

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 15, 2023

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

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: No public comment was received.

Mayor O'Donnell stated that Representative Deluzio's office would like to arrange a briefing with council regarding legislation being drafted to address train derailments. He will provide more information as it becomes available.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-1 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2023. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-2 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2023 Council Meeting. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Love, 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 amended amount of \$ 132,010.08 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$12,191.24 for a total of \$144,201.32.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love stated that most items were fairly standard. There was a notable \$32,000 fuel payment. Mr. Zahorchak reviewed that item and noted that the correct amount was \$2,280.19.

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 \$ 102,010.08 (amended) and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$12,191.24 for a total of \$114,201.32 (amended). Second by Ms. Yaney.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Love reported that General Government met. They discussed CONNECT dues and decided that we will continue with that. He noted a potential overlap of ESW, VFD and DPW workers, which could be managed possibly by Public Safety.

POLICE: Mayor O'Donnell stated that he had nothing to report.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Ms. Yaney stated that Public Safety and Infrastructure did not meet, but should be meeting soon. A matter was noted to be discussed concerning a role overlap in ESW/VFD/DPW, with concern of coverage if called out while on duty in another position, creating a possible shortage.

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

PENSION AND PERSONNEL: Mr. Zahorchak noted that first quarter statements are available to be sent.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: Ms. Patel had nothing to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. McDermott requested a brief Executive Session following the meeting to discuss a personnel matter, with no action to be taken.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that the Laurel Street playground installation is complete, with benches, mulch and grass seed added. Tomorrow the traffic signal installer will begin pole foundation work on Race St and Pennwood Ave. The construction plan of bulb-outs to be built on Edgewood Ave is in the final draft, with work expected to start in June and should be completed within a week or two.

Mr. Zahorchak stated that he attended a luncheon sponsored by Lennon, Smith and Souleret. He noted that federally and state funded construction projects utilizing concrete, asphalt, or steel are now requiring a greenhouse gas emissions statement. This may effect funding going forward, but he noted it should not be a problem for the borough. Kheogh plumbing has finished the boiler installation and the asbestos remediation at the police department is moving along.

NEW BUSINESS Mr. Love inquired about whether federal infrastructure funding needs to be spent in a certain timeframe and if it's possible for that money to be revoked. Mr. Zahorchak noted that the funds are sitting in an account owned by the borough and can't just be pulled. He stated that we do have until the end of 2024 to spend the first-round payment, and until 2025 to spend the second round. A brief discussion ensued over this matter.

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-4 Ms. Yaney moved to accept the bid from White Landscaping Services in the amount of \$21,800 to reconstruct the failing retaining wall in the Dewey Street parking lot and to reject all other bids. Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that there are several retaining walls in the borough that were built at the same time, that now need to be reconstructed, of which this is one.

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

M-5 Mr. Love moved to authorize the borough manager to advertise the 2023 road paving program specifications. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Yaney inquired about a plan to pave over brick. Mr. Zahorchak responded that there are two separate bids; one for asphalt work, starting with Edgewood Ave, followed by other areas as able based on funding. The second bid is for brick patching with concrete work. Brief discussion ensued on this matter.

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

Ms. Yaney inquired about a bike meeting. Mr. Sherman responded that he attended a bike advocacy meeting, with Bike PGH. Information can be shared to make the neighborhood more bike-friendly. Ms. Yaney inquired whether bike lines could be added as we pave streets. Mr. Zahorchak responded that Edgewood Ave is not conducive to bike lanes, due to loss of parking and new bulb outs, plus the width change near the School for the Deaf. He noted that our engineer can review locations where bike safety could be improved as future work is planned.

Planning for a plastic bag ban was briefly discussed.

M-6 It was moved by Ms. Yaney and seconded by Mr. Sherman to adjourn at 8:20pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

An Executive Session was held at 8:20pm. No action was taken.



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager