

Jermyn Borough

Council Meeting

2/20/20

The Jermyn Borough Council held a council meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2020 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, and Robert Hunt. Carl Tomaine was present at 7:08 pm. Mayor Fuga and Bob Chase were also present. Attorney Aquilino, Isabella Brown, Stanley Hallowich and KBA were absent.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by K. Dougherty to accept the minutes of 2/6/20 as presented. Seconded by J. Schreiner. All in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report/Bills Payable:** D. Markey presented the treasurer's report as of 2/20/20.

Jermyn Borough	
Balance Sheet	
As of February 20, 2020	
	Feb 20, 20
2019 Revenue Anticipation Note	197,778.21
DPW Capital Reserve	13,425.44
General Fund - Community	43,929.06
Holiday Lights	3,399.99
Investment - General Fund	1.39
Investment - Liquid Fuels	33,568.32
Investment - Paving Fund	11.79
Investment - Recycling	1.33
Investment - Refuse	2,582.20
Petty Cash	162.01
Police Capital Reserve	300.05
Recycling - Community	14,020.99
Refuse Checking - FNB	17,215.61
Shade Tree Commission	6,353.05
100050 · FNB General Fund	1,358.78
100052 · Liquid Fuels - FNB	3,529.81
100125 · Crime Watch Account	721.75
100800 · Jermyn Recreations Commission	4,961.50
Total Checking/Savings	343,321.28
▼ Liabilities	
▼ Current Liabilities	
▼ Accounts Payable	
200000 · Accounts Payable	27,769.49

A motion was made by K. Napoli to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills as presented. Seconded by C. Stephens. All members in favor, motion carried.

**Correspondence:** We received a letter from Adams Cable that the fees will be increasing.

**Public Comment:** None.

## **Reports:**

**Police Report:** Chief Arthur reported there were 1026 incidents YTD. Bus stop safety has been a priority, there have been several complaints. The Crystal Fire Company underage alcohol case had three people arrested and convicted.

There are currently no solicitation permits issued for the borough, so if anyone is going door to door trying to sell anything, call the police, and also call the police if they see anyone they feel may be suspicious in the neighborhood. ATV violators have been cited recently. They are not allowed on the main road, and depending on the severity of the violation, it could range from a warning to a citation and impounding of the ATV. YTD there have been 84 traffic stops. Church traffic detail and house watch checks continue. Let the police know if you're going to be out of town, and they will make sure to check on your home while you're gone.

F. Kulick asked Chief Arthur if the guy was caught they were chasing in Mayfield. Chief stated no, he's a wanted escapee, as he stepped out of his house arrest. Sgt. Caljean caught him a couple years ago coming down Route 107 shooting at people, and Chief Arthur is unsure of why he's even out of jail.

**Zoning:** Bob Chase stated there will be a Planning Commission Meeting next week. There has been one commercial permit issued so far. F. Kulick asked about the planning meeting. B. Chase stated someone wants to put in a small tools store. The one permit he issued was for the car lot next to the beer store. They want to sell cars, and the only stipulation is to make sure there are four parking spots for customers. The land across from the car lot sold, and the new owners are working on something for there also. C. Tomaine asked if they are setup to work on other people's vehicles? B. Chase stated that's fine.

F. Kulick asked if the Historical Society approached the Planning Commission about their building yet? B. Chase states he's not sure if they have spoken yet. B. Chase has seen the building, and the zoning book is vague regarding the zoning.

**Mayor's Report:** Mayor Fuga has nothing at this time.

**Solicitor/Code Enforcement Officer:** Absent.

**Engineer:** Absent.

**Junior Council Person:** Absent.

**Borough Manager:** D. Markey notified Council about the Allied Building on Washington Ave. They are no longer using it as a mental health facility; no one currently lives there. Their funding was cut, however it's still a HUD project, so they cannot sell the building. They are looking to rent it to former clients that have been living on their own. They will not have round the clock staffing, but there will be counselors there, and also a full time staff member will have their office there. They are looking to obtain rental permits. Chief Arthur was on the call as well, and stated his concerns were satisfied. B. Chase asked for the contact information, because he will need to make sure their plan fits the zoning laws. D. Markey stated he will give him the contact information tomorrow.

The PENNDOT MS-965 Report for 2019 was completed and approved. Our liquid fuels funds should be deposited by the first Monday in March.

The 2018 Liquid Fuels Audit was completed, and the audit was sent to President Kulick. D. Markey stated he has it in the office if anyone would like to see it.

The 2019 DCED Audit is currently being worked on. The auditors stated that the Shade Tree Commission should obtain their own EIN # and keep track of their own books, rather than the borough keeping track. K. Dougherty asked if that applies to Rec Commission as well? D. Markey stated not right now, because the commission doesn't currently have an appointed body.

The FNB Revenue Anticipation Loan comes due in March. They said we can extend until June. D. Markey stated we still have to pay for the Woodlands and the parking lot, so it might be a good idea to do so. D. Markey stated they need a vote. C. Stephens asked if there's an added cost? D. Markey stated he thinks just the extended interest on the loan. A motion was made by C. Tomaine to extend the FNB Revenue Anticipation Loan until June. Seconded by K. Dougherty. All members in favor, motion carried.

F. Kulick stated he would like to make a comment on the liquid fuels audit. He stated in the past, it was an ordeal, and now it's about an hour, due to better record keeping that's going on in the borough.

D. Markey stated with FEMA updating the flood maps on 8/5/20, every municipality will need to update it's floodplain ordinance. Not doing so would result in residents being unable to partake in the Flood Insurance Program, and the municipality would not receive assistance in the event of a flood. We have been working with the PA Municipal League to assist us in writing the ordinance. D. Markey will distribute the ordinance via email tomorrow. He asked each council member to please review and let him know if they have any questions. We will need to advertise the ordinance prior to passage. Our flood maps will be vastly reducing, and many that are currently in the floodplain will not be in any longer.

The US Census Bureau would like to use our building for training. C. Tomaine asked if they will pay us rent? D. Markey stated no. They are in a high recruitment push right now. F. Kulick stated that's not a problem.

F. Kulick asked how the new flood maps will impact the urgency of the Rushbrook Creek Project? Andrew Goodwin of 607 Lincoln Ave stated with the maps changing, it will quite possibly reduce the expenses for many borough residents.

**Planning Commission:** K. Napoli had nothing to report.

**Public Safety:** K. Napoli wanted to make council aware of the issue that the fire companies that have been having with the issue of alcohol. He has been meeting with the fire companies about issuing strict no-alcohol policies, and he has been waiting as long as possible to make this public. There was a meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>, and since then, there have been a half dozen residents ask him why he's trying to mess with the fire companies. He stated he asked where these people have heard this, and he was told from fire company members. It saddens him that in 2020, we are arguing back and forth with fire companies to ensure there are strict restrictions with alcohol use with their own members of the fire companies. We are completely aware that they are their own entities, they don't have any need to listen to what the borough says. He states he was a member at one of the fire companies in town, and he understands we have no say in that. He said he is fed up with the childish behavior that we've had to deal with in the lack of acknowledgment that it's necessary in the year 2020 to make sure that our local fire services are a non-alcoholic environment. We are in no way asking either fire company in Jermyn to take away from their fund raising or to take away from what they're trying to do as a private entity to make money for themselves. If they are having a fundraising event in which they wish to sell alcohol, that's fine; we have no issue with that. If they do hall rentals, which both do, and the citizens that rent the building wish to bring alcohol, we're not telling them they can't do that. We do not want the companies to feel like we're trying to take anything away from them financially. K. Napoli stated he did have one citizen that asked him why we have to bother the firefighters? His response was this is not a matter of bullying or trying to make firefighters feel like we don't respect or appreciate what they do; he is a

firefighter himself. Also in the meetings was Mayor Fuga, who is also a firefighter. It has nothing to do with that. It has to do with the fact that as fire companies in Jermyn, Pennsylvania, we have a responsibility to make sure that what they do is done in the safest manner. K. Napoli states he is the Safety Director, or Safety Chairperson, for the borough. He cannot, in good nature, sit by with his children and his wife at home, knowing that the possibility of something happening – knowing that it's going on there – can't continue. He is going to stop speaking, because he's going to get more upset about it, but he does not want things spread and have the citizens of the town come back at him and ask why we're picking on the fire companies. We're not picking on the fire companies. He wants to get that straight, and he wants 100% everything he said to be printed in our minutes, because he wants everyone to be able to read it, and he wants everyone to know what we're trying to do. There are a lot of things that we can do. He doesn't think he has to go over them in public right now, but we are strongly urging our fire companies to come back to the next meeting, which is before the first March meeting, which is private between the Mayor, the Council Members that have been asked to meet, and the fire companies. He is strongly urging both fire companies to come back with strict restrictions on the use of alcohol at the fire companies.

F. Kulick thanked K. Napoli and stated we have another meeting scheduled the first Thursday of March at 6:00pm. At that time, both fire companies are supposed to come back with whatever they think is the proper way to handle this. At that point, we will make decisions and see what needs to be done.

**Recreations Commission:** C. Stephens reported that she had nothing at this time.

**Grants Committee:** K. Dougherty reported there will be a committee meeting February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

**MS4 Committee:** K. Dougherty reported there will be a committee meeting February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Shade Tree Commission:** R. Hunt has nothing at this time; no one has contacted him.

**Finance:** C. Tomaine reported that he has nothing at this time.

**DPW:** J. Schreiner reported she has nothing at this time.

**Tax Collector:** F. Kulick stated at the last meeting, we appointed Jeanette Brown, who during the interview process stated she would accept them appointment, then declined after council voted to appoint. We received a last minute applicant, Kathlyn Goodwin, who was interviewed by the interview committee. The committee would like to recommend her appointment as tax collector. She would need to pass the course prior to being sworn in. F. Kulick asked Council for a motion to appoint Kathlyn Goodwin to the unexpired term of tax collector, which runs through December, 2021. K. Napoli made a motion to appoint Kathlyn Goodwin to the position of tax collector. Seconded by J. Schreiner. All members in favor, motion carried.

**New Business:** B. Chase stated the Artisan will not be having the potato pancake sale on Ash Wednesday. Also, he will be teaching a Hunter Safety Course on March 21<sup>st</sup>. It's open to 50 students. Go to PA Game Commission Website, under education, and look for the course. Ages 11 and up.

F. Kulick announced the Jermyn 150 Banquet tickets are now on sale. \$30 donation, or a table of 8 for \$200. The banquet will be held on April 25, 2020 at St. John's Center in Mayfield, catered by Don't Just Wing It Catering from Jermyn.

**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 7:47 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 right of the typed name.

Daniel Markey

Borough Manager