



**JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
March 27th, 2024
7:00 P.M.
700 Summit Avenue, Jenkintown Pennsylvania
(Also - Live Streamed via ZOOM to the 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 Lerman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call:**
 - **Council Members Present:** Councilor A. Khalil, Councilor A. MacHaffie, Councilor D. Ballard, President J. Connors, Councilor D. Pancoe, Councilor G. Lewis, Councilor S. Spindler, Councilor J. Bruno, Councilor M. Marlowe
 - **Council Members Absent:** Councilor A. Bartlett, Councilor A. Narva (Excused), Vice President C. Soltysiak (Excused)
 - **Others Present:** Mgr. G. Locke, Chief T. Scott, Mayor G. Lerman, Solicitor P. Hitchens, Engineer K. Hassan, and Fire Chief K. Lynch
4. **Approval of Minutes – February 28th** Mgr. G. Locke stated the minutes were not completed.
5. **Approval of payrolls dated March 7th & 22nd in the amount of 165,209.77 and invoices totaling 103,083.85:** On motion made by Councilor D. Ballard seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to approve payrolls dated March 7th and 22nd \$165,209.77 and invoices totaling \$103,083.85 was approved unanimously.
6. **Public Comment:** None at this time.

Reports

7. **Engineer's Report:** Khal Hassan, Pennoni gave the following updates:
 - 3 ongoing projects
 - 821 Homestead
 - On schedule and sewer improvement almost completed by PECO
 - 501 Washington Lane
 - Moving forward
 - 93 York Road
 - Foundations are being poured.
 - They continue to assist the Borough with sanitary sewer issues.

(00:06:57) Councilor G. Lewis asked if there is a target date for completion for the 821 Homestead Project. Engineer K. Hassan said possibly end of 2024, early 2025.

(00:08:05) Councilor A. Khalil made a comment about 93 York Road and how it appears to be moving along; looks good.

8. Public Works' Department Report: Foreman J. Riggins was absent so updates will be provided along with the Manager's report.

9. Solicitor's Report: Solicitor P. Hitchens gave the following update:

- The Solicitor's office continues to provide legal services on an as needed or requested basis.

10. Mayor's Report: Mayor G. Lerman gave the following updates:

- The Spring Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 6th.
- WHY? did a feature on the Hiway Theater and highlighted how their management organization has revitalized this venue.

11. Police Chief's Report: Chief of Police T. Scott gave the following updates:

- Statistics are still being collected by the speed signs at York Road and Highland Avenue.
 - Highland Avenue – statistics are showing people are driving on average less than 25 mph.
 - York Road – there were four locations where data was collected. Reductions have been seen. The folks driving at higher speeds are usually between 4 to 7 AM and 11 PM – 12 AM. The timing of the lights at West and Greenwood are affecting the traffic and slowing people down.
 - **(00:14:19)** Councilor A. Khalil asked about the number of traffic stops. Chief T. Scott said he would have to look back at the numbers. This led to a discussion between Councilors A. Khalil, D. Pancoe, D. Ballard Engineer K. Hassan and Chief T. Scott.

12. Manager's Report; Borough Manager G. Locke gave the following updates:

- Conducted meetings with citizens to discuss the budget.
- 2023 Audit almost completed.
- Eagle Scout meeting tomorrow to discuss the Gazebo Project in Town Square.
- Closing out two grants.
 - York Road Traffic Calming
 - Walnut Street School Zone
- Awarded \$90k for Multipurpose vehicle.
- Mgr. G. Locke added there has been a lot of bulk pickup.

(00:26:39) Councilor D. Pancoe thanked Mr. G. Locke for meeting with the residents and reminded publicly there are budget meetings every October through December. Councilor A. Khalil added as several residents did attend these meetings, more should rather than schedule a special time separately.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Rudolph Clarke, LLC – Solicitor to Jenkintown UCC Board of Appeals: President J. Conners made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to appoint the firm of Rudolph Clarke, LLC. as Solicitor to the Jenkintown Borough UCC Board of Appeals.

(00:28:38) Councilor D. Ballard asked what the UCC is. Solicitor P. Hitchens said it is the Uniform Commercial Code and gave an explanation of their purpose.

(00:29:33) Councilor A. Khalil asked who was on this Board. Mgr. G. Locke said Steve Belts, Mark Brunner, Chris McGeehan, Jeff Orkin, and Gary Bachman.

Motion Approved 9 – 0

2. **TTF Watershed Grant Application – Letter of Support:** Councilor D. Ballard made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to approve the issuance of a letter of support to the Tookany-Tacony Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTF) for their grant application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.
Motion Approved 9 – 0

3. **Resolution 2014 -14 MONTCO 2040 Implementation Grant:** Councilor D. Ballard made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to approve Resolution 2024-14 authorizing application of the MONTCO 2040 Implementation grant seeking funding in the amount of \$120,000 for the pedestrian and traffic light upgrades at Runnymede Avenue and Walnut Street.
Motion Approved 9 – 0

4. **Ordinance to Authorize Execution of a Cable Franchise Agreement:** Councilor D. Ballard made a motion, seconded Councilor M. Marlowe to approve the proposed ordinance authorizing the adoption and approval of the cable franchise renewal agreement with Comcast of Willow Grove Pennsylvania, LLC (Comcast) and Jenkintown Borough.
(00:32:07) Councilor Ballard asked for an explanation of the ordinance. Mgr. G. Locke deferred to Solicitor P. Hitchens to provide one.
(00:33:09) Councilor D. Pancoe asked if we have one with Verizon. Mgr. G. Locke said no, but we get funds from them. Solicitor P. Hitchens explained further.
(00:33:56) Councilor D. Pancoe also asked about getting bus shelters along York Road. Solicitor P. Hitchens said Comcast most likely would not agree to do so. Councilor M. Marlowe mentioned individual businesses installed them. President J. Connors recommended we put this topic about bus shelters on the Committee Workshop agenda.
Motion Approved 9 - 0

5. **York Road Traffic Calming Plan - Payment to Contractor:** Councilor D. Ballard made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to authorize final payment (release #2) to Armour and Sons Electric in the amount of \$5,279.15.
Motion Approved 9 – 0

6. **Geo-Technology Associates Inc. – Construction Observation Services:** Councilor J. Bruno made a motion, seconded by Councilor M. Marlowe to approve the construction observation and quality control contract with GTA, Quakertown for the 93 York Road, Giant store project.
(00:39:26) Councilor D. Ballard asked Mgr. G. Locke to describe what this is. An explanation was provided.
Motion Approved 9 – 0

7. **Parking Ordinance Chapter 172 – Advertised Ordinance Revision:** Councilor J. Connors made a motion, seconded by Councilor J. Bruno to adopt Chapter 172 Parking Ordinance revisions as advertised, as it applies to Homestead Road “No Parking”.
Motion Approved 9 – 0

8. **Extension of Workers’ Compensation Coverage – JFP Special Events:** Councilor J. Connors made a motion seconded by Councilor A. Khalil to approve the extension of workers’ compensation coverage to the Jenkintown Fire Police for covering the special events on June 4th ‘Sunset Run’ and September 15th ‘Art’s Fest’, as required by the Fire Department section of the Borough Code §19-10.

00:42:22) Councilor S. Spindler asked if there was an additional cost for this. Mgr. G. Locke said no and gave a brief explanation.

Motion Approved 9 – 0

9. **2024 Explorer Police Interceptor – Gas Model (proposed car #3301):** Councilor J. Connors made a motion, seconded by Councilor A. MacHaffie to authorize purchase of the 2024 Gas model Police Explorer replacing the previous purchase order for the 2022 hybrid Police Explorer due to model unavailability.

(00:43:16) Councilor J. Bruno asked if there was a price difference between the hybrid and gas model. Mgr. G. Locke and Chief T. Scott both commented it was between \$4k – \$5k less.

Councilor D. Pancoe mirrored the disappointment of not having the hybrid available.

Motion Approved 9 – 0

NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION

(00:44:40) Councilor A. Khalil asked if we can add an item to the committee agenda to discuss the Borough paying for Wi-Fi in Town Square.

(00:45:41) Councilor S. Spindler made a comment about the Council packet being made public. Solicitor P. Hitchens gave some feedback.

ADJOURNMENT: President J. Connors adjourned the meeting at 7:48 PM.