

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
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DECEMBER 7, 2009**

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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD  
DECEMBER 7, 2009**

Council President Schaefer called the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood to order on Monday, December 7, 2009 at 7:31 PM in the Municipal Building.

**ROLL CALL**

Borough Manager Warren Cecconi called the roll and the following responded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Shultz, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer.

Mayor Jean O. Davin, Solicitor W. Timothy Barry and the Junior Councilperson were present.

President Schaefer asked the audience to observe a moment of silence for the death of Penn Hills police officer, Michael Crawshaw.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

Rob Felter, representing the Edgewood Foundation, reported that Light-Up Night, in conjunction with the Edgewood Volunteer Fire Department, was a success with a turnout of 150 to 175 people.

Mr. Felter noted that the Progressive Dinner will be held in February and the Foundation's annual appeal will be out soon. As well, the Edgewood Foundation's afghans will be sold at the Garden Club's Greens Sale.

**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 General Government Committee in the amount of \$67,455.99. Second by Mr. Cook.**

DISCUSSION: None.

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

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

**M-2 Ms. McDonald read Ordinance 1030 on First Reading and asked for its immediate adoption. Second by Mr. Cook.**

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**

**ORDINANCE 1030**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2010**

**BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED**, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

**SECTION 1:** That a tax be and the same is hereby levied on all real property, within said Borough subject to taxation for Borough purposes for the fiscal year 2010 as follows:

Tax rate for general Borough purposes, the total of eight and six hundred sixty-one thousandths (8.661) mills on each thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

1 mill = \$1.00 for every \$1,000 assessment  
8.661 mills = \$8.661 for every \$1,000 assessment

**SECTION 2:** That any ordinance, or part thereof, conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance be and the same is hereby repealed insofar as the same is affected by this Ordinance.

**ORDAINED AND ENACTED** into law this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December 2009.

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Warren Cecconi  
Borough Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia M. Schaefer  
Council President

**EXAMINED AND APPROVED** by me this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean O. Davin, Mayor

DISCUSSION: Solicitor Barry indicated that he spoke with Mr. Cecconi and this will be the First and Second Reading only. The budget will be adopted on December 21, 2009 prior to the tax ordinance being passed. He said that the new Council has the right to reopen the budget.

Ms. Schaefer congratulated the newly elected Council members and commended their participation in the processes at hand.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Shultz, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. **First Reading Passes.**

- M-3 Ms. McDonald read Ordinance 1030 on Second Reading (Title Only) and asked for its immediate adoption. Second by Mr. Cook.

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD

ORDINANCE 1030

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2010

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Shultz, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. **Second Reading Passes.**

- M-4 Mr. Reynolds moved to sign a Letter of Intent asking the Governor's Center for Local Government Services to fund a peer-to-peer study of our Public Works Department.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cecconi explained that this procedure would give an unbiased assessment of the Public Works Department and formulate an action plan, if necessary. He said that eventually he would like to do this in all departments.

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

- M-5 Ms. McDonald moved to approve the Franchise Amendment Agreement between the Borough of Edgewood and Comcast which: amends the definition of Gross Revenue included in the Franchise Agreement dated September 7, 2004; adds 5 years to the term of the Franchise Agreement so that the amended agreement would have an expiration date of September 6, 2019 and increases the franchise fee to 5% of Gross Revenue. Second by Mr. Reynolds.

DISCUSSION: Ms. McDonald stated that it is the Borough's intention to pursue the same thing with Verizon.

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

- M-6 Ms. McDonald moved to authorize payment of Estimate #2 and final for the 2009 Road Program in the amount of \$4,314.69. Second by Mr. Cook.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cecconi informed Council that this completes the entire process for road paving.

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

- M-7 Ms. McDonald moved to advertise the first meeting of the year on January 4, 2010 at 7:30 PM. This will be the Reorganization Meeting. Second by Mr. Cook.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer explained that at the first meeting the re- and newly-elected Council people will bring their Certificates of Election to be sworn in, beginning with the Mayor.

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

- M-8 Mr. Hellett moved to hire Jim Scuffle as a part-time (as needed) Emergency Services worker at an hourly wage of \$10.00, contingent upon him passing a physical, drug test and background check. Second by Ms. McDonald.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cecconi explained the rationale for hiring Mr. Scuffle on an as-needed basis.

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

- M-9 Ms. McDonald moved to approve the Sanitary Sewer Overflow Response Plan. Second by Mr. Cook.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cecconi said that the Consent Order dictates how the Borough reacts to these occasions and there is a form to be filled out if there is a backflow which will need to be sent to the County.

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

### **VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Reynolds stated luminaria are now being sold. For Light-Up Night, Mr. Reynolds said there were about 75 children present.

According to Mr. Reynolds, the Volunteer Fire Department has switched from VHF to UHF frequency which will change how communications are handled between departments. He stated that the benefit is that frequencies are shared with Swissvale and Wilkinsburg and multiple channels can be run without interfering with other channels. A state grant was received to fund radios and pagers which are now in the possession of the Fire Department.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer asked that Mr. Reynolds give sincere thanks to the Volunteer Fire Department for their participation. She also said that the luminaria kits are \$8.00.

### **WATER AUTHORITY REPORT**

Mr. Fuller reported that the Water Authority budget for 2010 was passed with no residential increase.

A clean-up of the East McKeesport tank produced 4" of silt from the tank bottom.

Mr. Fuller said there will be no December Water Authority meeting.

DISCUSSION: None.

### **RECREATION REPORT**

Mr. Cecconi reported that the next program is children's and men's basketball. He also stated that the next meeting of the Recreation Board will be in January.

DISCUSSION: None.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

Mr. Shultz had no report.

DISCUSSION: None.

### **COG REPORT**

Ms. Schaefer reported that there is a meeting on December 9, 2009 and Mr. Hellett and Junior Councilperson Horner will attend. This will be followed by an Intercouncil meeting.

DISCUSSION: None.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Barry had no separate report.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

Mr. Cecconi reported that he received the final recommendation for the Nine Mile Run interceptor. He stated that once this is reviewed by Council, he will send results to the residents. The cost is about \$360,000.

Regarding the Train Station, Mr. Cecconi said the work is continuing and should be wrapping up January 31, 2010. He indicated that everything requires special ordering.

The 2010 budget has been advertised, according to Mr. Cecconi and a copy has been placed in the Borough Building, the Library and on the website. As far as the joint energy purchasing program, there has been no activity.

The annual Borough Christmas Party will be held December 24, 2009 at 12:00 PM and a party for the firemen will take place on December 17, 2009.

DISCUSSION: None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. McDonald asked Mayor Davin to read a letter from the CALEA recognition program which commended Edgewood programming and accredited the Borough for the next three-year period.

Ms. McDonald said that this is an exciting moment for Edgewood which started with Chief Wood. She further indicated that Chief Payne went to Utah in November to seek this national accreditation. Only two police departments in Pennsylvania received the award.

Ms. Schaefer stated that the certificate will be here in January.

Ms. McDonald was approached by an Edgewood resident with a request to evaluate a resolution to save Braddock Hospital and the following resolution was offered.

**M-10 Ms. McDonald offered Resolution 2009-35 and asked for its immediate adoption. Second by Mr. Cook.**

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**

**RESOLUTION 2009-35**

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY HOSPITALS  
KEEP BRADDOCK HOSPITAL OPEN**

**WHEREAS**, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) announced in October that it planned to close the 123 bed Braddock Hospital on January 31, 2010; and,

**WHEREAS**, Braddock Hospital addresses life and death health care needs of not only Braddock residents, but neighbors from other surrounding communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Wilksburg Council passed a sister resolution on November 18, 2009 and we recognize the importance of supporting and cooperating with our surrounding municipalities, to the benefit of everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, UPMC is the largest private employer in the Greater Pittsburgh region and is a multi-national corporation with health care facilities in Ireland, Italy, the United Kingdom, Qatar and Cyprus; and

**WHEREAS**, Braddock is an Act 47 distressed community. As a result of massive plant closings throughout the Mon Valley over the past two decades, Braddock residents have one of the lowest income per person rates in Allegheny County; and

**WHEREAS**, Braddock Hospital is the second largest employer in town, providing 652 jobs, has the only restaurant (the hospital cafeteria) and the only ATM; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Pennsylvania Health Department, Braddock Hospital had a 72.4% occupancy rate in 2007-2008. That represents an occupancy rate higher than six (6) other Allegheny County hospitals including UPMC Mercy, West Penn, Heritage Valley (in Sewickley) and Ohio Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, Allegheny County is building a \$14 million senior citizen facility across the street from Braddock Hospital. Proximity to the hospital played a major role in the selection of the Braddock location; and

**WHEREAS**, Pennsylvania taxpayers gave UPMC Braddock a \$3 million grant in 2008 to spruce up the façade; and

**WHEREAS**, UPMC is currently affecting site preparation work for a new, \$250 million hospital in Monroeville, over eight miles away from Braddock and near another hospital, Forbes Regional. Allegheny General/West Penn, although in a competing insurance system, offered to treat UPMC clients at their Forbes Regional facility. UPMC rejected that offer; and

**WHEREAS**, UPMC is a non-profit corporation claiming over \$11 billion in reserves and pays its Chief Executive Officer \$4.5 million per year. Executive pay exceeds the entire budget of many Allegheny County communities, including Edgewood; and

**WHEREAS**, the Braddock Borough Council and their Mayor are leading a community-based effort to save Braddock Hospital.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that on behalf of Edgewood residents, Edgewood Council fully endorses Braddock Borough's campaign to "save our hospital."

**RESOLVED BY THE EDGEWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL** on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December 2009.

**ATTEST**

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**

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Warren Cecconi, Borough Manager

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Patricia M. Schaefer, Council President

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Schaefer concurred that the resolution is factual.

Mayor Davin stated that Shadyside has been without beds over the last few months and is sending patients to other hospitals. The closure of another hospital, according to the Mayor, will throw more patients into places that cannot handle the overflow. She felt this was an excellent resolution on behalf of Council.

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

Five part-time police candidates will be interviewed December 8, 2009 from the original eight that applied.

Ms. Schaefer spoke of an article regarding CONNECT, a program of 35 contiguous communities through GSPIA. There was discussion of energy solutions with sister communities and the advantage of working together for transportation, sanitary sewer and purchasing issues.



**ADJOURNMENT**

Following an Executive Session which lasted from 8:12 PM to 11:18 PM, the following motion was made by Ms. McDonald and seconded by Mr. Reynolds.

- M-11 Ms. McDonald moved to authorize the advertisement of an RFP for a tenant who will occupy and build out the Edgewood Train Station. The specifications for the RFP will be prepared by the Borough Manager and Solicitor, subject to review by Borough Council. Second by Mr. Reynolds.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-12 It was moved by Ms. McDonald and seconded by Mr. Reynolds to adjourn the meeting at 11:19 PM.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

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Warren Cecconi  
Borough Manager