

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
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OCTOBER 1, 2007**

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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD  
OCTOBER 1, 2007**

Council President Schaefer called the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood to order on Monday, October 1, 2007 at 7:40 P.M. in the Municipal Building.

**ROLL CALL**

Borough Manager Kurt Ferguson called the roll and the following responded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Cook, Ms. Nogrady, Mr. McNally, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer.

Mr. Szefi was absent.

Mayor Davin, Solicitor W. Timothy Barry and Junior Councilperson McArdle were also in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ms. Schaefer gave information on the major fire event of the past weekend and commended those who selflessly gave their time and energy to protect life and property.

Also, according to Ms. Schaefer, there will be an Executive Session this evening.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS**

M-1 Mr. McNally moved to authorize the payment of bills, for goods and services received by the Borough, having been reviewed and approved by the General Government Committee in the amount of \$142,068.64. Second by Ms. McDonald.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Cook, Ms. Nogrady, Mr. McNally, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

M-2 Ms. McDonald moved to hire Eleanor Chappell as a substitute crossing guard effective October 2, 2007 at a starting pay of \$9.69 an hour. Second by Mr. Cook.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Cook, Ms. Nogrady, Mr. McNally, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. Motion carried.

With regard to the Ad Hoc Port Authority Committee, Ms. Schaefer announced that Mr. Szeffi must excuse himself from this Committee. She then appointed Mr. Cook to the Committee until the end of the year. She explained that Mr. Cook has a history and a previous understanding of the Committee, but Mr. McNally will bring Mr. Cook up to speed on the Committee's current status.

### **VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mr. Laird thanked all of Council for having purchased the rescue vehicle which was used in putting out the major structure fire this weekend. He stated that the volunteers spent the better part of twelve (12) hours on Saturday, until about 2:15 AM, and then returned to the smoldering fire on Sunday from 10:15 AM to 2:30 PM.

Mr. Laird gave special thanks to Mayor Davin and her daughter for the pizza, water and cookies which they provided. The Borough residents and Council, according to Mr. Laird, are to be commended. He stated that the equipment functioned quite well.

Stating that the campaign to attract new recruits is apparently working, Mr. Laird said that three (3) new people have applied for membership to the department.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer said that, although the intensity of the fire was quite alarming, there were minimal injuries, no deaths, minimal collateral damage and the fire was contained to the immediate area. Also, Ms. Schaefer stated that the job done by the various departments was phenomenal.

Mr. Laird mentioned that, without the mutual aid agreements in place, the fire would probably have created a disaster.

Ms. Schaefer said this was a testimony to the nature of the various departments working together and fosters kinship among other firefighters.

Mr. Cook stated that he talked with the landlord of the burned building and the landlord had only praise for the way things were handled by the department.

Mr. Laird spoke of the landlord's graciousness with doing what was needed during the fire.

Ms. McDonald echoed the sentiments expressed to this point and, on behalf of her family, expressed her gratitude, since her property is in close proximity to the burned property. She said the volunteer firefighters had the presence of mind to squirt the branches of the trees to prevent the fire from spreading.

### **RECREATION REPORT**

Mr. Ferguson said information on the Haunted House will appear on the website. He also indicated that he has staff working on the basketball registrations and that soccer is going well. Mr. Ferguson mentioned that Mr. Boccio, who has had tremendous involvement with all sports over the last several years, had hoped to find others to help him. So far, Mr. Ferguson indicated that the Recreation Coordinator, Ms. Mysels is doing a fantastic job and deals with the children in a calm and patient way.

DISCUSSION: Ms. McDonald asked how someone would volunteer for the Haunted House.

### **WATER AUTHORITY REPORT**

Mr. Fuller said that the preliminary Water Authority budget numbers were reviewed at their last meeting. He said that the significant planning meeting for the budget will be held in October and the actual budget will be completed in November.

The Authority is collecting sewage in Penn Hills where there is now a Consent Decree, according to Mr. Fuller.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ferguson noted that Mr. Russo arrived this evening at the end of the General Government meeting to present a 3 Rivers Wet Weather Demonstration Program grant administered by the Water Authority in the form of a \$48,000 retainage.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

Ms. Schaefer stated that the Committee did not meet.

DISCUSSION: None.

### **COG REPORT**

Mr. Hellett stated that he and Jr. Councilperson McArdle went to the Council of Governments meeting. He then passed out handouts regarding "A Child is Missing" (ACIM) program, which works in concert with the Amber Alert. The ACIM program can only be activated by the police department and can be used for children, seniors and physically and mentally challenged individuals.

DISCUSSION: None.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Barry stated that, other than Executive Session issues, he had no public report.

DISCUSSION: None.

## **BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

Speaking with regard to this weekend's fire, Mr. Ferguson stated that it was his pleasure to be involved and to help in any way he could. He indicated that the firemen did a fantastic job and that he thanked as many of the outside departments as he could.

Mr. Grubb supplied pictures of the scene which were taken by his staff.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer said she will write a letter of thanks to the other departments.

Mayor Davin shared a letter written by Mr. Seiking expressing his gratitude regarding the fire and how Mr. Ferguson played a part. Ms. Schaefer asked that a copy of this go into Mr. Ferguson's personnel file.

Further discussion ensued regarding the relief efforts being undertaken by First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood.

Mayor Davin suggested that Mr. Ferguson talk with Fox's Pizza regarding an agreement to be able to order pizza and have them bill the Borough during major fires.

Ms. Schaefer felt there should be a fund earmarked for relief.

Ms. McDonald felt that Eat 'n Park should also be included for Public Works.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Cook reported that a resident, referring to the busway, said that the noise is not an issue. Also, he stated that he was updated on the activities on Walnut Street.

Ms. Schaefer requested that Ms. McDonald prepare an update for the next Council meeting on that area.

Mr. McNally acknowledged Mr. Cook back onto the Ad Hoc Port Authority Committee and stated that he will update Mr. Cook by the fourth Wednesday meeting. Mr. McNally stated that no Port Authority representatives will be needed from Port Authority, but that a letter will be sent to them requesting information, an answer for which is expected by the time that meeting takes place.

Mayor Davin acknowledged receipt of a letter from Mr. Fitzgerald of the County Council regarding a bridge summit.

The Mayor also referred to the fact that Mr. Ferguson is having a difficult time finding a part-time laborer for the Public Works Department. She referred to the fact that it will soon be leaf season and asked that Council review the pay scale and try to increase it for this position in order to attract people.

It was Ms. Schaefer's opinion that the hours were the difficulty with finding someone, not the pay scale.

Mr. Cook asked if the universities have been focused on for recruiting for the position. He felt that students preferred part-time positions.

Following further discussion, Ms. Schaefer agreed that Mr. Cook's suggestion regarding posting the position at the universities was a good one.

**ADJOURNMENT**

M-3 Following an Executive Session lasting from 8:20 PM to 9:37 PM, it was moved by Ms. McDonald and seconded by Mr. McNally to adjourn this meeting at 9:38 PM.

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Kurt M. Ferguson  
Borough Manager