

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 16, 2024

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

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following responded: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Epitropoulos, Mr. Love, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. Also present were Mayor O'Donnel, Borough Manager Zahorchak and Solicitor McDermott. Ms. Patel was absent.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: The following public comment was received.

Evan Burbridge, Shade Tree Committee: Mr. Burbridge discussed projects the Shade Tree Committee has worked on in the past and stated that the committee has some new goals for this year. This includes more community involvement with the care of newly-planted trees (ie, tree steward program); a neighborhood plant swap and/or a garden tour; and more public outreach and education.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-1 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of December 18, 2023. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-2 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of January 2, 2024. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Epitropoulos, Mr. Love, 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 \$79,431.30 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$21,400 for a total of \$100,831.30 (corrected from \$100,831.72 due to typo). Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love inquired about the wording on the motion. It was noted that payments were approved by the General Government committee.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Love reported that they had a recently discussed the Shade Tree committee.

POLICE: Mayor O'Donnel stated that he had nothing to report. Coffee with a Cop was briefly discussed. Mr. Zahorchak stated that assistance was requested in Swissvale recently, resulting in damage to one of the police vehicles by the fleeing perpetrator. The perpetrator was caught and the officer was sent to the hospital to be checked, but was not injured. The vehicle involved was already slated for replacement.

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

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Mr. Sherman stated that Community Affairs met to discuss Community Day. The last weekend of August falls on Labor Day weekend this year, so it was decided to hold Community Day on the weekend prior, on August 24.

PENSION AND PERSONNEL: Dr. Blasiolo stated that Pension and Personnel did not meet, but they did discuss placing an item on the next agenda to promote from within for Assistant Borough Manager.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: Nothing was reported.

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

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that the rescue truck is waiting at the repair shop for parts to be available. Race St was closed recently due to gas line replacement. Service has since been restored to the borough building. Tree trimming will start again for this year, including clearing space at Dickson Park. Mr. Love inquired about planting. Mr. Zahorchak replied that there is an approved budget of \$10,000 for tree replacement planting around the borough, which can be completed by Davey's Tree Service. That does not include any other type of landscape planting. Brief discussion ensued on this matter.

The audit starts next week, with no problems expected. There were some issues with health insurance enrollment for Highmark plans. A community meeting is happening at the First Presbyterian Church tomorrow. Mr. Love plans to attend to represent Council, and Ms. Ault will be there to discuss borough events. Public Works has been working overtime on the Chestnut St sewer issue to pump water and avoid water back-up in a resident's basement. Estimates are being taken for repairs. Discussion ensued on this matter.

Mr. Love inquired about the work along Pennwood Avenue being done by the railroad. Mr. Zahorchak replied that work is progressing, including cutting down some trees. Work on Race St will not take place until at least March to prepare for challenges with traffic through the tunnel.

NEW BUSINESS None.

COMMITTEE ACTION None.

- M-4** It was moved by Ms. Yaney and seconded by Dr. Epitropoulos to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager