

**JENKINTOWN BOROUGH
700 SUMMIT AVENUE
JENKINTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

**MINUTES OF THE JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2025, 7:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Jay Connors	President
Alexandria Khalil	Councilor
Anne MacHaffie	Councilor
Alex Bartlett	Councilor
David Ballard	Councilor
Deborra Sines Pancoe	Councilor
Gordon Lewis	Councilor
Steve Spindler	Councilor
Joanne Bruno	Councilor
Maxine Marlowe	Councilor
Aliza Narva	Councilor

OTHERS PRESENT:

George Locke	Borough Manager
Chief Ken Lynch	Borough Fire Chief
Chief Thomas Scott	Chief of Police
Mark Bickerton	Borough Traffic Engineer
Patrick Hitchens	Solicitor

REGRETS

Christian Soltysiak Vice President

Minutes prepared by Josh Rup of Minutes Solutions Inc. from a video recording.

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, and the Council members having been given adequate and proper notice, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2024, Jenkintown Borough Council meeting as presented. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF PAYROLLS

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Maxine Marlowe, it was resolved to approve payrolls in the amount of \$465,126.14 and invoices totaling \$560,440.48. Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mary Jane Riley commented on the Cedar Street parking situation. She noted that enforcement changes were made without understanding the history of the street and there are no parking issues, as there are multiple spots available. Mary Jane Riley commented that the 800 and 900 blocks of Homestead and the 400 block of Vernon are usually at full capacity regarding parking. The opening of a new establishment (“Giant”) will result in people parking on Cedar Street and Walnut Street and Park Mobile signs should be placed in the area. The individuals that park all day at no charge usually park on Homestead, Vernon, and West.

Mary Jane Hoag, 405 Cedar Street, noted the challenge of parking at her home when she first moved in. Mary Jane Hogue expressed concern regarding the potential parking changes, as she may have to park in Town Square which is far from her home.

Reed Powell, 409 Cedar Street, commented that the residents residing between 400 and 415 Cedar Street manage their parking collaboratively. The resident noted that she is physically disabled and her parking spot has been used by visitors and postal workers unauthorized. The changes to parking will adversely impact residents.

Joe Kroll, 403 Cedar Street, noted that he has a three-car driveway and he parks on his street to allow a neighbor to park on his property. He inquired about the benefit of the potential changes to parking.

Luke Stachowicz, 423 Cedar Street, concurred with the resident’s statements and expressed that the current permit-based parking has been effective. Regarding meter parking, signs will adversely impact property values.

Linda McGrath, 411 Cedar Street, noted that the issue with parking was not clearly explained. She assessed the parking spaces over three days between 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. and determined that there are approximately 80 to 100 available parking spaces in the center of town. The resident commented that Cedar Street is not part of the business district and stated that Chief Thomas Scott’s proposal is unjustified and detrimental to the residents of Jenkintown.

Kate McGeehan, 432 Cedar Street, noted that 26 homes on the 400 block of Cedar Street do not have driveways. She requested that, as the Council votes, they should consider how many people on the block have a physical disability, mobility issue, are elderly, have a chronically ill person in their family, or have children, as voting in favor is detrimental to residents.

John Crow, 424 Cedar Street, noted that permit-based parking has been efficient thus far; however, family and friends have received tickets. He commented that the new system will result in similar issues faced in the past whereby postal workers will park in front of residents’ houses.

Rachel Penny, 425 Cedar Street, concurred with her neighbors’ statements and expressed that it is frustrating and dangerous when residents cannot access their own parking spots especially if there is a vulnerable person in the home. She commented that many households on the street have a member of the family who is retired or works from home; therefore, vehicles moving in the area are usually residents completing errands. She has observed postal workers parking in residents’ spots and they do not leave until 7:00 p.m. Rachel Penny suggested a resident-sponsored permit for caregivers or babysitters. She requested additional information from the Council to allow the residents to respond accordingly.

Bill Fraser, 416 Cedar Street, commented that parking was complex when he moved in and issues are still prevalent. He commented that enforcement has been the issue and a police cruiser should drive around the area periodically to enforce the ordinance in place.

Colleen Duvilla, 402 Cedar Street, concurred with her neighbor's statements and noted that parking and speed limits should be enforced stringently for the benefit of residents.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Engineer's Report

Mark Bickerton noted that cost estimate and sketches are being prepared for the Monaco 2040 grant which is proposing pedestrian enhancements and technical updates at numerous sites throughout the Borough. The Borough could likely make purchases from Co-Star for radar equipment and PICO would offset the cost. The layout for the traffic equipment has been finalized. Preliminary designs have been provided and meetings will be scheduled with the public to present information.

5.2 Solicitor's Report

The solicitor's office continues to provide services on an as-needed and as-requested basis. Patrick Hitchens attended the PC meeting on January 21, 2025, to address questions about the short-term ordinance. It was noted that several topics discussed may be presented to the Council in the near future.

5.3 Mayor's Report

The mayor's report was not provided, as Mayor Lerman was excused from the meeting.

5.4 Police Chief's Report

Chief Thomas Scott noted that the annual report and 2024 statistics were sent to the Council. The reports will be uploaded to the website. Chief Thomas Scott commented that police have been handling complaints by numerous residents throughout the business district and all other parts of the Borough. There has been a change in staff, and a parking enforcement officer has had to deal with parking guards. Enforcement had decreased significantly, and the officer in question had only performed enforcement for approximately two and a half hours. The officer had been asked to assist other administrative staff within the Borough, which became more of a burden on the enforcement of parking.

Chief Thomas Scott noted that, since the police department has been struggling to handle pressing issues, it was proposed that two part-time parking enforcement officers would be hired and the hours of enforcement would be extended for the entire Borough. Streets that had permit-based parking could not accommodate the number of cars present. The ordinance states that residents may only park on their own street with a permit, and Chief Thomas Scott noted the complexity of enforcing streets with permit-based parking while there are discrepancies and loopholes.

It was noted that complaints were received from residents of Cedar Street regarding people who were abusing the permit and three-hour parking. Three-hour parking is at no cost, and Chief Thomas Scott noted the difficulty of enforcing abuse of three-hour parking, as tires cannot be

marked. It was proposed to implement an automated system, Park Mobile, to electronically tag vehicles.

5.5 Manager's Report

Manager George Locke noted that trucks and plows have been operational; however, several salt spreaders were inoperable and they will be repaired by mid-February, 2025, in anticipation of inclement weather. Management staff is working on ADA accommodations in Council chambers and new audio and visual equipment will be obtained. A total of \$800,000 in funding was received to update the Borough Hall. Individual listening devices are available for anyone hearing impaired.

Management is working on DEP EDU allocations for 604 West and 459, 471, and 111 York on their EDU submissions. An engineer has been identified to complete the community playground structural inspection. Phoenix Collision's quote of \$3,577 was approved to paint the fire chief's vehicle.

6. ORDER OF BUSINESS

6.1 Resolution No. 2025-01 – Updating Resolution 2020-20

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Alexandria Kahlil, it was resolved to approve Resolution No. 2025-01 establishing policies and procedures for public meeting. Motion carried.

6.2 Resolution No. 2025-02 – 2025 Note and TAN

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Maxine Marlowe, it was resolved to approve Resolution No. 2025-02 authorizing the 2025 Note and TAN with Fulton Bank. Motion carried.

George Locke noted that the TAN is \$350,000 and it is being borrowed to use in anticipation of the tax receipts that will be received in April, 2025. It is 6% interest.

6.3 Stipulation to Settle – Board of Assessment Appeal

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Anne MacHaffie, it was resolved to approve "Approval of Stipulation to Settle – B.O.A." Parcel No. 10-00-05356-00-7. Motion carried.

6.4 Reassessment Determination – Jenkins Court Realty Co., L.P.

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Joanne Bruno, it was resolved to approve issuance of payment No. 2 of 3, Court's Docket No. 2017-18998, in the amount of \$55,974.57. Motion carried.

6.5 Resolution No. 2025-03 – DEP Act 537 Plan Revision

On a motion made by Joanne Bruno, seconded by Aliza Narva, it was resolved to approve Resolution No. 2025-03 – (DEP) Act 537 Plan Revision for Land Development (604 West, Apartment Building). Motion carried.

6.6 Ordinance 2025-01, Short-Term Rental of Property

On a motion made by Joanne Bruno, seconded by Alexandria Kahlil, it was resolved to approve advertisement to adopt Ordinance 2025-01 (establishing a short-term rental ordinance). Motion carried.

6.7 Ordinance 2025-02, Ch. 172 Vehicles & Traffic Art. III and IV

On a motion made by Jay Connors, seconded by Joanne Bruno, it was resolved to approve the advertisement to adopt Ordinance 2025-02 (amending Art. III and IV of Ch. 172 “Vehicles and Traffic” making comprehensive revisions to parking regulations and metered parking/parking payment zones and Borough-operated parking lots). Motion carried.

On a motion made by Jay Connors, seconded by David Ballard, it was resolved to amend the aforementioned motion to approve the advertisement to adopt Ordinance 2025-02 (amending Art. III and IV of Ch. 172 “Vehicles and Traffic” making comprehensive revisions to parking regulations and metered parking/parking payment zones and Borough-operated parking lots) with the amendments as discussed during the January 22, 2025, Jenkintown Borough Council meeting. Motion carried.

Deborra Sines Pancoe thanked Chief Thomas Scott for his explanation of the police’s enforcement contributions for the past several months. Patrick Hitchens noted that Council can amend the motion to advertise with any changes agreed upon during the meeting.

Deborra Sines Pancoe noted that the chart on Page 2 of Article III should be corrected to state “Johnson to Leedom”. The article should be corrected to state that parking from Florence to the railroad station on the north side is permitted. The term “Business District” on Page 5 should be changed to “Town Center”. Chief Thomas Scott commented that both sides of a street should be designated as permit parking. Chief Thomas Scott suggested that Cedar Street could have a three-hour parking limitation for non-residents. It was proposed that in Article 4, the 400 block of Cedar Street (West Avenue to Hillside Avenue) would be added to the three-hour parking limitation and removed from the 10-hour parking list.

Chief Thomas Scott noted that a temporary visitor pass was implemented for permit parking streets and this should be included in the ordinance. If temporary passes are provided to residents for friends or family, the authorized party that will allow the temporary passes should be noted in the ordinance in addition to limitations. Patrick Hitchens noted that the Council will need to inform the Solicitor’s firm of their direction regarding the temporary visitor pass and its timeframe; otherwise, the motion can be passed assuming the other minor typographical changes will be made. The Council agreed that in Article 3 172-25, Section A will be reinstated and Section B will be added to state that residents residing in a listed street in a parking permit zone can request temporary parking passes for visitors to their residence that will allow their visitor to only park on their street for a specified amount of time designated by the Chief of Police.

Chief Thomas Scott noted that residents who have already purchased a resident’s parking permit via the Borough will be reimbursed. The Council agreed that a fee will be determined on an annual basis.

6.8 Extension of Workers' Compensation Coverage

On a motion made by Jay Connors, seconded by Anne MacHaffie, it was resolved to approve the extension of workers' compensation coverage to the Jenkintown Fire Police during special events on June 3, 2025 (Sunset run) and September 21, 2025 (Art's Fest), as required by the Fire Department section of the Borough Code S.19 – 10. Motion carried.

6.9 Police Department Policies – 35.1.1, 41.2.4, and 41.3.8

On a motion made by Jay Connors, seconded by Gordon Lewis, it was resolved to approve Jenkintown Police Department Policies – 35.1.1, 41.2.4, and 41.3.8. Motion carried.

6.10 Tester Construction Group LLC (501 Washington Lane)

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Joanne Bruno, it was resolved to approve the letter of credit of release in the amount of \$216,903.50 as recommended by the Borough Engineer (12% remaining). Motion carried.

6.11 Midgard Properties LP (821 Homestead Road)

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Joanne Bruno, it was resolved to approve the letter of credit release in the amount of \$87,215 as recommended by the Borough Engineer (18% remaining). Motion carried.

6.12 Albert G. Cipolloni & Sons Inc. – ADA Ramp Project

On a motion made by Deborra Sines Pancoe, seconded by Alex Bartlett, it was resolved to approve Payment Request No. 1 from Albert G Cipolloni & Sons Inc. in the amount of \$86,410.89 as recommended by the Borough Engineer (55% remaining). Motion carried.

6.13 2025 Road Paving Project – West Avenue

On a motion made by Deborra Sines Pancoe, seconded by Aliza Narva, it was resolved to approve designating West Avenue (Florence to West Avenues) to be paved on the 2025 road paving project. Motion carried.

7. NEW BUSINESS

No other items were discussed.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 9:20 p.m.

DISCLAIMER

The above minutes should be used as a summary of the motions passed and issues discussed at the meeting. This document shall not be considered a verbatim copy of every word spoken at the meeting.

Councilor

Councilor

Date

Date