

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 21, 2023

Council Vice President Love called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following responded: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Epitropoulos, Mr. Love, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, and Ms. Yaney. Mayor O'Donnell, Junior Councilperson Kochupora, Solicitor McDermott, and Borough Manager Zahorchak were also present. Dr. Petrolia was absent.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Amy Andrews, Edgewood Foundation: Dr. Andrews provided an update on behalf of the Edgewood Foundation. Their annual meeting has occurred. The website is in process of being updated. The first event of the year, the Progressive Dinner, is happening on March 25, with registration on the website. The High School Senior Brunch is taking place on May 7 at the Edgewood Club, with details, including scholarship information, coming soon.

Dan Brown, the Western Pennsylvania Field Organizer with Penn Environment, addressed Council. He stated that Penn Environment is a grass-roots organization dedicated to efforts to ensure that everyone in PA has access to clean air and water, and a safe environment. Mr. Brown provided a presentation about plastic pollution, specifically a plastic bag ban.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-1 Mr. Sherman moved to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2023. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-2 Dr. Epitropoulos moved to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Council Meeting. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-3 Ms. Yaney moved to authorize the payment of bills for goods and services received by the borough from the General Fund in the amount of \$ 93,973.73 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$20,014.15 for a total of \$113,987.88. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love stated that tax returns were notable in this bill run.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Love reported that General Government met and discussion included traffic at the intersection of Race St and Greendale Ave. He noted that residents inquired about a traffic study that was slated in the budget. An engineer has provided a review of traffic, from which several recommendations were implemented. Mr. Love also noted that the committee discussed the possibility of squaring off the intersection with plastic mitigators, similar to what is at the top of Race St. Discussion ensued over existing traffic issues and possible solutions.

POLICE: Mayor O'Donnell stated that he had nothing to report. It was noted that there was a printing error in the newsletter under the directory, for Police Chief Payne's position. Mr. Zahorchak clarified that it was the Fire Chief who was to be updated.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Ms. Yaney stated that Public Safety and Infrastructure did not meet.

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

PENSION AND PERSONNEL: Dr. Blasiolo stated that Pension and Personnel did not meet, however the quarterly statement for the pension plan was received. He noted that it is trending positively.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: Mayor O'Donnell stated that he had not attended any recent meeting for the Greater Valley Coalition.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. McDermott stated there was nothing to report.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that he met with paving contractor and engineer for a walk through of the 2022 paving program. He noted that they were largely satisfied with work done. There remain some issues with the Pliney Way storm sewers, which is to be addressed. They are waiting for the reopening of asphalt plans to complete the tennis courts and Horace way. The program for 2023 paving is being worked on. The price of asphalt increased substantially last year and that is being factored into this years program. Our sewer contractor, Jet Jack, has installed the manhole at Koenig Field which allows televising a large segment of Nine Mile Run interceptor to determine its condition.

DCED contacted the borough requesting more information for a water/sewer grant for storm sewer work on Elmer and Beech streets. The requested information has been provided. Funding notice would be provided in the spring. This would allow for resurfacing of Elmer St and the addition of storm sewers there. A new officer list for the Fire Department is provided in packets. The department’s gear washer and dryer have arrived and are being installed. He noted the new officers are very engaged in facilities management. On February 28, an M47 (sewer) meeting will occur at the Borough Building with Upstream communities, including Edgewood, Swissvale and Wilkinsburg; along with our County Council representative and Three Rivers Wet Weather. The purpose is to discuss the overflow at Koenig Field. This follows a request to County Council by the mayor to help with the overflow issue at the field. Three Rivers Wet Weather has volunteered to provide funding to find out what is the cause of the issue and to find a solution.

NEW BUSINESS Mr. Sherman brought up the recent situation in East Palestine, Ohio, noting our own proximity to an active railway line. He inquired about an emergency plan for our own neighborhood for any type of significant situation. Mayor O’Donnell noted that there is a group that meets about the issue of double stack trains. Mr. Zahorchak responded that we do have a disaster preparedness plan. Discussion ensued over involvement of the plan and the creation of a document to outline that plan.

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-4 Dr. Epitropoulos did the second reading of Ordinance 1080 Emergency Services Cost Recovery (title only). Second by Ms. Yaney.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE NO. 1080**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOROUGH’S CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 17 BY ADDING EMERGENCY SERVICES COST RECOVERY, TO AUTHORIZE AND ESTABLISH RULES AND FEES ASSOCIATED WITH RECOVERY OF EMERGENCY SERVICES COSTS INCURRED BY EMERGENCY SERVICE PROVIDERS.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-5 Dr. Epitropoulos did the final reading of Ordinance 1080 Emergency Services Cost Recovery (title only). Second by Mr. Sherman.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE NO. 1080**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOROUGH’S CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 17 BY ADDING EMERGENCY SERVICES COST RECOVERY, TO

AUTHORIZE AND ESTABLISH RULES AND FEES ASSOCIATED WITH RECOVERY OF EMERGENCY SERVICES COSTS INCURRED BY EMERGENCY SERVICE PROVIDERS.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-6 Mr. Love asked, "shall this ordinance pass?"

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-7 Ms. Yaney did the second reading of Ordinance 1081 False Emergency Alarms (title only). Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE NO. 1081**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 75, ALARM SYSTEMS, ARTICLE I, AUTHORIZING REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTAIN COSTS AND ESTABLISHING PROTOCOLS FOR ADDRESSING FALSE EMERGENCY ALARMS.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Blasiolo asked if we already had something on file regarding false alarms. Mr. Zahorchak responded that this is an update to an old ordinance. Brief discussion ensued over payment of services and updates being made.

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

M-8 Ms. Yaney did the final reading of Ordinance 1081 False Emergency Alarms (title only). Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE NO. 1081**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 75, ALARM SYSTEMS, ARTICLE I, AUTHORIZING REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTAIN COSTS AND ESTABLISHING

PROTOCOLS FOR ADDRESSING FALSE EMERGENCY ALARMS.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-9 Mr. Love asked, "shall this ordinance pass?"

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-10 It was moved by Mr. Sherman and seconded by Ms. Yaney to adjourn at 8:34pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager