns. All members were in favor.

Council went into executive session for personnel. Council reconvened from executive session.

A motion was made to adjourn by J.McDermott, seconded by J.Wilson to adjourn. All members were in favor.