

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 20, 2024

Council Vice President Love called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: No public comment was received.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-1 Mr. Sherman moved to approve the minutes of April 15, 2024. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-2 Mr. Sherman moved to approve the minutes of May 6, 2024. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-3 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 \$84,087.00 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$18,038.53 for a total of \$102,125.53. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Blasiolo noted that there was a substantial payment to LSSE.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Dr. Blasiolo reported that there is a sink hole on S Braddock Ave in need of repair. He noted that it should be a fairly straight forward fix. Mr. Zahorchak added that there is another infrastructure issue involving a storm sewer and sanitary sewer between two properties on Race St. Options for repair are in consideration. Discussion ensued on this matter.

POLICE: Police Chief Payne reported that the Civil Service Test took place last week. There were eight candidates, of which one was a no-show, one did not pass the physical test, and one failed the written test; leaving five candidates. The next step is to set up an oral board and establish an eligibility list. Mr. Sherman asked Chief Payne about the increase in arrests over the past two years. Chief Payne replied that some of the increase is due to the diligence of our current officers. It was noted that Covid may have caused a decrease, which is now leveling out.

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 the budget line item for a public art display. He noted that the committee has it in mind to go with a nature theme, with hopes to find a local artist to work with. Sites and the scope of the project are being considered now. Brief discussion ensued over this matter. Mr. Zahorchak stated that Shaolin studios would like to sponsor a movie night this summer. Council had no objections.

PENSION AND PERSONNEL: Dr. Blasiolo stated that Pension and Personnel did not meet.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: Mr. Love noted that there is a COG meeting on Thursday. Brief discussion occurred concerning a letter related to the purchase of US Steel.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. McDermott had nothing to report.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak stated that items from his report, including infrastructure repairs and the movie night, were already provided earlier in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Zahorchak stated that we are planning to fix the Brinton Road/Maple Avenue island soon. There is an upcoming meeting with our engineer to prepare bid documents. He noted that the intersection will form a 'T' and the left turn which currently faces oncoming traffic will become a normal left turn. Discussion ensued on this matter.

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-4 Mr. Sherman moved to adopt Resolution 2024-16, a resolution requesting \$250,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority's Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program for improvements to Dickson Park. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-16

Be it RESOLVED, that the Borough of Edgewood hereby request a Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Dickson Park Improvements.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate Justin Petrolla, Borough Council President and Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager as the officials to execute all documents and agreements between the Borough of Edgewood and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that this is the first phase towards a previously written masterplan to make improvements to Dickson Park.

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

M-5 Dr. Blasiolo moved to hire Ryan Patrick as a full time Public Works Laborer effective Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at a starting rate of \$22 per hour as specified in the Department's collective bargaining agreement. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: Mayor O'Donnell inquired about training for the CDL requirement. Mr. Zahorchak replied that we do have some additional candidates but may need to consider giving laborers time to take CDL training. It is required to drive the street cleaner.

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

M-6 Ms. Yaney moved to execute a memorandum of understanding with the boroughs of Braddock Hills and Swissvale for sewer improvement projects and source flow reduction in the M-47 sewershed. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak stated that this is part of the SSO elimination plan. This defines cost sharing and project responsibility, and a general timeline. He noted that in the draft that was provided, there appears to be an error on page 7 which will be checked.

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

M-7 Dr. Blasiolo moved to accept Glenn Kopp's letter of resignation from his position of part time police officer effective April 29, 2024. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that he was working only a few hours per month and it should not be a problem to adjust the schedule.

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

- M-8** Ms. Patel moved to appoint Ralph Sinnamond as the Edgewood Borough Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer effective immediately. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

Mr. Zahorchak noted that there will be a Memorial Day service on Sunday at 1pm at Memorial Park, with a luncheon to follow at the church.

- M-9** It was moved by Mr. Sherman and seconded by Ms. Yaney to adjourn the meeting at 8:29pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager