

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD DECEMBER 6, 2021

Council Vice President O'Donnell called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:31 pm.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following responded: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Dr. Petrolla, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. Mayor Jack Wilson, Manager Rob Zahorchak, Police Chief Robert Payne and Solicitor Tom McDermott were also present. Dr. Petrolla was not present for roll call.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: The following public comments were received.

Ruth Pickering, 416 Locust St:

Ms. Pickering noted a recent situation in which two of our police officers intervened to help save the life of a 17 year old girl. She stated that more credit should be given to our police department and the work that they do. Ms. Pickering added that she hopes that Council will take care when promoting officers to full time positions and consider their background and credentials fully.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-1 Mr. O'Donnell 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 \$135,570.22 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$7,467.55 for a total of 143,037.77. Second by Mr. Fuller.

DISCUSSION: Mr. O'Donnell noted that there were several larger payments, including a donation of \$10,000 to CC Mellor Memorial library, a \$7,000 payment to Davey's Tree Removal, \$7,000 to our engineers, \$5,600 for workers comp, \$4,000 for the traffic signal, and two payments to MEIT of \$22,472 for December and January insurance.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Mr. Love moved to award Contract No. 20-S1- 2020 Sanitary Sewer Improvements to Jet Jack, Inc. in the amount of \$349,962.00. Second by Mr. O'Donnell.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak stated that following a satisfactory review by our engineer and solicitor, it is being recommended to award the contract to Jet Jack, Inc for the project involving the area under the School for the Deaf and Walnut Street, the sewer overflow at Koenig Field, and Nice Mile Run.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

- M-3** Mr. Fuller moved to accept Sergeant Susan Kaskie's Letter of Retirement dated November 25, 2021.
Second by Mrs. Gleba.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

- M-4** Mr. Fuller moved to amend the personnel manual to include 'Appendix A: COVID 19 Vaccination Policy.'
Second by Mr. O'Donnell.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Dr. Petrolla, and Ms. Yaney. The following responded no: Mrs. Gleba. **Motion carried.**

- M-5** Mr. O'Donnell moved to enter into a lease agreement with Precision Copy Products, Inc. for the lease of two copy machines for a period of 60 months at a rate of \$263.70/month. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

- M-6** Mr. O'Donnell moved to adopt the 2022 General Fund, Sewer Fund, and Highway Fund budgets. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

- M-7** Mr. Love read the following resolution (title only):

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-15

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH AND

COMCAST CABLE COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT, LLC

Second by Mr. Fuller.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak stated that the cable franchise agreement grants right of way to the Comcast, to place its equipment within the borough and to distribute its product. The borough in turn receives revenue from Comcast.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

M-8 Mr. Fuller read the following resolution:

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION 2021-16**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA FIXING THE PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022

WHEREAS, Edgewood Borough Council has adopted the 2022 General Fund, Sewer Fund, and Highway Fund Budgets, and;

WHEREAS Act 51 of 2019 allows boroughs to establish their millage rate by resolution if the rate remains the same or is decreased from the prior year, and;

WHEREAS the borough's 2022 General Fund Budget balances without the need for a property tax increase.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a tax shall be levied on all real property within Edgewood Borough, subject to taxation for Borough purposes, for the fiscal year 2022 as follows:

The 2022 tax rate for general borough purposes shall total seven and one hundred eighty-five thousandths (7.185) mills on each thousand dollars of assessed valuation, unchanged since 2016.

1 mill = \$1.00 for every \$1,000 assessment

7.185 mills = \$7.185 for every \$1,000 assessment

ADOPTED this the 6th day of December, 2021 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

M-9 Mr. O'Donnell read the following resolution:

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION 2021-17

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood has approved the budget for the 2022 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood has established the salaries for those employees not covered by a bargaining unit.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Edgewood Borough Council hereby authorizes wage increases of three percent (3%) for the fiscal year 2022 for all Emergency Service Workers.

And a wage increase of six percent (6%) for the fiscal year 2022 for Police Chief Robert Payne.

And a wage increase of six percent (6%) for the fiscal year 2022 for the Borough Manager Rob Zahorchak and Finance Administrator Janet Gerber.

And a wage increase of six percent (6%) for the fiscal year 2022 for the following Public Works employees: John Antolovich, Bruce Ruffing, Louis Sloan, and Tim Kozub.

And a six percent (6%) wage increase for Recreation and Community Outreach Coordinator Abigail Ault.

And a six percent (6%) wage increase for Crossing Guards Dave Boslet and Sue Pollick.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day December, 2021 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

Second by Mrs. Gleba.

DISCUSSION:

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Dr. Petrolla, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

BUSINESS MEETING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT Mr. Zahorchak reported that luminaries are on sale now. Chief Amos has stated his intention to step down within 2022, which will leave an opening to for Fire Chief.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT Mr. Fuller reported that the Water Authority met and have called for a 3% percent increase next year. This was lower than anticipated, as they were able to move a capital fund onto a bond. Mr. Fuller noted a correction in the name of their assistance program, which was incorrectly stated as LIHEAP. The program is LIHAAP. Lead line replacements will be starting next year on their end and the consumer side.

RECREATION REPORT Mr. Zahorchak reported that Youth Basketball registration is open until December 20, for the season starting the first week of January. Thanks to Matt Dettore who is taking over the role of Volunteer Coordinator, replace longtime Coordinator, Ted Tragard. This is in addition to managing the Men's Basketball League.

PLANNING COMMISSION Mr. Zahorchak stated that the Planning Commission is scheduled to meet next Wednesday to review two applications. One is the for the age restricted multi-unit housing project at Edgewood Towne Center. The other is a site re-design plan at the School for the Deaf.

COG REPORT Mr. Wilson stated that COG did not meet.

Mr. Wainright noted that at the Budget Meeting, there was an executive session that took place, with no action taken.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT Mr. McDermott stated that he had nothing additional to report, besides the executive session that took place for a personnel issue. He noted that he and the Borough Manager are in communication with each other regarding the applications that were submitted to the Planning Commission.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that there will be a public hearing on December 20 at 7pm for the conditional use application submitted by A.M. Rodriguez for the multi-unit housing project at the Towne Center to review the Planning Commission's recommendations, as well as for Council to make any recommendations. The 2021 paving program has been mostly completed. The street reconstruction on Pliney Way will be postponed until spring, but the other planned streets have been paved.

The Edgewood Foundation's Light up Night is planned for Saturday. Crews will be closing Maple Avenue and public safety will be on hand, for the large crowd that is expected for that event. There will be house tours, a visit from Santa, and carriage rides.

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Payne stated that there have been several notable situations that were handled by the police force recently, some of which where officers were engaged physically, due to the nature of the issues. This included detainment of a suspect, resulting in injury to several younger officers, and a hit and run situation where the suspect ran from officers. There was an attempted suicide by a 17-year-old, where officers intervened, and were able to prevent the person from jumping onto the Parkway, and helped the person return to safety. There is a candidate for hire for full time officer, which will be presented to Council for review soon.

Mayor Wilson suggested that there be a formal recognition of the officers who assisted in the attempted suicide.

M-10 It was moved by Mr. Fuller and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to adjourn at 7:56 pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager