Jermyn Borough

**Council Minutes**

September 19, 2024

The Jermyn Borough Council held a council meeting on Thursday, September 19,2024 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 Vice President Pro Tem Chris Cook with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Minutes:** A motion was made by J. Morcom to accept the minutes of 8/15/24 as presented. Seconded C. Tomaine. 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 124,767.66

Capital Reserve - DPW 909.60

Capital Reserve - Police 6,064.82

Crime Watch Fund 222.69

General Fund - Community 132,578.22

General Fund - FNB 6,122.08

Holiday Lights Fund 300.59

Investment - General Fund 1,102.36

Investment - Liquid Fuels 24,271.69

Investment - Paving Fund 1,113.84

Investment - Recycling 121.74

Investment - Refuse 173.59

Liquid Fuels - FNB 11,466.51

Petty Cash 196.50

Recreations Fund 28,616.85

Recycling - Community 4,636.39

Refuse Checking - FNB 195,900.09

Total Checking/Savings 538,565.22

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

200000 · Accounts Payable 9,454.38

Long Term Debt 79,439.47

A motion was made to accept treasurer’s report and pay bills by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All members in favor. Motion carried.

**Ratify Bill Paid on 9/3/24 :** Motion was made to accept bills paid on 9/3/24 by C. Tomaine. Seconded by B. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

**Secretary Report:**  None

**Correspondence:**  C. Cook read a letter received from Thomas Terpak, 426-428 Madison Ave. He would like someone to address the property next door to him and their neglect to the property maintenance code. Along with the housing structure of their newly aquired chickens, not meeting the borough required standards.

**Public Comment:** Genie Lupini 1234 Livey St. Archbald. Discussed a fundraiser she runs for the Valley Community Library in honor of her late husband. The fund raiser is called Cars for Books, any vehicles donated will either go up for auction or taken to the scrap yard. All donations would be tax deductible for the donors and all proceeds will go to the library. These donations do not need to be just cars/trucks, they can also be campers, boats etc.

Council will have these concernes addessed once they have appointed a new code enforcement officer

Sean Vietmeier, 284 Mikridge St. Jermyn. He would like to have the pothole addressed from a sewer pave cut that was never restored properly.

T. Fuga advised he is aware of the issue as he hits it every time with the plow, we have run into the issue that none of the utilities are willing to take ownership of the pave cut that was done, so at this time it will be a borough issue to have resolved.

T. Fuga advised that he would be able to do a temporary fix to the location, as the storm drain doesn’t belong to the borough and it will be getting replaced under the Rushbrook creek project. As for getting to the trail we have already reached out to the heritage trail office about the concerns with in this area, and for residents who are walking to this area.

Ann Boylan on behalf of the Jermyn Shade Tree, she wanted to advise council that they are looking into having some branches cut down over the gazebo and some others. As their have been some branches that have already come down during a couple of storms. All branches will be taken away but we will have them stack any large pieces for the public to take for fire wood. Joanne Wilson would like to ask council if they where ok with using the rest of their yearly alotment to cover this project.

In this case council agreed to provide the rest of their alotment to use towards the project. At this time S. Lee asked council that being this is a recreational park, would council then also approve for the remaining balance of this project to be paid out of the Jermyn Recreations account, which they have also agreed to.

A motion was made to approve the payment of $872.37 be made to the Jermyn Shade Tree committee to help cover the cost of the tree trimming project located at the WWI park by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All in favor, motion carried.

Chasity Black 642 Jefferson Ave. Jermyn. Was looking to council to help with a drainage issue in front of her house, as the water is not making it to the storm drain and instead is just puddling up where they park.

**Professional Reports:**

Police: Chief Arthur advised that year to date they have covered 7,272 incidents, with 305 being traffic stops. The juvenal issues we have been having have been delt with and are going through the magistrate. He would also like to advise that the Steam town Marathon will be held on October 13th. They are looking for help with traffic control, if anyone is interested if they would please call John Cummings at the given phone number.

He would like to ask council if they would authorize a letter of accommodation to be sent to the Carbondale K-9 Officer and his dog, for their assistance with a mentally ill patient in town that was being destructive within a transport vehicle. With their assistance the dog was able to calm the patient down to the point they where able to remove him from the vehicle with no issues, and to where he actually walked himself to the ambulance that was waiting for treatment.

Lastly and do to resent events, he advised that they have received 15 reports of suicidal warnings unfortunately two where lost. With this being said, most victims or threats are announced by those with these thoughts prior to the incident. As most of the time these people are looking to be helped beforehand, and so you can help just by listening to them and reporting it to the proper people. All students are taught about the website Safe2saypa.org in the schools, but for those of you who are not this is a website Safe2Say Something is a youth violence prevention program run by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. The program teaches youth and adults how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, from individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others. This website is easy and confidential way to report safety concerns and to help prevent violence and tragedies.

A motion was made to approve the letter of accommodation be sent to officer Rob \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and his K-9 Axle by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All in favor, motion carried.

Fire: Absent

EMA: Absent

Solicitor: B. Fitzgerald advised that DEP has given updates to the Rushbrook Creek project, they are working on submitted all the final paperwork for this project.

Code Enforcement: None

Grants: None

Zoning: Absent

Engineer: Absent

Tax Collector: Absent

Mayor: None

**Committee Reports:**

Planning Commission: None

Public Safety: None

Finance: None

Shade Tree: None

Grants: None

MS4: None

Recreations: S. Lee advised council that more damage has been done over at the park. With this said she would like to move forward with the placement of two more cameras placed on the Pavilion to extend the coverage at the park. This project was delayed do to us needing electric in the DPW garage in order to move some of the transmitters to ensure a better signal. The approximate quote received for the additional equipment needed and time to set everything up is going to be around $1,500.00.

DPW: None

**Bid Opening Old Mill West Rd. Paving:** C. Cook opened the first bid from Stafursky Paving Company, Inc with a bid amount of $156,320.25, Leeward Construction, Inc amount of $ 178,000.00, American Asphalt Paving Co. amount of $168,373.90, New Enterprise Stone & Lime amount $165,606.45, And last Kobalt Construction, Inc amount $186,542.00 After Bids where opened and read to council it was anounced that Stafursjy Paving Company came in at a lower Price.

A motion was made to award Stafursky paving Co. with the paving project of Old Mill West Rd. at the amount of $156,320.25 by B. Davis. Seconded by J. Morcom. All in favor, motion carried.

**Executive Session** A motion was made to enter executive session by J. Morcom. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All members in favor. Motion carried Council convened into executive session at 7:59 pm for to discuss litigation matters. Council reconvened from executive session at 8:09 pm.

**New business:** A motion to pass resolution 19-2024 a resolution of the governing board of the borough of Jermyn, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, hereby authorizing the submission of a DCED Monroe county local share account grant application for the Rushbrook creek project – phase 1was made by J. Morcom. Seconded by B. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion to approve the grant administration agreement for Ashburn to submit for the grant under resolution 19-2024 for the DCED Monroe county local share account grant application for the Rushbrook creek project – phase 1was made by C. Tomaine. Seconded by B. Davis. 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 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Lee, Secretary/ Treasurer