

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

President Schaefer called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:34 PM in the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following responded: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, and Ms. Schaefer.

Mayor Hellett and Solicitor Worner were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Cynthia Savitt -426 Elmer Street

Ms. Savitt stated that speeding is a problem on Elmer Street, particularly at the section of the road that comes to a sharp bend. Ms. Savitt stated that she would like to see the speed limit on Elmer reduced to 15 miles per hour. Ms. Savitt said that she and her neighbors had brought this issue to Council last summer, and 25 mile per hour speed limit signs were placed on the road. Ms. Savitt said she had a petition neighbors had signed asking for the speed limit to be lowered, or for the street to be one way during rush hours. Ms. Savitt read a letter from one of her neighbors at 151 Walnut Street, stating that commuters travel too fast on Elmer at the same hours that children are walking to street and from school. Ms. Savitt gave the petition to Mayor Hellett.

Ben Schmitt -428 Elmer Street

Mr. Schmitt said he is a new resident of Elmer Street. He said that a recent accident on Elmer Street caused the neighbors to again discuss the possibility of having the speed limit reduced to 15 miles per hour. Mr. Schmitt said that the sharp turn in Elmer makes it difficult to speed, but that many commuters do it anyway. He said his two young daughters enjoy playing on the street. Mr. Schmitt said that making Elmer Street one way during the morning and afternoon commutes would reduce cut-through traffic.

Winnie Schano -the Edgewood Foundation

Ms. Schano discussed the Edgewood Foundation's recent activities, including the Sleepover in the Park, Newcomer's Reception, and Oktoberfest. Ms. Schano said the Edgewood Foundation would be co-chairing the Fall Festival on October 22nd and 29th with the Borough, where there would be hayrides, crafts, and a possible movie in the park. The Edgewood Foundation will be providing cookies and cider. Ms. Schano said the Foundation's annual appeal for funds was coming up, and letters would be sent to residents asking for support. She stated that this is the largest source of funding for the Foundation. Ms. Schano also said the Edgewood Foundation would be sponsoring a Light Up Edgewood night on December 2nd.

M-1 Ms. Gleba moved to approve the minutes of September 19, 2011, as amended. Second by Ms. Waldock.

DISCUSSION: None

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Ms. Schaefer. Mr. Fuller abstained, as he was absent from the September 19, 2011 meeting. **Motion carried.**

M-2 Ms. Gleba moved to approve the minutes of September 26, 2011, as amended. Second by Mr. Fuller.

DISCUSSION: None

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

M-3 Ms. Gleba moved to approve the minutes of October 3, 2011, as amended. Second by Ms. Waldock.

DISCUSSION: None

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

M-4 Ms. Gleba 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, from the General Fund, in the amount of \$34,176.99 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$1,549.95, for a total of \$35,726.94. Second by Mr. Wilson.

DISCUSSION: None

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Ms. Gleba reported that while there are variations, finances are staying balanced.

POLICE REPORT

Mayor Hellett read the highlights of the monthly police report and explained the categories and statistics on the report. Mayor Hellett also said that he and Chief Payne attended the funeral of Lower Burrell Police Officer Derek Kotecki.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ms. Waldock said the police report shows shoplifting is down from a year ago, and asked Chief Payne what this can be attributed to.

Chief Payne said that the Edgewood Towne Center Giant Eagle has made considerable changes to their approach to shoplifting, and works closely with the Edgewood Police Department. Chief Payne also explained that Kmart handles much of its shoplifting crime in house, and only involves the Police Department when an individual has three prior shoplifting complaints, at which point the crime becomes a felony.

Ms. Waldock also asked that Council meet with the Volunteer Fire Department to discuss their inventory.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Fuller said the Community Development Committee did not meet, but had topics to discuss in executive session.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Fuller said the Public Works Committee did not meet.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Bowers said he had nothing to report to Council, but did have matters to discuss in executive session.

PENSION

Mr. Bright said the Pension Committee met on October 10th, and distributed minutes from the meeting to Council.

Mr. Bright said the Pension Committee intended to conduct further study on several topics, including the actuary and investment projections. Mr. Bright explained that the actuarial funding is performing well, but that the investment funding has not done as well since the stock market fell.

Ms. Gleba clarified that overall the pension fund was doing relatively well; it just was not making the gains the actuaries had expected.

Ms. Waldock asked where the intersection of actuarial and investment projections occurred, and if the actuaries could assess the current Borough employees in order to project pension needs.

Manager Cecconi said the actuaries did make these projections, and clarified that the pension plan was 90% funded. Manager Cecconi said if the market doesn't change, the projections will have to be changed, but that it is not wise to change based on one year's market.

Mr. Bright said the Pension Committee would talk to the actuaries and report back to Council.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

INTERCOUNCIL

Mr. Wilson said the COG did not meet.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mr. Wilson had nothing to report.

3 RIVERS WET WEATHER DEMONSTRATION PROJECT/CONNECT

President Schaefer said 3 Rivers Wet Weather and Connect were working with ALCOSAN to change the make-up of their Board so that stakeholders were represented on the Board. President Schaefer said Connect was talking to the candidates for County Executive about this issue.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Wornor said he had issues to discuss in executive session.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Cecconi said that Council had received packets on the proposed GetGo station on East End Avenue. Manager Cecconi said the current proposal is to run the store as is, and update the handicap accessibility and signage.

Mr. Fuller asked if repair work would be done at the site.

Manager Cecconi said that the plan says the station would have four pumps, and sell candy, cigarettes and refreshments. Manager Cecconi said GetGo had reached out to the Regent Square Civic Association, and proposed operating hours of 6 am to 11 pm.

Ms. Waldock said that GetGo could update this corner quite a bit, especially with handicap accessibility.

Manager Cecconi said that free flu shots would be given out at the Borough Building on October 27th.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Gleba read the following resolution into the record:

RESOLUTION 2011-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, DECLARING ITS INTENT TO FOLLOW THE SCHEDULES AND PROCEDURES OF DISPOSITION OF RECORDS AS SET FORTH IN THE MUNICIPAL RECORDS MANUAL APPROVED ON DECEMBER 16, 2008.

WHEREAS, a Local Government Records Committee was created by Act 428 of 1968 and empowered thereby to make rules and regulations for records disposition; and,

WHEREAS, the Municipal Records Manual was approved by said committee on December 16, 2008; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood desires to dispose of records according to statutory requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Edgewood, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, that it intends to follow the schedules and procedures for disposition of records as set forth in the Municipal Records Manual approved on December 16, 2008.

ADOPTED THIS THE 17th day of October 2011 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

M-5 Ms. Gleba made a motion to adopt Resolution 2011-17. Second by Mr. Fuller.

DISCUSSION: None

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. Motion carried.

Ms. Gleba read the following resolution into the record:

**RESOLUTION 2011-18
AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH MANAGER TO MAKE FUND BALANCE ASSIGNMENTS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH GASB STATEMENT 54**

WHEREAS, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions" which becomes effective for financial statements for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2010; and,

WHEREAS, GASB Statement No. 54 creates new fund balance classifications in a hierarchy based upon the relative strength of the constraints that control how fund balances may be spent, as follows:

Nonspendable –inherently nonspendable or not in a spendable form

Restricted –limitation on use imposed by a party external to the government

Committed –limitation on use imposed by formal action of the governing body

Assigned –limitation on use due to intended purpose rather than formal action

Unassigned –spendable balances not contained in the above classifications; and

WHEREAS, GASB Statement No. 54 enables the governing body to delegate authority to a subordinate official to make assignments of fund balance for intended purposes not otherwise requiring formal action of the governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, and it is hereby Resolved by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood follows:

The authority to make assignments of fund balance for intended purposes not otherwise requiring formal action of Borough Council shall be delegated to the Borough Manager. Such assignments of fund balance shall be made only by the Borough Manager and shall remain in place until the Borough Manager releases the assignment. This authority becomes effective upon adoption of this Resolution of Borough Council.

M-6 Ms. Gleba made a motion to adopt Resolution 2011-18. Second by Mr. Wilson.

DISCUSSION: Manager Cecconi said this resolution came from the auditors.

Ms. Waldock stated that she believed the duties in the resolution should be performed by Council, and not by the borough manager. She said that determining funds and what they are used for is the responsibility of Council, so they should have oversight of these funds and not the manager.

Ms. Gleba said the resolution gives responsibility to the manager, but that the distinctions the manager would be making in labeling funds was obvious.

Manager Cecconi said this resolution does not give the manager authority to open or close funds, but rather to define them given these four distinctions that the auditors determine.

Solicitor Womer said that the auditor had approved the resolution, so there was no legal issue, but rather a policy matter for the Borough.

Ms. Waldock said that she did not think the manager and auditor should make decisions about the categories of funds without those decisions coming before Council.

Mr. Fuller said that any spending requires Council approval.

Manager Cecconi said opening or closing bank accounts also requires Council approval.

Ms. Waldock said that the Borough has many accounts with PLGIT, and that she believes Council should determine their classifications. Ms. Waldock said she believes this is a key responsibility of Council.

Ms. Waldock asked why the resolution was being passed if it did not give the manager any authority the position did not already have.

Mr. Fuller said the classifications would help assist the auditors.

Ms. Waldock said she believes this is the responsibility of Council, as a new Council may determine that they want different accounts.

President Schaefer said that delegating authority is not relegating Council's responsibility to watch the Borough's finances.

Ms. Gleba said that the resolution just labels the accounts and money that the Borough already has. She said that if Council members have concerns, more research should be done before a vote is taken on the resolution.

Mr. Bright said that he has questions about the language of the resolution, such as the exact definition of an inherently nonspendable fund.

Mr. Wilson withdrew his second. Ms. Gleba removed her motion and recommended that it be tabled until further advice was received from the auditors.

M-7 Ms. Waldock moved to accept Mike Crow's letter of retirement dated October 17, 2011. His last day of work as a full time police officer will be Friday October 28, 2011. Second by Mr. Bowers.

DISCUSSION: None

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

M-8 Ms. Waldock moved to hire Mike Crow as a part-time Police Officer starting on October 29, 2011 at an hourly rate of \$13 per hour, to be increased to \$14 per hour after 500 hours of service to the Borough. Second by Mr. Bowers.

DISCUSSION: None

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

M-9 Ms. Waldock moves to hire Crystal Jones as a school crossing guard contingent on her passing physical, psychological test and drug screening with salary and benefits as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement. Second by Mr. Bowers.

DISCUSSION: Manager Cecconi said that crossing guards do not have to pass a physical or psychological test.

Mr. Bowers removed his second. Ms. Waldock amended her motion to move to hire Crystal Jones a school crossing guard contingent on her passing a drug screen with salary and benefits as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement. Second by Mr. Bowers.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE ACTION

None

Executive Session

Executive Session was called at 8:52 PM to discuss personnel and real estate matters.
The session ended at 9:33 PM.

Adjournment

M-10 It was moved by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Ms. Waldock to adjourn at 9:33 PM.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Warren Cecconi", is written above a horizontal line.

Warren Cecconi, Borough Manager