

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
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NOVEMBER 3, 2008

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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD  
NOVEMBER 3, 2008**

Council President Schaefer called the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood to order on Monday, November 3, 2008 at 7:31 PM in the Municipal Building.

**ROLL CALL**

Borough Manager Kurt Ferguson called the roll and the following responded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Szefi, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer.

Mr. Harding was absent.

Mayor Jean O. Davin was in town and available by phone. Solicitor W. Timothy Barry and the Junior Councilperson were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

Mr. Doyle of the C. C. Mellor Library Board and Community House gave appreciation for Council's past help and made an appeal to Council to increase their funding to the Library for 2009 to \$49,250 and for 2010 to \$49,650. He also asked that the Council consider personal contributions. Mr. Doyle gave statistics from a fact sheet and stated that the community gets a major return on their investment with the Library. The Library undertook a private project for infrastructure projects, according to Mr. Doyle.

Mr. Doyle stated that the Library has an obligation to reduce costs, but said that some costs are unable to be reduced, such as healthcare and utilities. He did say, however, that the reduction may involve salary and staffing cuts, but the Library is mandated by the state to retain a certain number of full-time employees.

Officer Dennis Hockenberry then spoke and thanked Council for the generous bonus given to him.

Ms. Schaefer said that he fulfilled his management position while the Borough was looking for a Chief. She further stated that his ability to be the go-to person was extremely important to Council and deserving of the stipend.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS**

**M-1 Ms. McDonald moved to authorize the payment of bills, for goods and services received by the Borough, having been reviewed and approved by the Borough Council in the amount of \$38,206.28. Second by Mr. Hellett.**

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Szefi, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. **Motion carried.**

- M-2 **Ms. McDonald moved to accept the resignation of Michael Crow as a full-time officer from the Edgewood Police Department effective November 1, 2008. Second by Mr. Reynolds.**

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Szefi, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. Ms. McDonald voted no. **Motion carried.**

- M-3 **Ms. McDonald moved to hire Michael Crow as a part-time officer with the Edgewood Police Department at \$15 an hour, effective immediately. Second by Mr. Reynolds.**

DISCUSSION: Solicitor Barry said that there is a difference between full- and part-time status for Civil Service and stated that Officer Crow would need to be sworn in again, not necessarily at a Council meeting, just prior to a shift.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Szefi, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. **Motion carried.**

- M-4 **Mr. Szefi offered Resolution 2008-29 and asked for its immediate adoption. Second by Ms. McDonald.**

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**

**RESOLUTION 2008-29**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Edgewood provides a uniformed pension plan for its full-time employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the employees contribute a portion of their pay to this pension plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the employment may be terminated before an employee is vested in the plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Edgewood Borough uniformed pension plan will refund Michael Crow his personal contributions made during his employment.

**ADOPTED THIS THE 3<sup>rd</sup>** day of November 2008 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

ATTEST:

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Borough Secretary

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Council President

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Szefi, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. **Resolution Passes.**

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

### **VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Halle said that October was a very busy month. The hay ride, according to Mr. Halle, went very well and the wagon took several trips around the Borough.

The Edgewood Volunteer Fire Department helped with two structure fires in Swissvale.

There are two new members in the Volunteer Fire Department, one who is rescue certified. The other is a junior member who has been quite active.

The luminaria are being assembled and the yearly fund drive is underway. Mr. Halle reported that two new grants have been received and both are being used for structural fire fighting gear and items to be used during Parkway incidents.

Light-up Night and Santa festivities are being planned, according to Mr. Halle.

Mr. Halle requested Council's help with being dispatched by the County to Parkway incidents.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer said that Council has been made aware of the situation and is in the process of handling this.

Mr. Halle mentioned that two additional AED's have been received from St. Margaret Foundation through Mr. Laird.

Mr. Cook asked about street captains for the luminaria distribution.

### **WATER AUTHORITY REPORT**

Mr. Fuller noted that it has been a quiet summer. He said that the budget is currently being prepared. He did say that the chemical bids are twenty percent (20%) higher this year, with the exception of chlorine. He also mentioned that healthcare costs have increased twelve percent (12%).

Mr. Fuller stated that the construction season has wound down and there were thirty four (34) breaks last month.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer thanked Mr. Fuller for his hard work with the Council.

### **RECREATION REPORT**

Mr. Ferguson reported that the basketball registrations have been mailed and are online. He also reported that several adult volunteers have been secured. The registration deadline is December 13, 2008 and the games begin January 3, 2009.

DISCUSSION: None.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

Mr. Szefi stated that the Committee did not meet.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ferguson reported that the forty five (45) day review period for the Comprehensive Plan has passed.

### **COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG) REPORT**

Mr. Hellett did not attend the meeting and had no report.

DISCUSSION: None.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Barry reported on a law which was recently passed by the state legislature regarding retired police officers who have a surviving spouse.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Barry will review the law.

### **BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Ferguson reported that one hundred fifty (150) tons of rock salt is currently available, since extra salt was ordered at the end of last year.

Mr. Ferguson reported that a meeting was held with Building Inspection Underwriters and that he will update Council soon. Mr. Reynolds, according to Mr. Ferguson, is taking the lead on the work to be done with Public Safety.

The PennDot work is completed and there were clean up issues with dirt which was left by them behind an Edgewood resident's property.

Mr. Ferguson reported that he was unable to attend a recent Intercouncil meeting, but Mr. Belmont provided a detailed update of this meeting. He said there was strong interest and support

for doing joint purchasing from Churchill, Forest Hills, Wilkins and Turtle Creek. Strong interest also was expressed by Mr. Bond from Monroeville Borough to have them participate in a joint paving contract. There was also talk that Rankin, Chalfant and Braddock were interested in doing a joint bid. It was Mr. Ferguson's belief that more streets will be able to be paved for the same amount of money by doing a joint process.

The evaluation forms will be delivered to Council for both Chief Payne and himself, according to Mr. Ferguson.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer asked that the forms be returned to Ms. McDonald, who will share them with Mayor Davin.

Regarding the bidding process, Mr. Ferguson informed Council that Mr. Belmont asked if Mr. Ferguson would be interested in being a facilitator, which would require coordinating meetings between the engineers and members, coordinating pre-construction meetings. Mr. Ferguson felt comfortable with this idea.

Ms. Schaefer asked that this be discussed with General Government. She expressed concern about liability issues.

Mr. Reynolds asked if there is an administrative method for this to be handled through the Intercouncil. Ms. Schaefer stated that it is not a recognized entity, but was instead the brainchild of Mr. Porco and Mr. Belmont, who wanted to share facilities or bidding.

Mr. Barry stated that the Council of Governments (COG) is a formal intergovernmental entity with their own administration. He said that if there are informal discussions taking place with other municipalities, this is fine, but otherwise, an intergovernmental cooperation agreement would be needed. He further stated that if Mr. Ferguson is a facilitator, this needs to be formalized.

It was Mr. Ferguson's feeling that all communities should enter into an intergovernmental agreement. He gave an example of a large company pulling out of a bidding process, thereby collapsing the deal onto the others involved.

Further discussion ensued regarding this subject and Ms. Schaefer asked that the issues be reviewed.

Ms. McDonald said that an invitation was received through Mr. Belmont of the Intercouncil Committee to attend a welcome dinner for Dr. Callendar. Dr. Callendar requested another meeting and Ms. McDonald was very impressed that the School Board came to Council for this.

Ms. Schaefer noted that once a date is decided, Council members will be notified.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Budget meetings were set for November 8, 2008 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM and November 10, 2008 from 7:00 – 9:30 PM. Mr. Reynolds will be out of town and unable to attend.

Ms. McDonald reminded residents to vote.

**M-5 Following an Executive Session which lasted from 9:25 PM until 9:50 PM, the meeting was adjourned.**

DISCUSSION: None

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Szefi, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. **Motion carried.**

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Kurt Ferguson  
Borough Manager