## Jermyn Borough

## **Council Special Meeting**

6/7/21

The Jermyn Borough Council held a special meeting on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 5:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Jermyn Borough Building, 440 Jefferson Ave. Jermyn, PA 18433.

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Kulick with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call by President Kulick, the following members were present: Frank Kulick, Kristen Dougherty, Kevin Napoli, Cynthia Stephens, Robert Hunt and Kyra Davey. Mayor Fuga was also present. Carl Tomaine arrived at 5:03pm.

F. Kulick announced that the reason for the special meeting was to accept the resignation of the solicitor/code enforcement officer and appointment of those positions.

**Resignation:** F. Kulick read the resignation letter from William Aquilino. He then asked for a motion to accept the resignations of the solicitor and code enforcement officer positions. A motion was made by C. Stephens to accept the resignation of William Aquilino as solicitor and code enforcement officer. Seconded by K. Davey. All members in favor, motion carried. (C. Tomaine was not yet present at the meeting to vote.)

Code Enforcement: F. Kulick asked D. Markey to fill everyone in on the emergency appointment of NEIC as Code Enforcement Officer. D. Markey explained that we had an issue with 618-620 Washington Ave. right after the resignation was tendered by Mr. Aquilino in late May. The issue had to do with the condition of the building. The engineers went in to inspect, and suggested condemnation. Condemnation can only be completed by Code Enforcement Officer. We learned that the Mayor could do an emergency appointment of Code Enforcement Officer. On Wednesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mayor Fuga appointed NEIC as emergency Code Officer. Tonight's vote would be to extend this appoinment, and officially appoint NEIC as Code Enforcement Officer. NEIC charges a \$500/month retainer, which is utilized by \$60/hour, billed in 15 minute increments. The retainer does not roll over to the next month. F. Kulick stated NEIC is very professional, and already handle code enforcement in different towns. K. Dougherty asked how they enforce? D. Markey stated it will be complaint based, and dispatched by the manager. They will not go rogue and drive up the monthly bill. C. Tomaine asked where they are out of? The Mayor stated they are in Childs. C. Tomaine asked if they are new? F. Kulick stated no, and they currently serve as our UCC inspectors/enforcers. R. Hunt asked if he is a property owner in Jermyn, putting up a building right now? He was told yes. R. Hunt stated he's moving dirt down by the river behind the building, and R. Hunt has been watching him, and he's not sure if it's legal? T. Fuga stated that he's sure he got proper permits with whatever he is doing back there. A motion was made by K. Napoli to hire NEIC as Code Enforcement Officer at a \$500/monthly retainer. Seconded by K. Dougherty.

**Solicitor:** F. Kulick stated we ran an ad and had no responses. He called Larry Moran Jr. to put feelers out for other solicitors, and Larry indicated his own interest in coming back as solicitor. F. Kulick read the proposal stating Mr. Moran will personally attend regular and special council meetings, executive sessions, and daily advise to elected and appointed officials, and will not charge for such services. Any additional services will be billed at the deeply discounted rate of \$125/hr for partners, including Attorney Moran, and \$75/hr for any associate attorneys. Attorney Moran's current hourly rate is \$350/hr. It is F. Kulick's recommendation to hire Attorney Moran C. Tomaine asked if there were any other responses? F. Kulick stated no, and he feels we need to act quickly, because there are some pending issues that we need to get on quickly. K. Davey stated

his proposal shows a willingness to work with us. A motion was made by K. Dougherty to appoint Larry Moran, Jr. as solicitor. Seconded by C. Stephens. All members in favor, motion carried.

<u>Adjournment:</u> A motion was made to adjourn by K. Napoli. Seconded by K. Davey. All members in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Markey

Borough Manager