



**JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
January 22nd, 2020
7:00 P.M.
700 Summit Avenue, Jenkintown Pennsylvania
MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order:** President D. Pancoe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor A. Dobbs led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance
3. **Roll Call:**
 - **Council members present:** President D. Pancoe, Vice President J. Conners, Councilor K. Farrell, Councilor A. MacHaffie, Councilor K. McGlonn, Councilor C. Soltysiak, Councilor D. Ballard, Councilor M. Golden, Councilor M. Marlowe, Councilor J. Bruno, Councilor J. Lugar and Councilor A. Khalil.
 - **Council members absent:** None at this time.
 - **Others Present:** Manager G. Locke, Chief A. DiValentino, Solicitor S. Kilkenny, Engineer K. Hassan, Public Works Foreman K. Riggins, Mayor A. Dobbs, and Director of Finance R. Ware.
4. **Approval of Minutes: December 11th, 2019 and January 6th, 2020:** On motion of President D. Pancoe, seconded by Councilor K. Farrell, the motion approving the December 11th, 2019 and January 6th, 2020 council minutes were approved unanimously.
5. **Approval of payrolls dated December 19th, 2019, January 2nd, and January 16th in the amount of \$334,745.32 and invoices totaling \$213,417.81.** On motion of Councilor D. Ballard, seconded by Councilor C. Soltysiak, the motion approving December 19th, 2019, January 2nd, and January 16th in the amount of \$334,745.32, which includes sick pay buy back and invoices totaling \$213,417.81 approved unanimously.
6. **Public Comment:** None at this time.
7. **Presentations:**
 - **Susanne Lockhart, Brown & Caldwell; Act 537 Special Study - Cheltenham Twp. Asset Sale:** Susanne Lockhart on behalf of Brown & Caldwell as well as Frederick Gerloff, on behalf of AQUA Pennsylvania, appeared before Council to present and answer questions regarding the Act 537 Special Study Cheltenham Township Asset Sale.
 - **U&O Ordinance - Lateral Inspection Information Update:** Engineer K. Hassan provided an informational update regarding the lateral inspection program. Since the inception of the 2017 resale Ordinance, approximately 111 laterals have been inspected, 57 of those laterals have been found to be in compliance. 32 of the laterals required replacement and / or repair, 7 required a cleanout, and 15 required jetting. Additionally, Engineer K. Hassan read a statement from David Burke, Watershed Manager of the Department of Environmental Protection. The statement read as follows:

Thank you for your invitation to attend the January 22 Borough Council meeting. Unfortunately, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection is unable to attend and present. Below please find comments that may be shared with Borough Council and meeting attendees.

DEP understands that Jenkintown Borough enacted an ordinance in May 2017 that provided for the inspection of privately-owned sewer laterals as a condition of obtaining a Use and

Occupancy certification when properties are transferred. Further, we understand that there are some citizens who are questioning the need for such a requirement.

We have reviewed the document posted on the Borough's website titled "Understanding the U&O Ordinance: An Overview." In this document the Borough explains some of the reasons why it is important to keep moving forward with inspections and maintenance of the underground infrastructure. Below please find supplemental information from the Department's perspective:

Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) are a primary motivation for towns to implement a program of inspections and repairs. The Borough is correct to mention the need for controlling the costs of sewage treatment, and the need to restore sewer capacity so that new connections can be approved; but equally important is the need to eliminate the risk of wet weather SSOs.

As the Borough knows, Cheltenham Township has been the subject of a great deal of attention from DEP for hydraulic overload in the sewer system. In 2017 Cheltenham Township began to implement a township-wide program of inspections and repairs covering both the publicly-owned sewers and the private laterals. DEP believes that private laterals in Cheltenham are a significant source of inflow and infiltration, and they should be systematically addressed.

Jenkintown is not alone in requiring sewer lateral inspections upon the sale of a home. Several of Jenkintown's neighbor municipalities have enacted ordinances that not only prohibit stormwater and groundwater from being introduced to the sewer system, but also allows them to perform inspections of private property as necessary, after providing notice to the property owner. These municipalities are finding a balance that provides for fairness as well as crucial maintenance of infrastructure, which benefits all citizens.

Linda McGrath, 411 Cedar Street, asked if the Department of Environmental Protection could quantify the amount of Inflow and Infiltration the laterals are contributing versus the mains.

Andrew Smith, 200 Hillside Avenue, noted that the information received from David Burke contradicts the information he received from the Department of Environmental Protection. Additionally, Mr. Smith noted that he believes the ordinance is "totally immoral and unjust" and that residents are looking at approximately \$12,000 to replace laterals determined to need replacement by the Borough.

8. Committee Reports

- **Administration and Finance:** Councilor D. Ballard noted that the committee meeting information can be found in the packets. Councilor D. Ballard noted that the 2020 budget workshops have been completed. Additionally, Councilor D. Ballard highlighted that the Borough is moving forward with the discussions regarding EV charging stations.
- **Building, Zoning and Revitalization:** Councilor K. Farrell noted that the committee meeting information can be found in the packets. Councilor K. Farrell highlighted that Jean Brillman, president of JCA, appeared before the committee to discuss the Jenkintown Community Alliance hosting the farmers market in conjunction with the Rec Board.
- **Public Safety:** Councilor J. Lugar noted that the committee meeting information can be found in the packets. Councilor J. Lugar highlighted that the Fire Commission is almost completed the Standard Operating Guideline.
- **Public Works:** Vice President J. Conners noted that the committee meeting information can be found in the packets. Vice President J. Conners highlighted that the poles have been removed throughout town and thanked Public Works for the diligence on that project. Additionally, the PECO 2020 Gas Main Infrastructure Replacement Project will begin in early February.
- **Jenkintown School District:** Councilor K. McGlenn noted that she along with Borough Manager G. Locke will be meeting with the School District tomorrow, January 23rd. There have been concerns raised that the

School District is not shoveling their sidewalk, which Councilor K. McGlonn noted that she will be discussing with the School District.

- **Jenkintown Community Alliance:** Councilor K. Farrell noted that Jenkintown Community Alliance currently has a full board and will be hosting a community meeting at Church of Our Saviour on March 3rd at 7:00 PM. Additionally, the JCA is working to complete their budget.
- **Multi-Municipal Group:** No Report.

9. Engineers Report: Engineer K. Hassan noted that there was a report with the monthly meeting materials.

10. Public Works Report: Public Works Foreman. K. Riggins noted that there was a report with the monthly meeting materials. Public Works Foreman. K. Riggins highlighted that PECO has removed all but five utility poles and completed temporary restoration. The five poles remaining still have wires attached, and the wires must be removed prior to the pole being removed and restoration completed. Additionally, Public Works Foreman. K. Riggins noted that he has been PECO on the splice boxes along York Road and the tripping hazards the boxes were creating. Public Works Foreman. K. Riggins has a meeting with a PECO representative to show them the boxes along York Road.

11. Solicitor's Report: Solicitor S. Kilkenny noted that the Solicitors Office is working with the Borough regarding various projects such as the ongoing historic register update, zoning code updates. Additionally, Solicitor S. Kilkenny noted that they are working with the Borough on right to know submittals and other legal questions such as conditional use and land development requirements.

12. Mayor's Report: Mayor A. Dobbs highlighted that she has been a part of the PA Montco Counts initiative for the 2020 Census. Mayor A. Dobbs notes that she will be sending out information via social media blasts regarding the Census.

13. Police Chief's Report: Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that there was a report with the monthly meeting materials. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the accreditation compliance report can be found with the monthly meeting materials.

14. Manager's Report: Borough Manager G. Locke noted that there was a report with the monthly meeting materials. Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that National Water Main Cleaning Company has begun the sewer lining project in town. The Borough will be notifying residents via email blasts and social media posts as well as door knob hangers will be placed on the properties directly affected. Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that this project is non-excavation and completed with grant funding.

* Councilor C. Soltysiak was absent for the following votes.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Certificate of Payment #1: PA Small Water & Sewer Grant: Councilor D. Ballard made a motion, seconded by Vice President J. Conners, to pay National Water Main Cleaning Company in the amount of \$54,382.75 for the 2019 Sanitary Sewer Lining and Spot Repair as per Pennoni Associates recommendation.

Motion approved 11-0

2. FEMA Safer (Staffing for Fire & Emergency Response) Grant RFP – Marketing and Advertising: Councilor J. Lugar made a motion, seconded by Councilor A. Khalil, to

Motion approved 11-0

NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION:

Councilor J. Lugar made a motion, seconded by President D. Pancoe, to appoint W.R. Smeal Consulting to complete an assessment and study of the Jenkintown Police Department.

After no public comment received, motion approved 11-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On motion of President D. Pancoe, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno, the motion to move into Executive Session for discussion of matters of real estate and litigation.

At the conclusion of Executive Session, President D. Pancoe announced that an Executive Session was held for the purpose of discussing matters of real estate and litigation. A motion made by Vice President J. Conners seconded by Councilor A. MacHaffie to go back into the public meeting passed unanimously

ADJOURNMENT: On motion of Vice President J. Conners, seconded by Councilor J. Lugar, the motion adjourning the meeting passed unanimously.