

## **Council Minutes August 11 2011**

Jermyn Borough Council met on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. On roll call the following members were present: J. Smith, W. Shermanski, M. Collins, A.J. Fuga, B. Parks, and K. Hosie. Attorney Nicholls and Mayor Marks.

At this time James Allan, 655 Washington Avenue was sworn in as a Jermyn Borough Councilman.

**APPOINTMENTS** – President K. Hosie appointed J. Smith as finance chair and W. Shermanski to the finance committee. W. Shermanski was removed from the recreation committee and J. Allan appointed to recreation.

**MINUTES** – A motion was made by A.J. Fuga, seconded by J. Smith to approve the minutes of July 14, 2011. All members were in favor.

J. Smith gave financial report as follows:

Beginning balance – \$346,362.15

Expenditures – \$51,850.21

Ending Balance – \$347,717.38

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – A motion was made by B. Parks, seconded by A.J. Fuga to approve the financial report as presented. All members were in favor.

**MAYOR** – Mayor Marks thanked all for the good job done for the National Night Out. Jermyn now has a Farmers' Market every Monday from 3:30 to 6:30.

**SOLICITOR** – Attorney Nicholls stated that he has responded to the letter from Attorney Jennings representing the Jermyn Borough Police Officer Association (JBPOA) that the Borough of Jermyn does not recognize the Association as a union, until such a time as a secret ballot is conducted.

Attorney Nicholls said he has to do some research on the delinquent fees Berkheimer will be charging. He said a third party collector cannot collect certain administrative coats. He is going to write a letter to Berkheimer to obtain a schedule of fees.

Attorney Nicholls said he has spoken to Archbald Solicitor J.O'Connor regarding the Woodland Inn to be put onto the Borough of Archbalds' tax rolls. He reminded council to set up a date when they can sit down and speak to Bureau Veritas about the contract and their concerns. He addressed the letter sent to Mr. Turpack concerning J.Virtibiskys' property. Mrs. Virbitsky said she has maps disputing where the line is. Zoning Officer B.Chase is going to bring the old zoning book to Attorney Nicholls for review.

**PSAB SEMINAR** – A motion was made by A. J. Fuga, seconded by B.Parks to allow Solicitor Nicholls to attend a PSAB seminar at a cost of \$200.00. All members were in favor.

**FIRE CHIEF** – Chief Rood informed council that Kreiger Construction will be installing the new hydrant on Henry Drive. The chief had to order the hydrant through the Boroughs' account and Kreiger will reimburse the Borough. There are new water mains being installed on the 200, 300 and 400 blocks of Hudson and a new hydrant at Elm and Hudson at no cost to the borough. The Chief also said J.Allan , Mr.Desanto and himself will be attending a 911 conference concerning the narrow banding. He stated that many trees throughout the Borough need to be trimmed, the equipment on the fire trucks are brushing them and could cause costly damage. President Hosie asked if the fire company could do it? Chief Rood said they don't know if they could get enough men together. A.Fuga suggested purchasing a pole saw perhaps Dpw can do some of it.Chief Rood will speak to J.Wilson of the Shade Tree.

**PUBLIC INPUT** – T.Estile asked if the balance in the general fund includes the paving money? K.Hosie said no the paving funds are in a separate account.

R Rood addressed council concerning a sewer problem at his home at 406 Bacon Street. He said he watched the video that roto rooter took and the pipe was put in incorrectly there are numerous sags,water is laying in the pipes and backs up in his home.He is concerned about the value of his property depreciating. Attorney Nicholls said he will have to look to see if we have a cause of action against Raymond Development and send Mr. Raymonds' attorney a letter that we may be filing suit as an issue of public safety.

Officer Patrick addressed council concerning the JBPO as their spokesman, he explained that the majority of part time police officers expressed interest in the JBPO and was shocked that the Borough of Jermyn did not recognize the JBPO as the collective bargaining representative. He said the Association is looking for stability, representation and seniority in the department. That the officers will no longer be at will employees and will negotiate with council in good faith and keep open lines of communication.

**FINANCIAL** – A motion was made by W.Shermanski, seconded by M.collins to approve the invoices in the amount of \$2226.50. All members were in favor.Mr. Smith said there will be a budget meeting August 15 at 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Mr.Parks thanked the Borough of Archbald for their assistance with the sewer problem on Bacon Street. He reported that J.Esgro will be going for physical therapy for six weeks. Rock Bottom will be dropping off a machine to work on the parking lot in the near future. He said he will be drilling a hole for the timeclock so it may be plugged in, in the borough office.

Attorney Nicholls said he spoke to T.Grizzanti concerning the survey on Shields Court (Demarco property), he said it is not uncommon to have two survey maps. He said he will have to get back to council.

**PUBLIC SAFETY** – Mr. Fuga said he attended a meeting concerning the mandate for new signs throughout the Borough.Senator Toomey said he will try to have it repealed. Mr. Fuga said when signs need to be replaced we will purchase the federal mandated signs.

Mr. Smith spoke to council concerning Mr.Wilson the chair for the Roads Committee going to see the borough engineer and explained that there will be some starting costs . The end result of a good project is knowing what we have to do.

Mr.Smith distributed a revised personnel handbook and asked that council review it and come back with recommendations.

Council went into executive session, council reconvened from executive session.

Mr.Fuga brought a request from Officer Brazen to go to a firearms instruction class at a cost of \$1200.00. K.Hosie said that officer Brazen needs to go through the Chief with requests.

A motion was made to adjourn by W.Shermanski seconded by J.Smith. All members were in favor.