

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

Council Vice President Love called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:35 pm.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following responded: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Epitropoulos, Mr. Love, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, and Ms. Yaney. Also present were Mayor O'Donnell, Police Chief Payne, Fire Chief Reynolds, Borough Manager Zahorchak, and Solicitor McDermott. Dr. Petrola arrived at 7:50 pm.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Amy Hooks, Edgewood Foundation: Ms. Hooks provided an update on behalf of the Edgewood Foundation. They had their yearly meeting recently. The Progressive Dinner is coming up on February 24. The deadline to sign up is February 15.

Doria Savisky, 115 W. Hutchinson Ave: Ms. Savisky noted her appreciation for the new Pickeball courts. She stated that she and some local friends that play are requesting consideration to have courts open more of the year. Brief discussion ensued on this matter.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-1 Dr. Blasiolo moved to authorize the payment of bills for goods and services received by the borough from the General Fund in the amount of \$113,153.11 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$12,310.89 for a total of \$125,464.00. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: Mr. O'Donnell inquired about a payment for updates in the fire garage area of the borough building. Mr. Zahorchak replied that in addition to shelving and a microwave, the cost includes new flooring and other materials.

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

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Mr. Sherman read Resolution 2024-13: Disabled Parking Space; 416 Locust. Second by Ms. Yaney.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2024-13**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
APPROVING CREATION OF A DISABLED PERSON PARKING SPACE**

WHEREAS the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the need for parking for its disabled residents; and

WHEREAS one disabled person parking space shall be created at **416 Locust Street** in the Borough of Edgewood to be marked and used for a handicapped parking space; and

WHEREAS the disabled person parking space shall be permitted for one year and upon the expiration of one year to be submitted and reevaluated the Borough of Edgewood for approval for an additional year with the process to continue from year to year until the handicapped need is removed or the premises are sold; and

WHEREAS in the event that there is no longer a need for a disabled person parking space or in the event that the property has been sold, the placard and markings shall be removed.

ADOPTED this 5th day of February, 2024.

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-3 Ms. Patel read Resolution 2024-14: Records Disposal. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-14**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN RECORDS PURSUANT TO THE MUNICIPAL RECORDS ACT OF 1968, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES AND SCHEDULE FOR DISPOSITION OF SUCH RECORDS AS SET FORTH IN THE MUNICIPAL RECORDS MANUAL AS ADOPTED BY BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Schedule of Documents Authorized to be Destroyed
February 2, 2024

Documents from 2015 & 2016 including:

Bank statements
Accounts payable reports
Sewer fund
Miscellaneous finance
Vendors files – A-Z
Front desk and dispatch receipt books
Employee payroll reports
Payroll taxes & employee paystubs

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-4 Dr. Epitropoulos did the first reading of Ordinance 1084. Second by Ms. Yaney.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 1084

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING SECTION 193-9 PROHIBITED TURNS AT
INTERSECTIONS, SECTION 193-14 STOP INTERSECTIONS, AND SECTION 193-16 CLOSING
OF CERTAIN STREETS TO CERTAIN VEHICLES.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Council for the Borough of Edgewood as follows:

Section I: Amendments

- A.** Amending §193-9 Prohibited Turns at Intersections as follows:
 - i. No Left Turn from Allenby Avenue onto South Braddock Avenue at any time.
- B.** Amending §193-14 Stop Intersections as follows:
 - i. Placing a Stop Sign on Westmoreland Avenue at LaCrosse Street requiring southbound traffic to stop.
- C.** Amending §193-16 Closing of Certain Streets to Certain Vehicles as follows:
 - i. Placing TWO R5-2 No Truck Signs at the intersections of McKay Street and Race Street and McKay Street and West Swissvale Avenue.
 - ii. Placing TWO R5-2-3 Except Local Delivery Signs at the intersections of McKay Street and Race Street and McKay Street and West Swissvale Avenue.

Section II: Severability

If any one or more of the provisions or terms of this Ordinance shall be held invalid for any reason whatsoever, then, such provision or terms shall be deemed severable from the remaining provisions or terms of this Ordinance to the maximum extent possible and shall in no way affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions hereof.

Section III: Repealer

Any ordinance, or any part of any ordinance, in conflict herewith is hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section IV: Effective Date

The provisions of this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon being recorded in the Borough Ordinance Book.

Dr. Petrolla arrived at 7:50pm.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak stated that Swissvale is installing a stop sign on their side of Westmoreland and Lacrosse, turning the two-way stop into a four. This follows several crashes that have occurred there. This should also help to fix parking issues in that area. Following a traffic study on McKay St, signs are being placed to restrict large trucks from the street. This should help to prevent issues with trucks getting stuck and making difficult turn-arounds. A no-left turn sign is being placed for traffic going onto S. Braddock Ave from Allenby due to site restrictions and safety issues.

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

M-5 Dr. Epitropoulos moved to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise Ordinance 1084. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-6 Dr. Blasiolo moved to promote Abigail Ault to Assistant Manager effective Tuesday February 6, 2024 at an annual salary of \$50,000. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-7 Mr. Sherman moved to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise a request for proposals for pension plan legal services. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that several pension attorneys have recently retired, leaving us in search of pension legal services. Solicitor McDermott added that there are some posting requirements based on Act 44.

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

BUSINESS MEETING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Reynolds reported that the rescue truck is out for repairs and is expected to be back tomorrow, following some delays due to supply chain issues. The department received a \$15,000 grant from the office of the State Fire Commissioner for debt reduction. This is part of a shared grant from FEMA for rescue tools approved in 2021. The department is awaiting a \$5,000 grant from Department of Health to replace outdated suction

units and the department is applying to another grant through FEMA for \$163,000 to replace 20 hand-held radios which are no longer NFP compliant. The department may be asking for a letter of support from the borough. There are three new members, plus seven new junior members have recently been added. They are learning about the equipment now. There were only 40 calls in January, which was notably slow. There are normally about 60 calls per month. Chief Reynolds expects that to increase. Mr. Love inquired if the grants have any matching requirements. Mr. Reynolds replied that they do not. Brief discussion occurred over the increase in membership.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT: Mr. Fuller reported that the Water Authority had their annual reorganization meeting and all officers are the same. They are continuing lead line replacement. Under the first phase, about 1,200 lines were replaced. There are about 845 agreements in Phase 2, with about 440 inspections completed. They are having some trouble getting resident permission to do inspections. A new paving contract was signed with Liberoni. There have been no shut offs since December following issues with the bill switch-over. Shut-offs will resume in April. There have been frequent issues with line breaks, including one recently that involved an issue with a gas line. They will be changing the response procedure following difficulties reaching the inspector with the frequency of breaks. The Water Authority is considering generating their own chlorine as chloramine. This could reduce issues with impact of major leaks if one were to occur.

RECREATION REPORT: Ms. Ault reported that Youth Basketball is almost halfway through their season, and things are going well. At the start of the season, we created a special scrimmage team to accommodate kids from the wait-list for the regular league. That has been very well received and the families that are participating are happy for the opportunity for their kids to get some time on the court. In our regular league, some teams from the youngest division have had the opportunity to play a few scrimmage games with the School for the Deaf. We've had very preliminary discussions with the School for the Deaf about possibly collaborating on some single event activities this spring, like a kickball game or track and field day. Winter Futsal has started, and we've just about reached capacity this year, with 19 participants (max of 20), and most are return players.

Planning is underway for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. This will take place on Saturday, March 23rd at 1pm, with a rain date of Sunday, March 24th. We moved it to the afternoon based on some feedback from families. We hope the timing will allow it to be little warmer as well. The Scouts will be joining us again with Easter Bunny Photos. And new this year, the Edgewood VFD will be there to sell coffee, and plan to have a fire truck that kids can check out after the hunt.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Mr. Zahorchak stated that the planning commission did not meet.

COG REPORT: Mayor O'Donnell had nothing to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. McDermott referred to the earlier note about the pension plan search requirement. Besides that, an Executive Session is requested to discuss a personnel matter, with no action to be taken.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that sewer work continues on Chestnut and Aberdeen. JetJack was the most responsive bidding contractor with an estimated cost of \$250,000 and a three to four week turn-around time. They discovered that the manhole is precast instead of brick which saves \$15,000 to \$20,000. It's still an extensive project, affecting residents on Elm, Oakview, and Chestnut, including those who own garages on Aberdeen. They have been notified of temporary parking arrangements as the street is closed for the foreseeable future. The rescue truck will be back in service tomorrow. A grant of almost \$300,000 from PennDOT has been approved for traffic signal work on S Braddock Ave. This includes signals from W Hutchinson to Roslyn St in Swissvale. They will be

upgraded with new controllers, signal heads, reflective signage, battery back-up and more. Mr. Zahorchak noted that the signals were all installed at the same time, and all are now in need of these upgrades.

At the March 4 meeting, Jason Stanton from Lennon, Smith, and Souleret will be providing an update on the source flow reduction project. This will include information on the latest consent order for sewer operations. This will be helpful for preparing for the 2025 budget. The new police car for this year has been ordered. Chief Payne will be doing the paper work on Thursday. The car should be here sometime in the spring. Davey Tree Service has been doing work in the borough, including removing overgrowth at Dickson Park. There is a site plan that was adopted several years ago for the park. We will be applying to grants in the spring to work towards that. This project will likely take several years to complete. In the meantime, Public Works is removing a fence and doing some clean-up work. PennDOT has notified us of work being done on I-376 starting on Wednesday and going through early April. This includes single lane restrictions on both sides, and will occur between Churchill and the Monroeville business district on weeknights between 6pm-5am and as needed weekdays 9am-3pm. Work includes pothole repair, and preparation for future work on the Parkway.

NEW BUSINESS None.

M-8 It was moved by Ms. Yaney and seconded by Dr. Epitropoulos to adjourn at 8:15pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

An Executive Session was held at 8:20pm lasting until 8:50 pm to discuss a personnel matter.



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager