



## JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

### PUBLIC MEETING

April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 7:00 P.M.

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 7:06 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** President J. Connors led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call:**
  - **Council Members Present:** Councilor A. Khalil (ZOOM), Councilor A. MacHaffie, Councilor A. Bartlett, Councilor A. Narva, Councilor D. Ballard, President J. Connors, Councilor K. McGlenn, Councilor J. Bruno
  - **Council Members Absent:** Vice President C. Soltysiak (Excused), Councilor D. Pancoe (Excused), Councilor C. Sperger, Councilor M. Marlowe
  - **Others Present:** Manager G. Locke, Chief T. Scott, Solicitor P. Hitchens, Engineer M. Bickerton
4. **Approval of Minutes: March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023:** On motion made by President J. Connors, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno, the motion approving the March 22, 2023 council meeting minutes was approved unanimously.
5. **Approval of Payrolls dated March 23<sup>rd</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$235,857.80 and Invoices totaling \$314,752.75:** On motion made by Councilor D. Ballard, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno, the motion approving payrolls dated March 23<sup>rd</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$235,857.80 and Invoices totaling \$314,752.75 was approved unanimously.
6. **Public Comment:** None at this time.
7. **Committee Reports:**
  - **Administration and Finance:** Councilor D. Ballard gave the following updates:
    - **Borough Monthly Reporting:** Ms. Smith and the Borough Accountant have completed reconciliation of March and that Financial report is available in the Borough Council packet.
    - **2022 Borough Liquid Fuel Audit:** The Borough has received word from the Auditor General's office that they would be onsite April 18th to begin the audit of the Liquid Fuel Fund account for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 years. The audit has begun, and the requested documents are being provided.
    - **Meeting and Report with Borough Pension Actuary:** The borough Pension Committee met with the borough pension actuary John Vargas from Conrad Siegel to learn about the current funding status of the borough's police and non-uniformed pensions. After strong market years in 2020 and 2021, the pension fund market value returns fell by nearly 17 percent, although when returns are expressed after actuarial adjustments the 2022 returns were slightly positive. These market results have reduced the funding ratios in the two programs and are likely to affect the borough's Minimum Municipal Obligation to fund the pension accounts later in the year. The Borough and Borough Council remain committed to continue funding the pensions of borough staff and to meeting all future funding requirements.

- **Building, Zoning and Revitalization:** Councilor J. Bruno gave the following updates:
  - At the next workshop scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Commission will attend to discuss Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). Councilor K. McGlonn asked for a definition. Councilor J. Bruno Gave an explanation and stated this is just the preliminary stage.
  - **415/425 Johnson Street – 419 York Road – Commercial / Apartments:** Project has Conditional Use approval for Apartment building use from Borough Council. The Zoning Hearing Board has granted the requested zoning relief (17 apartments). Approvals required – 1) PaDep / Aqua - EDU releases, 2) Preliminary and final land development, 3) Design review and 4) UCC building permits.
  - **501 Washington Lane – Apartment building:** All approvals are in place. Interior demolition plan has been issued. Land Development has been approved and agreements are being signed. UCC Building permits are under review. PaDep is reviewing the EDU application.
- **Public Safety:** President J. Connors gave the following updates in Vice President C. Soltysiak's absence:
  - **Borough - MONTCO 2040 Implementation Grant – application submitted for York Road (RT 611) Safety Plan:** This Engineered plan was designed and approved by PennDOT. It was originally submitted to the County under the Transportation Grant program but was not approved. The plan was put together working with Business owners, residents, Borough Council and the Borough Traffic Engineer. It incorporates many different safety features including larger signage, pavement markings, non-static programmable electronic speed limit signage, pavement markings and rumble striping at crosswalks. The Borough has been successful at being awarded funding under this specific grant program for three other projects within the Borough and having a pre-approved PennDOT plan and a shovel ready project should look favorable on this project funding application as well. Grant application was submitted prior to the deadline.
  - **PennDOT / Multi-Municipal Coordination Meeting:** A second coordination meeting set up by Napoleon Nelson's office with PennDOT and Municipal Managers and staff to discuss issues that have developed or are ongoing that the Borough could benefit by speaking with PennDOT, County and adjacent municipalities directly. The meeting was held and PennDOT has conducted a survey and analysis of Walnut Street and Hillside, as well as Walnut/Rodman. York Road traffic calming plan was discussed and an alternative 48x48 (larger) reduced Speed Zone Ahead signs were approved at each end of the Borough limits entering the Borough and the 25 MPH speed zone.
  - **Police Department Body Cameras Deployed:** The Police Department has trained all personnel and deployed the Axon Body Camera 3's for all personnel. The Department is waiting for new in-car cameras as part of the PCCD Grant purchase. In addition, the Department received fourteen new Taser 7's that are being issued to officers after they are trained.
  - **Police Department New AED's:** The Police Department received four new Zoll AED's to replace the old AED's. The AED's were donated from the Abington Health Foundation and received on Friday, April 14, from Dr. Gerard Cleary, Senior VP, Chief of Staff, and Chief Medical Officer Jefferson Health- Abington, and Dr. Seth Newman, Medical Staff President Jefferson Abington Hospital
- **Public Works:** Councilor A. MacHaffie gave the following updates in Councilor D. Pancoe's absence:
  - **Newbold / Vernon Roads – Proposed Bike Share Lanes and Signage:** Public information and fact finding - Abington Township has submitted a MONTCO Grant application for share / bike lanes with pavement markings and signage. The plans connect Washington Lane to Rydal Road through Newbold Road and Vernon Roads as part of the larger MONTCO/Township coordinated effort on Bike paths.
  - **Pedestrian Crossings – York Road: Greenwood/York** - Electric Pedestrian light and blacktop surface repaired. **Rydal/York** – Ped buttons confirmed to be working and ped lights timing checked with certified stopwatch. **Washington/York** – Ped buttons confirmed to be working and ped lights timing checked with certified stopwatch.
  - **Greenwood Avenue / York Road – Enhanced Directional Signage:** Traffic Engineer made site observations and produced sketch of additional directional and do not enter signage at Greenwood Avenue. The sketch has been submitted to PennDOT for preliminary approval. Once approval is obtained the Traffic Control permit will be required to be amended and approved by PennDOT.

- **Newbold Road/Vernon Road Paving Project – Update:** The paving project has been publicly advertised in a newspaper of general circulation and listed on PennBid system for public bidding. The public bids will be opened on Friday, April 21st at 11:00 AM.
- **Stormwater Pipe Investigation / Repair – Greenwood Avenue:** The stormwater pipe along Greenwood Avenue still requires attention. The pipe is not shown on plans, source and termination point is unknown. Franc Environmental was contracted to flush and video the line but was unable to determine where the line originates or where it terminates. Passerini Construction has been contracted to perform exploratory excavation to determine where the pipe can be connected to the existing storm water system.
- **SEPTA - Flood Mitigation, Stream Restoration Project (Update):** The work for the creek restoration and flood mitigation work and communication continues. SEPTA's contractor is still planning to start the 24-hour jack-and-bore operation the first week of May and notifications to adjacent property owners will take place by SEPTA as well as the Borough email blast. This round-the-clock work is expected to take approximately 24 days to complete.
- **Jenkintown School District:** Councilor A. Narva gave the following updates:
  - The School Board approved a proposed and final budget and will walk Council through it next month.
  - Next year's academic calendar was also approved.
  - Next year's Graduation Day will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday instead of the traditional 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday due to the way the dates fall.
- **Jenkintown Community Alliance:** Councilor C. Sperger Absent so no updates.
- **Jenkintown Human Rights Commission:** Councilor A. Khalil – No Updates.

**8. Engineer's Report:** Mark Bickerton gave the following updates:

- School Zone Extensions bids tomorrow.

**9. Public Works' Department Report:** Jim Riggins absent so any updates will be included with Manager's Report.

**10. Solicitor's Report:** Solicitor P. Hitchens said his office will continue to offer Legal Services on an as needed or requested basis.

**11. Mayor's Report:** Mayor G. Lerman absent so no updates.

**12. Police Chief's Report:** Chief T. Scott gave the following updates:

- We are in the process of hiring another crossing guard.
- We are working on the Towing Ordinance; advertising it.
- The first submission for reimbursement to the PCCD for the \$111,000 grant was completed.
- The computer server transfer for the entire Borough/Police Department is underway.
- A Commendation for Sgt. Sulpizio will be moved to next month.
- The Police Department still has Steering Wheel Locks for Jenkintown residents.
- The Department is working on a Summer Safety Merit Program.
- Budget money reallocated from Part Time Officer line item to OverTime.

**13. Manager's Report:** Manager G. Locke gave the following updates:

- Mill and Overlay Project – Helped to save money as compared to last year – Vote on it tonight.
- Audits – General Audit – went well; no findings.
  - Pension Audit started today; will be an extended process
- Public Works Updates:
  - Jim Riggins and his team have been doing public space cleanup including cutting the grass and pulling weeds at Cedar Street Park. One shrub died over the winter and blew over due to the recent heavy winds.
  - There is a Spring Artisan Market this Saturday 12 PM – 4 PM
    - This is held by Evergreen Events
    - Rain Date is Sunday 1 PM – 5 PM

- A past-due balance with TD Bank has been resolved.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- 1. Resolution 2023-13 – Act 537 Plan Revision for Land Development, 821 Homestead Road:** Councilor J. Bruno made a motion, seconded by Councilor A. MacHaffie to approve Resolution 2023-13, Act 537 Plan Revision for Land Development, 821 Homestead Road.

Motion Approved 8 - 0

- 2. 2023 Mill & Overlay Project – Issuance of Intent to Award Project:** Councilor D. Ballard made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to issue the “Intent to Award” for the 2023 Mill & Overlay Project to the apparent low bidder, Gorecon Inc., for the total bid of \$186,125.00, contingent upon the Contractor supplying the required Responsible Contractor Ordinance documentation during the 30-day RCO review period. Documentation is required for the contractor and all subcontractors.

Motion Approved 8 – 0

Councilor J. Bruno asked if everything is in accordance, what is the next step? Mgr. G. Locke and Solicitor P. Hitchens confirmed it would come back to Full Council for a vote.

**NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION:** Nothing at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** It was noted at the top of this meeting that an Executive Session was held to discuss personnel matters prior to this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President J. Connors adjourned the meeting at 7:36 PM.