

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**  
**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Schaefer called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:35 PM in the Municipal Building.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call, the following responded: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller (arrived 8:10 PM) and Ms. Schaefer.

Mayor Hellett, Solicitor Barry and Junior Councilperson Brouman were also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

Ms. Reis of Churchill presented to Council that she will be running for the Woodland Hills School Board. It was Ms. Reis's opinion that over the last few years there has not been a discussion of activity in the individual boroughs that make up the School District. Ms. Reis's goal centers around any and all taxpayers being heard and to address the needs of all concerned.

President Schaefer offered Ms. Reis information on an organization, headed by Mr. Belmont, which meets after the Council of Government meeting on the last Thursday of each month. She stated that this has been a positive experience.

Ms. Reis said that all 12 boroughs needed to work together. She mentioned that this region has an aging population and her intent with serving on the Board was to keep her finger on the pulse of the region.

Adam Zelenko, a member of Edgewood Boy Scout Troop 23, and a candidate for Eagle Scout, gave a presentation regarding installation of a sound system for Borough Council. He showed the equipment to be used and stated that five microphones would be placed on Council's table, as well as a listening system for those who are hearing impaired in some way.

Ms. Waldock had various questions including how to control the off and on; is the system wireless; how does the playback work and what software is used.

Mr. Zelenko, Jr. explained that the system will be placed out of sight under the Council table. He said that he will return for three months to train Council on the system's use.

Stephen Zelenko said that Council will have complete control of the system and explained that there is no streaming involved.

In response to an earlier question regarding the system's use during Executive Session, Ms. Schaefer stated that the Borough is an open government and all meetings are open to the public, except Executive Session which deals with real estate, litigation or personnel. These would not be recorded.

Mr. Barry explained, following a conversation regarding record retention, that he has seen meetings where the tapes are available until the minutes are approved, followed by the tapes being recycled.

An intense discussion ensued regarding when the recordings would be available for the public.

Mr. Zelenko, Sr. asked if there is need to worry about website or server space.

Following Ms. Waldock's question regarding the size of a file for a three-hour meeting, Mr. Zelenko, Sr. explained that the file can be compressed. Ms. Waldock also asked if the Borough has a retention policy and was answered in the negative by Mr. Barry.

Mr. Cecconi stated that the Borough follows the state's guidelines.

President Schaefer told Mr. Zelenko, Jr. that this was a wonderful Eagle Scout project. She said that the hearing devices will help and asked about the installation time expected.

Mr. Zelenko, Sr. said that it would take a weekend or two, plus the three-month training. He also explained that the size of the amplifier is about the size of a drawer.

**M-1 Ms. Gleba moved to approve the minutes of January 18, 2011. Second by Mr. Wilson.**

DISCUSSION: As with the last meeting, Ms. Waldock said that the correct way to approve the minutes is to ask if there were corrections to be made. Therefore, prior to the vote, Ms. Gleba rescinded her motion and Mr. Wilson rescinded his second. The President asked if there were corrections to be made. There were none.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Ms. Schaefer. Mr. Fuller was not present for this vote. **Motion carried.**

**M-2 Ms. Gleba moved to approve the minutes of February 7, 2011. Second by Mr. Wilson.**

Ms. Schaefer asked if there were corrections to the minutes of February 7, 2011.

Both Ms. Gleba and Mr. Wilson rescinded their motion and second, respectively and proceeded to give their corrections to the minutes.

Ms. Waldock removed a sentence on page 5 regarding appointing two new members. Page 6, paragraph 4, was changed from "the street" to "La Crosse Street."

Under the Volunteer Fire Department Report, the word "newsletter" was added in the first sentence after the word "numbers."

Under Library Report, paragraph 1, last sentence, change "budget" to "contribution." In the second paragraph, line 1, change "Library Board" to "Edgewood."

**M-3 Ms. Gleba moved to approve the corrected minutes of February 7, 2011. Second by Mr. Wilson.**

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Ms. Schaefer. Mr. Fuller was not present for this vote. **Motion carried.**

**M-4 Ms. Gleba 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, from the General Fund, in the amount of \$33,663.12. Second by Mr. Wilson.**

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer asked if one of the Lionworks bills was from last year and was answered in the affirmative.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Ms. Schaefer. Mr. Fuller was not present for this vote. **Motion carried.**

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Ms. Gleba noted that a General Government meeting will be held on February 28, 2011 at 6:30 PM with special emphasis on the newsletter. Representatives from the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf will also be present.

Another meeting will be scheduled for March 14, 2011 regarding delinquent taxes in the Borough and how to proceed, according to Ms. Gleba.

Suggestions were made, being led by Ms. Waldock, suggesting a number of different surveys that might be done over the course of a year.

Mr. Wilson said surveys can be placed in the Borough Building.

Mr. Fuller arrived at this point (8:10 PM) and voted on all remaining motions.

## **POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

Mayor Hellett gave the highlights of both reports. He then introduced Police Chief Payne, who talked about the productive meeting held with Allegheny County District Attorney Zappala, members of Wilkesburg Borough and Swissvale Borough's Chief Geppert. As well, in the future the plan is to meet with the City of Pittsburgh Police's Commander Dengler of Zone 4 and other agencies to get a better relationship in dealing with investigations. The Chief noted that three surveillance cameras will be placed in Regent Square with one of those cameras being high tech enough to read license plate information from some distance. Chief Payne said that collectively the group and the cameras have made a big impact on crime in that area.

Ms. Waldock asked how Edgewood Borough crime statistics compared to surrounding communities.

On January 17, 2011, the Chief attended a Council of Government meeting regarding police testing in Monroeville where a Mr. Gamble spoke. He talked of doing what the South Hills Council of Government does; that is, testing all municipalities from one list. This action would lower the cost for the test with multiple municipalities sharing in the cost, reduce advertising and reduce the cost for eligibility lists. The Chief did say that there is still work to be done in this area.

The Chief continued, prompted by Ms. Schaefer's question as to how this would work, by stating that all candidates would indicate what communities they would be interested in working in. The physical agility testing would be given first, followed by the written test. The expense for advertising would be shared, probably around \$100 per community, according to the Chief.

Solicitor Barry noted that a new Civil Service law was passed last year. He felt that shared cost was a good idea; however, the issue that he foresees is that different municipalities have different requirements, some of which are educational. He said that the grouping of candidates for physical agility testing was not a problem. Mr. Barry did not understand the maintaining of one list because of different criteria for the application process, unless all municipalities agreed to conform to a common set of

guidelines. It was Mr. Barry's opinion that normally, for the oral interview process, it is important enough that each community wants to do its own.

Chief Payne informed Council that all attendees at the meeting brought up these very issues. He said that Monroeville was thinking about dropping the Act 120 requirement.

Mr. Barry discussed the Act 120 requirement. He stated that the Civil Service Rules and Regulations are currently being revised.

Mr. Cecconi noted that hiring someone who might take another job right away is very expensive.

Chief Payne supplied information regarding the department being in compliance regarding notification and registration, as well as monitoring, with regard to juveniles. The Chief noted that training in the department continues and reported that an officer trained in use of the breathalyzer is now available on every shift.

A program called "A Child is Missing" will be offered free to law enforcement. He said that high-speed alert calls can be made. It was noted by the Chief that in January, there was a missing person in Penn Hills. The police were able to locate the victim, having gotten information given to the "A Child is Missing" program.

Ms. Schaefer asked that this information be given to the Public Safety Committee.

Chief Payne also spoke of an Awards Committee, which is being formed and after reviewing a series of information reports, the Committee will report back to the Chief and an Awards Presentation will be made sometime in April 2011.

The Chief also spoke of an increase in traffic enforcement. He also noted that the Department is trying to recruit more part-time candidates.

Mr. Barry asked if the Chief was familiar with CONNECT, a group consisting of surrounding communities, as well as the City of Pittsburgh and efforts to improve relationships with various communities.

Chief Payne revisited the robberies of several weeks ago and the cooperation of the four communities involved in capturing the actors. He talked of efforts to plan month meetings with the group and efforts to forget "boundaries" which may or may not exist between the communities. The Chief then stated that the City of Pittsburgh is organized through zones and bureaus and that with the city robberies, one was under the auspices of the zone and one under the bureau.

Mr. Barry talked about mutual aid agreements from a legal point of view.

Chief Payne felt that if successes could be shown with this current group, police chiefs would want to bring things together on other fronts.

Mayor Hellett said that Ms. Rex of patch.com wrote an article regarding the whole issue. In her article, Ms. Rex explained how the cameras work and said there would be live feeds through the cameras. Mr. Hellett said the actors in the robberies from January 14-17, 2011 were caught because of the video cameras. The money for the cameras, explained Mr. Hellett, is coming from a grant underwritten by the City of Pittsburgh and the Department of Homeland Security.

Ms. Waldock asked if there is a need to upgrade the laptops in the police cars and was answered in the negative by Mayor Hellett.

Mr. Bowers said that relationships with Wilksburg and Swissvale can be further established. He also spoke of the importance of working together.

Chief Payne informed the group that anything happening will get reported by all three boroughs, as had happened on Sunday morning.

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Fuller had nothing to report.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Mr. Fuller said the Committee met to discuss the peer-to-peer study and recommendations which were made. The Committee will meet to discuss the tree survey.

Mr. Bowers noted that tree training for Public Works employees will be conducted in early March.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Mr. Wilson said that the Committee did not meet.

#### **PERSONNEL**

Mr. Bowers said that the Committee did not meet. It is expected that a Personnel Manual draft will be ready in 6-8 weeks.

## **PENSION**

Mr. Bright said that the Committee has not met.

## **AD HOC COMMITTEES**

## **INTERCOUNCIL**

Mr. Wilson said that the Committee has not met.

## **3 RIVERS WET WEATHER DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**

Ms. Schaefer had nothing to report.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

The Solicitor reported that the resolution regarding the Library has been forwarded to Mr. Davies.

## **BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Cecconi reported on the following items: the cleaning and televising of the East Hutchinson sewer line; a tree trimming training session for the Edgewood Public Works employees; acquisition of a new street sweeper, and repair and replacement of the damaged Edgewood Volunteer Fire Department door.

As well, Mr. Cecconi talked with Fire Chief Andrews about the building's use and how the live-in program functions.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Meetings were set as follows: General Government – March 14, 2011 and Public Safety – March 28, 2011.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

**M-5 Mr. Fuller moved to purchase a 2011 Tymco 600 sweeper from Golden Equipment, Inc., at a cost of \$169,000.00, delivered and set up. Sweeper is listed under COSTAR Agreement 25-039. Second by Mr. Bowers.**

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Cecconi noted that the original motion had the incorrect model number in it. To Ms. Gleba's inquiry, Mr. Cecconi answered that the Gold Equipment was \$1,000 cheaper than



A&H. He then explained what the differences between the machines were. Mr. Cecconi also explained that the catch basins must be cleaned once per year per Consent Order.

A question from Mayor Hellett regarding whether the machine is stainless steel or not was answered in the negative by Mr. Cecconi. The Mayor also asked if sewer funds could be used.

Mr. Bright said that there will be options for funding this.

Solicitor Barry, stating that as he understood this, the Borough will purchase the equipment, but is not doing financing through COSTARS with separate financing at a future time. He asked if Council needed to take action now.

Mr. Cecconi said that the company is holding the chassis until this meeting has been completed.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

**M-6 It was moved by Ms. Waldock and seconded by Mr. Bowers to adjourn at 9:13 PM.**

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Fuller, Ms. Schaefer. **Motion carried.**

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Warren Cecconi, Borough Manager