

Jermyn Borough

Council Meeting

4/4/19

The Jermyn Borough Council held a council meeting on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers of the Jermyn Borough Building, 440 Jefferson Ave, Jermyn PA.

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Kulick with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following members were present: Frank Kulick, Kristen Dougherty, Jennifer Schreiner, Kevin Napoli, Cynthia Stephens, Carl Tomaine, Joanne Wilson. Attorney Aquilino and Mayor Fuga were also present. KBA, Bob Chase, Stanley Hallowich, and Ann Marie DeSanto were absent.

**Proclamation for Longworth's Restaurant:** Mayor Fuga read a proclamation congratulating Joan Longworth for celebrating 20 years in business with Longworth's Family Restaurant. He also presented her with a certificate. The crowd applauded.

**Arbor Day Proclamation:** Mayor Fuga read a proclamation naming April 24, 2019 as Jermyn Arbor Day.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by K. Napoli to accept the minutes of 3/21/19 as presented. Seconded by K. Dougherty. All in favor, motion carried.

**MS4 Presentation:** D. Markey explained to the public regarding the borough's MS4 permit, and that public outreach and education is one portion of the requirements. He played a short video educating the public on stormwater management issues. A sign in sheet was provided for all attendees to sign in.

**Bills Payable:** A motion was made by C. Stephens, seconded by J. Schreiner to pay the bills as presented. All members in favor, motion carried.

**Correspondence:** None at this time.

**Public Comment:** Lourie Hughes, 318 Rear McKinley Ave. addressed council on behalf of five members of the audience regarding the disrepair of Johnson Ct. Mayor Fuga stated we are going to address this tonight, and asked D. Markey to explain. D. Markey explained that we met with a representative from Pocono Spray Patching regarding the spray patching and tar & chip for some roads and alleyways in town. D. Markey showed council and the public the price list for the different roads and alleyways. Mayor Fuga explained the process to the public. He explained that many of the alleyways are in need of repair, and the DPW is fearful of their equipment when the alleys get plowed. F. Kulick stated we will get back to the alleyways after all the public has had a chance to speak.

Kaitlyn English from Lackawanna County Community Relations read a few flyers: Public Safety workshop, Vietnam memorial service, several trolley museum events, ADA training for municipalities and businesses.

With no further public comment, council turned attention back to the alleyways and the quote from Pocono Spray Patching. D. Markey read prices for different alleyway blocks. K. Dougherty asked if we did a tar and chip and then got funds from the CDBG grant, would we mill out the existing tar & chip? D. Markey stated maybe we should change our focus for the CDBG grant. Mayor Fuga stated if we applied for the grant, we're probably two years out from getting grant money. D. Markey asked the public if anyone has a Johnson Ct. address, and if their home faces Johnson Ct. Some members of the public stated yes. D. Markey explained

that the CDBG grant is geared towards moderate to low income if it is location specific. K. Dougherty stated maybe we should remove this item from the CDBG top five list and handle it here. K. Napoli asked how much more is the fog seal? D. Markey stated he didn't provide in the quote, so he will find out. K. Dougherty stated at the bottom, the quote stated the price was good contingent upon all roads being repaired. Do we need to repair all roads? D. Markey and Mayor Fuga both stated that the representative advised them that not all the roads need to be paved; and we can mix and match. A motion was made by K. Napoli to allocate up to \$10,000 from Liquid Fuels funds to repair alleyways, so long as it includes the 300 block of Johnson Ct. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All members in favor, motion carried.

**Junior Council Person:** C. Tomaine stated when he was reading the Borough News magazine, the Junior Councilperson from Moscow Borough caught his eye, and as he understands, we haven't had much luck recently with the position, but he would like to see us bring it back. F. Kulick stated as he understands it, no one wanted to do it. J. Wilson stated there was a bad taste from the previous junior council person who didn't make any effort in coming. She offered to contact Hank Stachura to try to obtain someone. C. Tomaine stated we should be proactive, and get some literature to the school to see if there is any interested persons. F. Kulick advised D. Markey to contact the guidance counselor to try to obtain someone for next school year.

**Senator Blake:** F. Kulick stated he had contact with Senator Blake over the weekend, and he and D. Markey will be going to meet with Senator Blake's office next week to discuss Rushbrook Creek Project Funding, among other items.

**Police Chief Contract:** F. Kulick asked Chief Arthur if the five year employment contract is fully executed? Chief Arthur said yes. The council and audience applauded.

**Jermyn 150 Update:** F. Kulick asked D. Markey for an update. D. Markey advised council that the 3/24/19 meeting discussed having a small ceremony on 1/3/20 to commemorate the date the borough was incorporated, then a dinner in April, and a picnic in September. S&S Amusements will do a 4 day carnival, and we will make 20% on the ride tickets sold. K. Napoli stated be very careful about what is in the contract. C. Tomaine asked if S&S Amusements is going to require a minimum attendance? D. Markey stated that we don't have a contract yet, we're just verbally discussing it, but they allegedly do their own marketing and promotion, and they think that a 4 day picnic will be sufficient for them to make enough money to have it be worth their while. C. Stephens asked how this is all going to be paid for? D. Markey stated the committee will sell ads for an ad book, etc. J. Wilson stated she thought the dinner was to be in August? D. Markey stated it will be in April. C. Stephens asked when the next meeting is? The next meeting will be 4/14/19.

**Scout Corner:** Mayor Fuga stated they assessed the situation at Scout Corner, and there's one dead tree. J. Wilson stated there were four. Mayor Fuga stated the tops are alive. J. Wilson stated the trees are diseased, and that's why there's no green. Mayor Fuga stated there is green on them. J. Wilson stated no, they are diseased, and they need to come down. Mayor Fuga asked what the plan is after they're taken down? J. Wilson stated there will be new evergreen trees planted, and she wants the roots dug out. J. Wilson stated to call her when they're ready to cut, and when they're ready to do hometown hero flags. D. Markey stated let's also discuss the stage. We have a new floor coming in the gym, we're going to paint, change the lights, etc., and we need to do something with the stage too. What are the plans for the stage risers? J. Wilson stated they're only used for the Christmas show. Mayor Fuga stated the risers he's referring to were in the dock and it looks like they've been there for a long time. We're going to take them out. Also the black frames on the

stage, Mayor Fuga stated we'd like to remove those, paint the wall black, and put up the rowan right up on the wall. J. Wilson stated that's what they wanted to do originally.

**Chickens:** J. Schreiner stated that after nearly a year, we should give Riley Bevan an answer about the chickens. She stated there are cities and towns all over the US that allow chickens. She researched many different parameters we can put in place if we decide to allow chickens. She stated Mayfield Borough's ordinance had a lot of things that made sense. F. Kulick stated he has an issue with having the 75% of neighbors to agree, and you could be immediately causing animosity between neighbors. He also stated he would only ever support it if we limit owners to single family dwellings also. Council discussed different ideas around the permitting process. C. Tomaine brought up bears in town, and why would we want to add something for the bears to prowl? K. Dougherty stated that the cute baby chicks turn into chickens, and then people could give up on wanting to take care of them. C. Tomaine stated chickens smell, and he's against it. Mayor Fuga stated to vote on it. F. Kulick stated we should look to see if we want to move forward in developing a chicken ordinance. C. Tomaine stated we should make a motion to allow them or not. F. Kulick stated we can't do that if we don't know what's in the ordinance. D. Markey stated someone should make a motion to allow the solicitor to draw up a chicken ordinance, and if it doesn't get a second, the motion dies. C. Tomaine stated he disagrees; we should decide whether or not the council wants chickens. F. Kulick stated it's not cut and dry. He may vote to allow chickens under the right parameters. C. Tomaine made a motion to take a yes or no vote to allow chickens in Jermyn. Seconded by C. Stephens. K. Napoli requested a roll call vote. Upon roll call: J. Schreiner – yes, C. Stephens – yes, K. Napoli – yes, F. Kulick – yes, C. Tomaine – no, K. Dougherty – no, J. Wilson – no. By a vote of 4-3, the outcome is yes. Attorney Aquilino will draw up a chicken ordinance draft.

**Fleet Cards:** D. Markey explained the new fleet cards and reporting. Taxes are removed prior to paying. C. Tomaine asked where the liquid fuels taxes go when they're taken out. D. Markey stated we're exempt in the beginning rather than having to submit for reimbursement. J. Wilson asked can they only fill up at Sunoco? D. Markey explained that the cards may be used at over 95% of fueling stations across the U.S.

**New Business:** Mayor Fuga asked if the borough manager can purchase a new scanner. F. Kulick stated it's in the budget under technology, go buy one.

**Adjournment:** With no other business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by K. Napoli to adjourn, seconded by C. Tomaine. All in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel Markey". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Daniel Markey

Borough Manager