



**JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 11th, 2024
6:30 P.M.**

**700 Summit Avenue, Jenkintown Pennsylvania
(Also - Live Streamed via ZOOM to the Borough Facebook Page)**

1. **Call to Order:** President J. Connors called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor G. Lerman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Council Members Present:** Councilor A. Khalil, Councilor A. MacHaffie, Councilor A. Bartlett, Councilor D. Ballard, President J. Connors, Councilor D. Pancoe, Councilor G. Lewis, Councilor J. Bruno, Councilor M. Marlowe, Councilor A. Narva, Vice President C. Soltysiak
 - **Council Members Absent:** Councilor S. Spindler
 - **Others Present:** Mgr. G. Locke, Chief T. Scott, Mayor G. Lerman, Engineer M. Bickerton, Forman J. Riggins
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Councilmember Bruno moved for approval of the minutes. Councilmember Marlowe seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Approval of Payroll and Invoices** Councilmember Ballard moved for approval of payroll dated November 28th in the amount of \$121,275.09 and invoices totaling \$599,756.22. Councilmember Bruno seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Public Comment (00:02:12) :**
 - **Maureen:**
 - expressed concern about safety at the four corners where new handicap ramps are being installed. She suggested closing the road during construction.
 - Manager Lack responded that the road could be closed, but the contractor has not requested it.
 - **Alex Hansen of Beaver Hill:**
 - inquired why the borough has not considered taking back part of the Earned Income Tax allocated to the school district to cover the budget shortfall.
 - Councilmembers and the Manager discussed the implications of such an action, noting the need for coordination with the school district.

- ***Moshe Evan Shoshan of 516 Needham Street:***
 - expressed concern about the proposed reduction in the size of the Jenkintown Police Department (JPD), stating that it would endanger public safety. He called for more efficient management of the JPD and the borough.
- ***Lisa of 408 Leon Street and Mary Martens of 416 Needham Street:***
 - raised concerns about parking and traffic related to the proposed development at the Helen property on Johnson Street.

Reports (00:19:55)

1. *Engineer's Report:*

- Cal Batan provided an update on construction projects, including 21 Homestead, 501 Washington, and the Winter Grocery store.

2. *Public Works Report:*

- Foreman Riggins reported on leaf collection, the Light Up the Square program, and a water main break that occurred on Sunday.

3. *Solicitor's Report:*

- Attorney Walker, reporting on behalf of Solicitor Hitchens, stated that there was nothing notable to report.

4. *Mayor's Report:*

- Mayor Lerman thanked the various individuals and organizations involved in the tree lighting and the 150th-anniversary time capsule dedication.

5. *Police Chief's Report:*

- Chief Scott reported 945 calls for service in November. He provided updates on the transition to ParkMobile, the parking ordinance, police department policies, and crime statistics. He also mentioned an armed robbery that occurred at the Dunkin Donuts on York Road.

6. *Manager's Report:*

- Manager Lack reported that the borough received payment from the DCED for the Cedar Street flooding grant. He also highlighted the awarding of grants totaling \$3,851,398 for various projects.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

7. ***Conditional Use Hearing*** A conditional use hearing was held regarding the application of 459, 471 Old York Road, LLC for the property located at 459 and 471 Old York Road. The applicant proposes to construct a four-story, mixed-use apartment building with 40 units and commercial space.

- **Applicant's Presentation:**
 - Attorney Leonard Altieri presented the case for the applicant, calling architect Joan De Grazia and developer Vincent Salenza as witnesses. They testified about the building design, parking, and compliance with zoning requirements.
 - **Public Comment:**
 - Members of the public raised questions and concerns about parking, traffic, and the impact on the neighborhood.
 - **Decision:**
 - Councilmember Ballard moved to approve the conditional use application subject to the conditions outlined by the solicitor. The motion carried with a vote of 9 to 1, with Councilmember Panco abstaining.
8. **2025 Borough Budget** Councilmember Ballard moved to adopt the 2025 borough budget as advertised and presented. Councilmember Bruno seconded the motion.
 - **Vote:** *Unanimous in favor.*
 9. **2025 Tax Levy** Councilmember Ballard moved to approve Resolution 2024-25, setting the tax levy for 2025. Councilmember Bruno seconded the motion.
 - **Vote:** *Unanimous in favor.*
 10. **Council Committee and Commission Meeting Schedule** Councilmember Connors moved to adopt and advertise the 2025 council committee and commission meeting schedule as presented. Councilmember Ballard seconded the motion.
 - **Vote:** *Unanimous in favor.*
 11. **Police Department Policies** Councilmember Salcio moved to approve the following police department policies: 26.1, 26.1.1, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.0.2A, 1.3.3, 1.3.4, 1.3.5, 1.3.7, 1.3.6, 1.3.9, 1.3.9B, 1.3.9C, and 1.3.10. Councilmember Bruno seconded the motion.
 - **Vote:** *Unanimous in favor.*
 12. **ADA Ramp Project Change Order** Councilmember Panco moved to approve the change order from Albert G. Cipollone and Sons for the additional pedestrian and vehicle safety constructions at Vista and Burnside Roads in an amount not to exceed \$9,579.21. Councilmember Ballard seconded the motion.
 - **Vote:** *Unanimous in favor.*
 13. **2024 Road Paving Project Payment** Councilmember Panco moved to make the first and final payment to Glasgow Paving in the amount of \$116,894.40 for the 2024 road paving project. Councilmember Ballard seconded the motion.
 - **Vote:** *Unanimous in favor.*

Other Business:

14. *Executive Session* Council entered executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

15. *Adjournment:* President J. Connors adjourned the meeting at 8:35 P.M.