

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

**MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF JENKINTOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 27, 2026, 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS:

Jay Conners	Council President
Christian Soltysiak	Council Vice President
Deborra Sines-Pancoe	Councilor
Steve Spindler	Councilor
Anne MacHaffie	Councilor (from 7:08 p.m.)
David Ballard	Councilor
Alexandria Khalil	Councilor
Joshua Curtin	Councilor
Alex Bartlett	Councilor

REGRETS:

Gordon Lewis	Councilor
Maxine Marlowe	Councilor
Joanne Bruno	Councilor

GUESTS:

George Locke	Borough Manager
Mark Bickerton	Borough Engineer, Pennoni Associates
Patrick Hitchens	Borough Solicitor
Chief Thomas Scott	Chief of Police
Tiffany Fisher	Recording Secretary, Minutes Solutions Inc. (via teleconference)

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, and adequate and proper notice of the meeting having been given, the meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Christian Soltysiak, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Borough of Jenkintown Council meeting held on April 22, 2026, and the Jenkintown Committee workshop meeting held on April 15, 2026, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

4. APPROVAL OF PAYROLLS

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Joshua Curtin, it was resolved to approve payrolls in the amount of \$194,495.86 and invoices in the amount of \$306,181.26. Motion unanimously carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vince McCabe, 112 Walnut street, made note of the flooding that occurred on Cedar Street during the week of May 18, 2026, and requested to discuss the concerns further at the next Public Works meeting.

Eric Silberman, 310 Cedar Street, received a letter regarding rezoning from town center district to modified residential zoning and requested clarification regarding implications to homeowners.

6. K9 KANE – POST HUMOUS RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE JENKINTOWN POLICE

K9 Kane served the Borough from 2016 to 2020. He was trained at Tarheel Canine Training to perform as a dual-purpose dog. He performed drug and patrol work in several different municipalities. The Borough presented a plaque to Anthony Mateo and his family in recognition of K9 Kane's dedicated service to the Jenkintown Police Department and residents.

7. PRESENTATION

7.1 Jenkintown School District – Annual Budget

ACTION – Manager Locke will provide the slide deck used in the Jenkintown School District presentation to the Council.

Lou Kim, business administrator at Jenkintown School District, presented the 2026/2027 proposed final budget. The process includes a public discussion, board review, and final approval before June 30, 2026. The final adoption is scheduled for June 8, 2026.

8. PUBLIC HEARING

Patrick Hitchens opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2026-3 and noted that it is titled "An Ordinance of the Borough of Jenkintown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania Amending the Borough Code to Add a New Chapter Titled Blighted Property Review Committee". It is to establish a committee as required by the Pennsylvania Urban Redevelopment Law for the designation, acquisition, and redevelopment of blighted properties, providing a severability clause and providing an effective date. Four members at minimum are required by the statute.

Document B1, a copy of the draft ordinance itself, was marked into record.

It is not enough to be blighted to be listed as blighted by the committee, as the property must also be considered vacant. The property would still be considered vacant if an individual is residing at the property without authorization by the property owner. The definition of vacant was reviewed as it relates to the ordinance.

The following was also reviewed: the proposed ordinance revisions, Pennsylvania law and how it relates to the ordinance, the property owner notification process, and deed restrictions as they relate to the ordinance.

Accessory structures, such as sheds that are unkept, would not be considered blighted property and would need to be remedied through other compliance means.

Jay Conners opened the floor to public comments, and there were none.

Patrick Hitchens closed the public hearing.

8.1 Ordinance 2026-3 Blighted Property Removal Committee

On a motion made by Jay Conners, seconded by Christian Soltysiak, it was resolved to approve adoption of Ordinance 2026-03 establishing the Blighted Property Removal Committee. Motion unanimously carried.

9. REPORTS

9.1 Engineer's Report

Mark Bickerton stated that the report was filed and included in the meeting package. Pennoni Associates continues to collaborate with the contractor on the Walnut and Runnymede Phase 1 work. Equipment will be installed mid to late June, 2026. The York Road retiming data collection efforts will be finalized the week of May 25, 2026, and the retiming is set to begin the week of June 1, 2026. The county approved the Montco 2040 project, and the permit from PennDOT on the Walnut and Hillside improvements is pending. Eighteen months' worth of storm data was reviewed from a stream-measuring site regarding drainage on Cedar Street, and drainage concerns will continue to be investigated. Flood zone signage implies that when a flash flood warning is issued in the Borough, any vehicle parked near a flood zone sign is expected to relocate to a non-flood zone area.

9.2 Solicitor's Report

The solicitor's office continues to provide services on an as-needed and as-requested basis.

9.3 Police Chief's Report

The Jenkintown Police Department report was provided to all members of Council.

9.4 Manager's Report

Manager Locke continues to work on grant applications and administering the grants that the Borough was awarded. The Borough Manager met with property owners who have agreed to the required work easements, and paperwork is being finalized for continuing the work.

10. ORDER OF BUSINESS

10.1 Legacy Park Permit Fees – Request for Waiver of Fees

On a motion made by Jay Conners, seconded by Christian Soltysiak, it was resolved to move to waive the grading permit fees for Legacy Park at the Jenkintown School District. Motion unanimously carried.

On a motion made by Alexandria Khalil, seconded by Christian Soltysiak, it was resolved to amend the request to waive fees relating to the grading permit to limit that waiver to everything except for the Borough's associated costs. Motion unanimously carried.

On a motion made by Jay Conners, seconded by Deborra Sines-Pancoe, it was resolved to move to waive the building permit fees for Legacy Park at the Jenkintown School District for everything except for the Borough's actual associated costs. Motion unanimously carried.

The processing cost for the grading permit fees to the Borough would be approximately \$1,400. The inspection review by the engineer will be approximately \$2,000 on the building,

and the Borough expects to spend in the range of \$4,000 to \$6,000 for the building permit fees. The fee for the building permit is based on the cost of the work, and this work is priced at \$1.5 million.

10.2 Jenkintown Library – Business Tax Penalty and Interest

On a motion made by Jay Conners, seconded by Alexandria Khalil, it was resolved to move to waive the penalty and interest fees on the library business tax assessment. Motion unanimously carried.

The library received a first-time bill from Berkheimer for the business license privilege tax of \$10. They also received a late penalty of \$600 and an interest fee of \$42. They are seeking a waiver for the \$642 penalties but would like to pay the original \$10 tax bill. The timeline to accrue the \$600 fee is not yet known and will be investigated along with the reason for the first-time bill of this nature. Councilor Ballard recused himself from the voting process due to a conflict of interest.

10.3 Employee Handbook Manual

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Deborra Sines-Pancoe, it was resolved to move to approve the adoption of the employee handbook manual. Motion unanimously carried.

10.4 Property Tax Assessment Appeal – 609 Summit Avenue

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Christian Soltysiak, it was resolved to move to approve the settlement agreement for the property tax assessment appeal for 609 Summit Avenue at docket No. 2025-28372, as prepared by the Jenkintown School District. Motion unanimously carried.

10.5 Ordinance 2026-5 Delinquent Account Penalty Fee Sewer and Solid Waste

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Christian Soltysiak, it was resolved to move to approve for advertisement Ordinance 2026-5 memorializing the current penalty fee assessed to delinquent sewer and solid waste accounts that have had a lien filed (10% to no increase). Motion unanimously carried.

10.6 Resolution 2026-15 Ready for 100% Clean Energy

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Alexandria Khalil, it was resolved to move to approve sending proposed Resolution 2026-15 “Ready for 100% Clean Energy” to the Borough Solicitor for review and comment. Motion unanimously carried.

10.7 Act 48-2015 Appointment of Deputy Tax Collector

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Alexandria Khalil, it was resolved to move to appoint James Hunt of Berkheimer as the Deputy Tax Collector for Jenkintown Borough. Motion unanimously carried.

10.8 Appointment to Non-Uniform Pension Committee

On a motion made by David Ballard, seconded by Alexandria Khalil, it was resolved to move to appoint Marcus Lambert, finance director, to the non-uniform pension committee, replacing Anthony McAlister. Motion unanimously carried.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was closed at 7:58 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.

Director

Director

Date

Date