

Jermyn Borough

Council Meeting

9/5/19

The Jermyn Borough Council held a council meeting on Thursday, September 5, 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, Kevin Napoli , Jennifer Schreiner, Cynthia Stephens, Carl Tomaine, and Joanne Wilson. Mayor Fuga and Attorney Aquilino were also present. Bob Chase, KBA, Stanley Hallowich, and Ann Marie DeSanto were absent.

Minutes: A motion was made by K. Napoli to accept the minutes of 8/1/19 as presented. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by K. Napoli to accept the special meeting minutes of 8/9/19 as presented. Seconded by C. Stephens. All in favor, motion carried.

Bills Payable: K. Dougherty asked if the bills payable included the gym floor bill? D. Markey stated yes. He explained the floor is complete, but the project is not. They still have to raise the baskets and give us floor care demo. A motion was made by K. Dougherty to pay the bills as presented, with the exception of the gym floor bill. Seconded by J. Schreiner. All members in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence: F. Kulick stated we received a notice regarding the Steamtown Marathon coming through on October 13, 2019, and requesting assistance with traffic control and safety. F. Kulick stated the Chief will handle the details regarding traffic control.

Public Comment: Kaitlyn English from Lackawanna County read flyers for Senior Health Fair, Heroes Day, Community Project Grants Workshop, Trolley Museum Meet & Greet, Tire Recycling Event, Cross Country Invitational, and Fishing Derby Event.

Chris Chermak – Candidate for Lackawanna County Commissioner. He has been trying to get around to different meetings in different municipalities to find out what is going on. He also wanted to put his face to his name and let everyone know that if anyone has any issues, he's always around to help. He's also the medic for the Jermyn mile portion of the Steamtown Marathon.

Ray Rood, 403 Bacon St., stated asked about the sewer project on Bacon St, and if anything has been started yet? He stated the July minutes have comments about taking care of the sewer in the alleyway, but he doesn't think there's an alleyway there. D. Markey stated the line is on a quarterly maintenance plan until council makes a decision about budgeting for or applying for grants to replace the sewer line. D. Markey asked how is the sewer line holding up lately? Mr. Rood stated it has been ok lately.

Mary Ann Bachak, 32 Old Mill Rd. stated she received a letter asking her to come to a meeting to discuss her trees. W. Aquilino stated she has trees on the property line. Some were cut down and some were trimmed already, but there are more that old, tall, and partially dead. They need to be pared back or cut down. Mrs. Bachak stated there are two that need to be cut down, but she cannot afford to do it right now, and asked for an extension until Spring of 2020. W. Aquilino stated that seems reasonable. He will send her a letter

confirming the extension, but asked her if she would contact her neighbor as well. J. Wilson stated there is a disease going around that are killing some trees. Mrs. Bachak asked about other trees in the Woodlands that are dead or dying. W. Aquilino stated we issue warnings based on something that is reported by a borough official, or a complaint received by a resident.

Garbage Bids: F. Kulick opened the garbage bids for contract period 11/1/19 – 10/31/22:

- Waste Management: Bid: \$892,080.00, Alternate Bid: \$938,468.00
- County Waste: Bid: \$225,600.00 for Year 1, \$230,100.00 for Year 2, \$234,700.00 for Year 3 = total bid \$690,400.00. Alternate Bid: \$237,331.20 for Year 1, \$242,068.32 for Year 2, \$246,905.44 for Year 3 = total bid \$726,304.96
- J.P. Mascaro: Bid: \$526,176.00 garbage, \$290,808.00 recycling = total bid \$816,984. Alternate Bid: \$865,584.00

D. Markey stated the bids will be reviewed by the solicitor, and the bid will be awarded at the meeting on September 19th.

Train Station: Attorney Aquilino stated this should be tabled until the next meeting. D. Markey stated the borough was looking into a train station years ago, and we were looking into possibly resurrecting the idea. According to the Lackawanna Railroad Authority, the takeback language in the agreement is commonplace, and they wouldn't execute a takeback unless they sold the railroad. Attorney Aquilino looked over the agreement and had some concerns about yearly fees. He will look again at the agreement and come back at the September 19th meeting with an opinion.

Insurance Follow Up: J. Schreiner asked to table this until the September 19th meeting.

Additional Revenue: W. Aquilino reported that we received a letter from Portnoff Law Associates regarding the possibility of employing their services at no cost to the borough to collect delinquent taxes & fees. He stated he will get with D. Markey to see how much delinquent monies we have, and see if it's worth it to pursue. K. Napoli asked if they should come to council and speak? W. Aquilino stated they're from King of Prussia, but he can ask them.

Employee Handbook: J. Schreiner asked if the handbook was finished? K. Dougherty stated yes, it's finished except for the benefits & PTO portion. The PTO portion was already approved by council. The handbook is to be emailed to council, and voted on at the next meeting.

Part Time Police Hire: K. Napoli made a motion to hire Steven Harvey as a part time police officer, at the training rate of \$14.00/hour. This comes after an interview with Chief Arthur, and another interview before the Safety Committee. Seconded by J. Schreiner. All members in favor, motion carried.

Pole Building Funding: D. Markey stated that council voted to go with a 10 year Community Bank loan at the previous meeting, however any loan past 5 years requires approval by the DCED and an ordinance. The 5 year loan will not require DCED approval, and a resolution must be passed. A motion was made by K. Napoli to change the 10 year loan term for the pole building to a 5 year loan term. Seconded by C. Tomaine. All members in favor, motion carried.

MS4 Committee Appointment: F. Kulick appointed Richard Farrell to the MS4 committee. He thanked Mr. Farrell for serving.

Executive Session: At 7:47pm, council adjourned into executive session to discuss personnel issues.

Council reconvened from executive session at 8:15 pm.

New Business: J. Wilson stated Shade Tree Committee was at a Northeast Consortium meeting today, and it involved MS4.


D. Markey announced that the 600 block of Johnson Ct. was paved this past Tuesday.

F. Kulick announced the finance committee will meet after D. Markey attends the Municipal Budgeting & Finance class on September 19th.

J. Wilson stated that she received a complaint, and when D. Markey isn't in the office, to put a note on the door. W. Aquilino stated there is. Mayor Fuga stated there is always a note on the door. W. Aquilino stated the schedule is posted on the door every day. D. Markey stated there is a schedule on the door, and it specifically states that if the door is locked during business hours to call the borough office.

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 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel Markey". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name and title.

Daniel Markey

Borough Manager