

UNOFFICIAL UNTIL FEBRUARY 12, 2015

Jermyn Borough Council met on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 7:00p.m. On roll call the following members were present: J.Wilson, J.McDermott, W.Estile, J.Allan ,J.Smith and K.Hosie. Mayor Smallacombe was in attendance. Attorney Nichols and Councilman Parks were absent.

MINUTES – A motion was made by J.Allan, seconded by W.Estile to accept the minutes of December 11, 2014. All members were in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORT -W.Estile gave the financial report:

Beginning Balance –	\$110,750.09
Deposits	– \$37,688.52
Expenses	– \$55,797.58
Ending balance	– \$92,641.84

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

MAYOR– Mayor Smallcombe reported that Chief Arthur has gotten over \$200,000.00 in surplus equipment for the Borough, the most recent item a Hum-Vee. If you look at the police report, although Jermyn is a small town, Mayfield had about an eighth of the calls that Jermyn answered in 2014. Our Police Department is doing a great job. Mayor Smallacombe thanked all who made the Christmas Show and Christmas Parade a success, Police, Fire Police, the Girls Scouts all who decorated and participated.

The Events Committee had a house lighting contest, out of 900 homes, 265 were decorated. The annual Events Committee dinner will be on February 21 at St. Michaels and awards will be given for service to the Community. Mrs. Wilson reported that the recipients this year are: Volunteer of the Year – John Coleman, Life time Achievement Award – Patricia McMyne and Community Service Award – Katie Hosie. Mrs. Wilson also said Mrs. Hosie is receiving the award not because she serves on Council, but rather for her community service and service to her church. There is a criteria the Events Committee has to follow and there are 25 names submitted for each category and the members vote.

The Mayor said there is a scoreboard missing from the building, things like this should not happen. We have to make a repair and the parts are no longer available and that is why the scoreboard was in storage.

FIRE CHIEF– Fire Chief Rood thanked Channel 16 for the donation of smoke detectors and they will be available in the borough office. He said W.Estile and himself will be going to a seminar at Maywood for drones. The siren at the Artisian is weak, maybe they can lengthen the blow on it. The current siren is from WW11 and perhaps it could be replaced, the firemen have pagers and he will get more information.

Mrs. Hosie said you can hardly hear the siren. Mr. Rood said there used to be four sirens and you could hear one or the other.

PUBLIC INPUT –A. Whitiak, 512 Garfield, 669 Washington addressed council about the budget. He asked what did the borough obtain from the surplus program. Chief Arthur said 100 sleeping bags, tools, wrenches, a Hum-Vee valued at \$50,000.00, a compressor, a diesel generator.

Floyd Celli, 642 Washington Avenue said that Attorney Nichols was to look into the problem at the front of his property. Mrs. Hosie said Attorney Nichols isn't present and she did not know what to tell Mr. Celli.

Chief Arthur thanked Walter Estile for going on the trips for the surplus property, the DPW for unloading all the items. He said in case of a disaster we have sleeping bags, canteens and hope to get cots in the future. He thanked Office McMorrow also. The Chief said the federal surplus brought a lot of money into the borough and that he had to sign for everything and he is accountable. Mrs. Hosie asked that a list of all the items should be in the borough office and thanked Chief Arthur for his hard work. Chief Arthur said there is a \$400.00 fee each year to be part of the program, the hum-vee only has 9300 miles on it and will be available to all emergency responders. Mr. Estile said that Chief Arthur's brother volunteered his time to go to the base, for 10 hours.

Tony Roma, 106 Raymond drive addressed Council about the vacant lot on Riverview Lane, Mr. Roma asked if there is sewer hook up ? The Mayor said yes there is a grinder pump and the lot is clean, everything is removed. Mr. Chase said it is a non-conforming

lot and it is more lenient with regulations for setbacks. It was asked if a neighbor spoke to Mr. Roma when he was looking at the property. Mr. Roma said yes, he was very nice, but gave him many reasons not to purchase the lot. Mr. Rood said something needs to be done about the neighbor through our solicitor. He also said the items Chief Arthur has obtained through the Federal surplus program is very valuable if there is a disaster.

FINANCE– A motion was made by J.McDermott, seconded by J.Wilson to pay invoices in the amount of \$1,806.55. All members were in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS –W.Estile said Rock Bottom has finished the job at Mr. Celli's property, there are big ruts in the alley, the project was done two weeks ago without anyone notifying the borough. Mrs. Hosie asked if Mr. Parks looked at the job? Mr. Rood said the borough should have an independent inspector review all projects. Mrs. Wilson said it is common sense for the contractor to contact the borough office and thinks an independent inspector is a good idea.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Mr. Smith said that the Mayor basically has said a lot that I have to comment on. Chief Arthur did a great job the thing I like is that Chief Arthur is pro-active and sometimes we are more reactive than pro-active. So should the borough find themselves in a position where there is some tragedy, I think we are well prepared for it. Thanks to the Chief, Walter, the police department, everyone, I can't say much more. Just look at the brochure Chief Arthur passes out, it says a lot.

RECREATION– J.Allan reported that Lakeland Basketball has started and the Thursday night league is playing again. The clock is fixed, new parts were made. The Mayor said some residents have shown interest in joining the recreation committee, K.Napoli, D.Marke to help J.Allan out.

ZONING OFFICER– B.Chase said he received a letter from a resident on Hudson Street with concerns about her neighbor perhaps running a business. Mr. Chase stopped by the residence in question and said they are not running a business, all four vehicles are licensed and belong to the homeowner, and there is not a violation. He will send the resident with the concerns a letter, explaining.

JUNIOR COUNCILMAN – B.Swatt asked that Council review the information he gave them concerning the BlackBoard Connection, the cost and how it is set up and asked them to review it. J.Wilson congratulated B.Swatt on finishing second place in the FBLA regionals.

New Business – ORDINANCE FOR LEVYING AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR 2015

A motion was made by J.Wilson, seconded by J.Allan to adopt the Ordinance for the Levying and Collection for 2015. All members were in favor.

RESOLUTION FOR TAX ANTICIPATION –A motion was made by J.McDermott, seconded by W.Estile to adopt a resolution authorizing the incurring of a tax anticipation note in the face of \$100,000.00 . All members were in favor.

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

Council was notified of a LCAB dinner on January 15, please let the secretary know.

A motion was made to adjourn by W.Estile, seconded by J.Allan. All members were in favor.

One Reply to “Council Minutes – January 8 2015”

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February 13, 2015 at 12:42 pm

how much money does the boro have to chip in for their share of the flood project?
thanks fc

Comments are closed.