

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Council President Petrolla called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following responded: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, and Dr. Petrolla. Mayor O'Donnell, Junior Councilperson Kochupura, Solicitor McDermott, Fire Chief Ireland, and Borough Manager Zahorchak were also present.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
PROCLAMATION 2022-02

WHEREAS, the Edgewood Borough Council has a commitment to provide and to promote good governance to the residents of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Edgewood Borough Council recognizes that dedicated and professional employees are a vital part of good governance, and

WHEREAS, the employees of the Edgewood Borough Public Works Department work hard performing the countless tasks that go into maintaining a safe, clean, and attractive community, and

WHEREAS, the employees of the Public Works Department are always on call and sacrifice nights, weekends, and holidays to respond to severe weather events and other hazards impacting the borough, and

WHEREAS, Bruce Ruffing, after fourteen years of service to Edgewood Borough has accepted a position with Carnegie Mellon University's Facilities Management Department.

NOW, THEREFORE on this the 19th day of September 2022, the Office of the Mayor of the Borough of Edgewood, in partnership with Borough Council, thanks Bruce Ruffing for his fourteen years of service to the Borough and its residents, congratulates him on his new position and proclaims Friday, September 23, 2022 as "**BRUCE RUFFING DAY.**"

PROCLAIMED at the meeting of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood the 19th day of September, 2022.

Ms. Pierce from the CC Mellor Memorial Library spoke, providing some updates from the library, including a program to provide library cards to all students at the public school, and hiring an Outreach Coordinator to organize that program. There are some fundraising opportunities to support the library including an Adopt a Book event. She discussed opportunities for expanding programming in the future.

Ms. Yaney and Police Chief Payne joined the meeting at 7:42pm.

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

Ruth Pickering, 416 Locust St: Ms. Pickering discussed a hand-out that was given to newcomers with a history of the borough. There will be a meeting of the Edgewood Historical Society on October 11 at 7pm for an unveiling of a George Hetzel painting. Ms. Pickering inquired if there would be a flu shot clinic this year. Mr. Zahorchak responded that we get notification from Eastern Area Pre-hospital Services if that service will be provided, and we then announce that accordingly.

Rick Belloli, 1122 Mifflin Ave: Mr. Belloli provided an update concerning the water overflow under his property.

Fire Chief Ireland discussed a planned fire inspection at Edgewood Towne Center. He discussed some of the findings of that inspection. He noted that the Towne Center would send cease and desist letters to businesses that are not in compliance of fire safety codes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-1 Dr. Epitropoulos moved to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2022 Council Meeting. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

M-2 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of September 6, 2022 Council Meeting. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-3 Mr. Love moved to authorize the payment of bills for goods and services received by the borough from the general fund in the amount of \$32,911.21 and from the sewer fund in the amount of \$418,109.80 for a total of \$451,021.01. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that the general fund included standard bills. From the sewer fund there was a large amount paid to ALCOSAN for sanitary line cleaning.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Love reported that General Government met. Items discussed are included on the agenda.

POLICE: Chief Payne stated that he had nothing to report.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Ms. Yaney that Public Safety and Infrastructure met. Items discussed included the Greendale and Race St intersection and ways to increase safety there. For the Laurel St and Swissvale Ave intersection, they are discussing the addition of a 'no outlet' sign and removing or changing the parkway ramp sign and replacing it with a sign that just mentions 376, without the word 'ramp'. She noted that there has been some unauthorized signage placed around the borough. She requested that residents remove unauthorized signs, as they can be a potential safety issue if they distract drivers.

Ms. Yaney discussed a recent CONNECT meeting of the Climate Action committee. She noted that some grants should be made available to be used to improve infrastructure towards encouraging electric vehicle usage, such as building electric vehicle charging stations.

She noted that the Police Department is still short staffed. There has been discussion about what to do with the fire rescue truck. Discussion ensued concerning climate action planning and grants

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Mr. Sherman stated that Community Affairs did not meet.

PENSION AND PERSONNEL: Dr. Blasiolo stated that Pension and Personnel did not meet. Mr. Zahorchak noted the need to hire a new Public Works employee.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: Ms. Patel reported that she attended the CONNECT Future of Fire meeting. She noted the eagerness of fire fighters to work with local officials on the future of that role. A PA State Commission representative spoke, followed by a panel discussion, where they covered the topic of consolidation and what that means.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. McDermott requested a brief Executive Session following the meeting to discuss some legal matters, with no action to be taken. He briefly discussed some items included on the agenda for approval. He noted a potential upcoming zoning amendment for the Edgewood Towne Center, and a Planning Commission Meeting to be scheduled in October, along with a Public Hearing. He stated that following a review by an engineer, the house on Maple Ave that recently had a partial collapse was determined to be salvageable and could be repaired in order to be habitable again, rather than needing to be demolished.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak stated that new fire code updates are being discussed, to include new language concerning Occupancy Inspections. The Laurel St tot lot structure is being delayed due to supply chain issues. New swings for Koenig Field have been delivered, and the existing swing set structure will be moved closer onto the field area, closer to the existing play structure.

A meeting is scheduled with Liberoni to discuss the paving program prior to construction. Most safety upgrades have been made at Greendale and Race, with a few items still to be implemented. The borough's Fallfest along with Oktoberfest will be taking place on October 15 at Koenig Field, with hayrides, a roast pig, and the band Milepost 6 will be returning this year. An audit will be performed of public funds received through the State. No issues are expected. In packets there is the minimum municipal obligation for next year. This is the amount that the borough needs to contribute to its defined benefit plan for next year. He noted that the uniform pension is well funded; the police pension is not as well funded, and will be increased for next year. This will pull from our overall budget. The funding varies based on the market and how many retirees there are.

The water company made repairs on Gordon St and will mill and pave that part of the street, which means we will have less to pave ourselves. The five-year MS4 Permit Waiver was submitted to the PA Department of Environmental Protection. We received a waiver for the last two cycles. We receive an exemption due to the size of our borough. There is a resolution for the County Economic Development fund to replace the Koenig Field staircase.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-4 Ms. Patel moved to accept Bruce Ruffing's letter of resignation dated September 9, 2022 effective September 23, 2022. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

M-5 Dr. Blasiolo moved to authorize the borough manager to advertise and accept resumes for the Public Works Laborer position. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

M-6 Ms. Yaney read Resolution 1075, 2018 EDITION OF THE ICC INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE (title only). Second by Mr. Love.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE NO. 1075**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, ALLEGHENY COUNTY,

PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING THE 2018 EDITION OF THE ICC *INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE*, WITH SUCH REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS AS NOTED HEREIN, REGULATING AND GOVERNING THE CONDITIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL PROPERTY, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES; PROVIDING THE STANDARDS FOR SUPPLIED UTILITIES AND FACILITIES AND OTHER PHYSICAL THINGS AND CONDITIONS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THAT STRUCTURES ARE SAFE, SANITARY AND FIT FOR OCCUPATION AND USE; PROVIDING FOR THE CONDEMNATION OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES UNFIT FOR HUMAN OCCUPANCY AND USE AND FOR THE DEMOLITION OF SUCH STRUCTURES IN THE BOROUGH; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND COLLECTION OF FEES THEREFOR; PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR APPEALS FROM ADVERSE DECISIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Yaney inquired how inspections would be scheduled. Mr. Zahorchak stated that scheduling of inspections is at the discretion of the Code Officer and follow up inspections will be done on as needed. Solicitor McDermott noted that this is an update to the existing property maintenance code. Discussion ensued over maintenance and building codes, and the relationship of fire codes to that.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

M-7 Ms. Yaney move to authorize the borough manager to advertise Ordinance 1075. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

M-8 Mr. Love read Ordinance 1076, INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE APPEALS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT. Second by Ms. Yaney.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE NO. 1076**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD ENTERING INTO AGREEMENT WITH OTHER MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES OF THE TURTLE CREEK VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE JOINT BOARD OF APPEALS AS REQUIRED BY THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood has received a request from the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments to participate in a joint Property Maintenance Code Appeals Board, and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood Council feels that it would be advantageous to participate in a joint Property Maintenance Appeals Board, and

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained and enacted by the Council for the Borough of Edgewood that:

1. The Borough of Edgewood shall enter into an intergovernmental cooperative agreement with the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments and its member municipalities to participate in a joint Property Maintenance Appeals Board.
2. The Borough of Edgewood shall pay its pro-rated share of costs for the establishment and operation of the joint Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments Property Maintenance Appeals Board with the understanding that a large share of the operating expenses shall be borne by the individual applicants to the Appeals Board.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

M-9 Mr. Love move to authorize the borough manager to advertise Ordinance 1076. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

M-10 Mr. Sherman read Resolution 2022-20, Koenig Field Staircase Replacement and Runnel Project. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Love, Dr. Epitropoulos, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

M-11 It was moved by Dr. Blasiolo and seconded by Ms. Yaney to adjourn at 8:28 pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

An Executive Session was held from 8:28-8:52pm.



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager