



JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

February 22nd, 2023

7:00 P.M. Borough Hall 700 Summit Avenue, Jenkintown Pennsylvania
(Also - Live Streamed ZOOM to Borough Facebook Page)

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** President J. Connors called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor G. Lerman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call:**
 - **Council Members Present:** Councilor A. Khalil, Councilor A. MacHaffie, Councilor A. Bartlett, Councilor D. Ballard, President J. Connors, Vice President C. Soltysiak (ZOOM), Councilor D. Pancoe, Councilor J. Bruno, and Councilor M. Marlowe.
 - **Councilor Members Absent:** Councilor A. Narva (Excused), Councilor C. Sperger, and Councilor K. McGlonn (Excused)
 - **Others Present:** Manager G. Locke, Chief T. Scott, Solicitor P. Hitchens, Engineer M. Bickerton, Fire Marshal K. Lynch, and Mayor G. Lerman
4. **Approval of Minutes: January 25th, 2023:** On motion made by President J. Connors, seconded by Councilor D. Ballard, the motion approving the January 25, 2023 council meeting minutes was approved unanimously.
5. **Approval of Payrolls dated January 26th and February 9th in the amount of \$222,959.65 and Invoices totaling \$403,590.37. (*includes \$52,465.20 to the Uniformed Police Officers who choose to “sellback” their unused sick time per the collective bargaining agreement.):** On motion made by Councilor D. Ballard, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno, the motion approving payrolls dated January 26th and February 9th in the amount of \$222,959.65 and invoices totaling \$403,590.37 (includes \$52,465.20 to the Uniformed Police Officers who chose to “sellback” their unused sick time per the collective bargaining agreement.) was approved unanimously.
6. **Public Comment (Not pertaining to Public Hearing):** Dan Bergman, resident at 401 Highland was asking for guidance about having a Mother’s Day Event on April 29, 2023 (Rain Date – April 30, 2023. Solicitor P. Hitchens recommend he bring this up during the Workshop Meeting in March. Councilor A. Khalil thanked him for his service to the community and Councilor D. Pancoe commented being in favor. Maureen Lucak, resident at 115 Cedar, asked about keeping the Retention Basin clean from oil spills with a 5 Minute Oil business opening. She also mentioned seeing graffiti at 610 York Rd. Solicitor P. Hitchens said he would address the concerns for 101 York during the Public Hearing. Councilor A. Khalil asked about the oil removal to which Solicitor P. Hitchens responded with it is the responsibility of the land owner.
7. **Presentations**
 - **Police Officer(s) Commendations:** Officer Cory Murtagh and Sargent Albert Sulpizio (will be present at the March Meeting) were recognized for apprehending an armed suspect on York Rd that initially began in a residence on Greenwood Ave. Officer Rory Tuffy and Detective Sangree were recognized for apprehending an individual responsible for weapons crimes and check fraud impacting at least 50 victims.
 - **Fire Fighter(s) – Recognition of Training Accomplishments:** Firefighter I - Julia Brandt and Liam Casey; Firefighter II – Josh Everetts, Sam Ford, John Nungesser, and David Litts

8. Public Hearing – Sub-Division and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO)

Consideration to Adopt Ordinance 2023-1 by Council: Representatives to testify are as follows: Allie Danilak (Jenkintown Planning Commission) and Marlee Bice (County Planner). Mayor G. Lerman thanked both women for their countless hours of work that was put into updating this ordinance. Councilor Pancoe asked how this new ordinance would impact existing development projects. Solicitor P. Hitchens stated only new applications submitted after approval would be impacted. Councilor D. Ballard asked Allie to elaborate on some of the consistencies between the drafts. Ms. Danilak referred back to the Power Point Presentation about the sidewalk and parking lot improvements (landscaping). A motion made by President J. Connors, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno, to adopt Ordinance 2023-1 amending the entirety of Chapter 160 titled Sub-Division and Land Development (SALDO) was approved unanimously.

9. Committee Reports:

- **Administration and Finance:** Councilor D. Ballard noted Ms. Smith has completed reconciliation of January and that Financial report will be in Borough Council packet, the year-end DCED and Liquid Fuel filings were completed and submitted by the required deadlines. Councilor D. Ballard also mentioned the Borough Auditor has begun the annual audit process with Finance Manager Smith. The Auditor will be onsite beginning February 21st through February 24th. Councilor D. Ballard said the 2023 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN update) funding process is complete.
- **Building, Zoning and Revitalization:** Councilor J. Bruno stated she attended the Planning Commission meeting and wanted to add regarding the SALDO being 77 pages long and giving great thanks to those who helped with drafting the new Ordinance. Councilor J. Bruno also mentioned the committee is still exploring short term rental ordinances. Councilor J. Bruno also provided updates on several development projects. Councilor D. Pancoe asked about the Boarding/Rooming House. Solicitor P. Hitchens answered by reminding Council they asked him to take a few concerns back to the Planning Commission including the fencing material and he is waiting for a draft of the ordinance. Councilor A. Khalil asked about the fencing. Solicitor P. Hitchens stated the Planning Commission is still considering language. Councilor D. Ballard asked about room rentals. Solicitor P. Hitchens explained the difference between room/boarding rental and short-term rental. Solicitor P. Hitchens went on to mention the appeals of conditional use of 93 York and Johnson Street projects are both with the Common Pleas Court. Councilor D. Pancoe asked about the timeline – no update could be given by Solicitor P. Hitchens. Councilor J. Bruno asked about the Zoning Hearing Board meeting for Johnson Street. Solicitor P. Hitchens said despite the appeal, they can continue with the other developmental aspects of the project. President J. Connors mentioned Grace Presbyterian would like to have a presentation on March 20th about the upgrades they'd like to complete. After discussion between President J. Connors, Councilors D. Ballard, J. Bruno and D. Pancoe, it was suggested President J. Connors ask Grace if they can have a presentation at the next Committee Workshop Meeting scheduled for February 15th.
- **Public Safety:** Vice President C. Soltysiak mentioned the Police Officer Commendations and the Fire Fighter Training Accomplishments that already took place earlier in the evening. She also mentioned the 2040 Submittal for York Road Safety Project Grant. Vice President C. Soltysiak noted some updates from the Fire Commission meeting: discussion of consolidating the two fire companies, training, standard operating procedures and ongoing meetings. She also mentioned retiring the radio identifiers. Vice President C. Soltysiak noted Truck 96 had issues and had to be placed out of service and they are considering options after a thorough evaluation of the truck can be made. Public safety will not be affected.
- **Second Alarmers:** Ken Davidson gave thanks for the ambulance funding as EMS funding in a serious crisis. Mr. Davidson promoted other municipalities to participate in funding through taxation. He mentioned this year is their 85th Anniversary and is looking forward to working with Jenkintown Borough. Mr. Davidson's final note was highlighting from the monthly report they ordered new vehicles in 2021; those for 2023 not yet in service. Councilor M. Marlowe asked about the Membership Drive. Mr. Davidson stated it is a mailing to all residents and confirmed they only use third party billing; no personal cost. Revenue from the campaign can be between \$375,000 to 400,000. This helps with funding but it's not significant. President J. Connors asked what does a new ambulance cost. Ken Davidson said the ambulance with the lights is roughly \$250,000 plus another \$40,000 for the equipment.
- **Public Works:** Councilor D. Sines Pancoe mentioned pipes break but our Public Works Department gets

them repaired quickly. In addition, they had to recently repair a sewer meter. Foreman Riggins is conducting a street light survey and working to fix those that are broken. Councilor D. Pancoe noted winter weather preparations are in place in the event we do get snow. There are some bids currently outstanding that have not been submitted yet but ready to go such as the School zone sign on Walnut Street. She deferred to Manager Locke/Engineer M. Bickerton about the paving project.

- **Jenkintown School District:** Councilor A. Narva not in attendance – no updates at this time.
- **Jenkintown Community Alliance:** Councilor C. Sperger not in attendance – no updates at this time.
- **Police Work Group:** Councilor K. McGlenn not in attendance – no updates at this time.
- **Jenkintown Human Rights Commission:** Councilor A. Khalil – No complaints/comments at this time.

8. Engineer's Report: Mark Bickerton noted having received no response about the paving project. Manager Locke mentioned they are waiting for warmer weather. When asked by Councilor D. Pancoe why we must wait to advertise, Solicitor P. Hitchens explained there is a short period of time after being awarded the contract to start the work, so it's best to wait for warmer weather. Engineer M. Bickerton noted the paving season is April 1 to October 31. They are completing the land development reviews. M. Bickerton's office assisted with the MONTCO 2040 signage for York/Greenwood (no left/ no right turn). Councilor Pancoe asked when the pedestrian sign at that location would be fixed. Manager Locke stated it was brought to the attention of the Consortium the Friday after it was discovered missing. Councilor Ballard asked if an Out of Order sign could be temporarily placed. Manager Locke confirmed it is just the outer box; the inside is missing.

9. Public Works' Department Report: Jim Riggins was not in attendance – Manager Locke will provide updates during Manager's report.

10. Solicitor's Report: Solicitor P. Hitchens had nothing to report.

11. Mayor's Report: Mayor G. Lerman mentioned the Pinewood Derby coming up in early April and anyone is welcome. Mayor G. Lerman gave a reminder to check helmets and bikes as the warmer weather is coming. He was asked to perform a wedding next month at Borough Hall. Councilor D. Ballard asked if there would be a ribbon cutting. Mayor Lerman said he is currently looking to get new ones.

12. Police Chief's Report: Chief T. Scott noted needing two more crossing guards. As previously brought up by Vice President C. Soltysiak, the Police department was awarded a \$267,000 grant to purchase body cams, Tasers, virtual reality goggles and upgrade the computer software. We participated in the Montgomery County Consortium and received 10 applications to review. Chief Scott is working with Manager Locke to consolidate onto one network. He is looking ahead to plan some future events such as a bike rodeo with the school district. There is funding we can use to award helmets to children practicing good bicycle safety. The Chief of the Cheltenham Police Department reached out and asked Jenkintown to participate in a Citizen Police Academy. Some other ideas mentioned were Breaking Bread and Coffee with a Cop. Chief Scott stated the new towing ordinance will be advertised and additional part time officers will be hired. Councilor Khalil asked about the Citizen Police Academy and Chief Scott explained the concept. The Department still has some Steering Wheel Locks which were provided by Hyundai. We are still waiting to hear if Kia will participate. Chief Scott will be attending Officer Fitzgerald's service on Friday.

13. Manager's Report: Manager G. Locke noted Councilor D. Pancoe covered most of the Public Works updates as part of her report. Jim Riggins working with Code Enforcement to check grease traps. Most of the Pedestrian light parts are in and looking to do repairs next week. Manager Locke mentioned receiving notice the DEP funded the 904 Grant with \$11,000; up \$1,000.00 from the year before. Manager Locke completed yesterday the request for a DCD grant to get 34 new trash and recycling cans for the community. Manager Locke noted many zoning and building permits continue to come in. Manager Locke is working on the SAM.gov numbers in order to consolidate under one. He is also working on staffing assignments and job descriptions. Councilor A. Khalil asked what is being done with the benches in Town Square. Manager G. Locke said the Public Works Department is resurfacing them. President J. Connors noted a conversation he had with Joe Duffy who is involved with the JYA asked about money to be used for dugouts for Alverthorpe Park in Abington. A discussion about the kiosk in Town Square took place between Manager G. Locke and Councilors D. Ballard and A. Bartlett. Manager Locke said he is looking to replace or repair it. Councilor D. Pancoe asked if an electronic board could exist instead of a pin board. It was mentioned this could be a project for the JCA. After additional comments, Solicitor P. Hitchens noted having to think about if any of the ideas proposed play into an ordinance.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance # 2023-1 Chapter 160 “Subdivision and Land Development”:** At the conclusion of the presentation President J. Connors made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno, to adopt Ordinance 2023-1 amending the entirety of Chapter 160 titled Sub-Division and Land Development (SALDO) was approved unanimously.
2. **Appointments to Subcommittee of Council for PBA Negotiations:** President J. Connors made a motion, seconded by J. Bruno, to appoint Mayor G. Lerman, Councilor M. Marlowe, himself and Councilor D. Ballard as an alternate to the Subcommittee of Council for PBA Negotiations
Motion Approved 9-0
3. **Resolution 2023-8 MONTCO 2040 Implementation Grant:** Councilor D. Ballard made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to adopt Resolution 2023-8 submitting the MONTCO 2040 Implementation Grant Application to fund the York Road (RT611) Safety Plan.
Motion Approved 9-0
4. **Resolution #2023-9 – Waiver of Land Development - 101 York Road:** Councilor J. Bruno made a motion, seconded by M. Marlow to adopt Resolution 2023-9 granting the waiver of land development, to ‘Take Five Oil Change’ at 101 York Road.
Solicitor P. Hitchens addressed concerns voiced earlier in the meeting about the oil disposal cleanup and storm water. The property owner is required to maintain storm water facility – provision is included.
Motion Approved 9-0
5. **Ordinance 2023-2 – Permission to Advertise:** Vice President C. Soltysiak made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to advertise Ordinance 2023-2 Borough Towing and Storage Ordinance. Chief T. Scott explained the ordinance in more detail when asked by Councilor D. Pancoe.
Motion Approved 9-0
6. **Emergency Management Coordinator – Appointment:** Vice President C. Soltysiak made a motion, seconded by A. Khalil, to Appoint Police Chief Thomas Scott as the Emergency Management Coordinator.
Motion Approved 9-0

NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION: None at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion made by President J. Connors, seconded by Councilor D. Pancoe, the motion adjourning the meeting at 9:01 PM passed unanimously.