

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
INDEX TO THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 5, 2021**

MOTION SUBJECT	MOTION	PAGE
Authorize Payment of Bills	M-1	3
Hazard mitigation resolution	M-2	3
Hire George J. Gall summer help	M-3	4
Accept audit results	M-4	4
Advertise 2020 audit	M-5	4
Adjourn	M-6	7

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD April 5, 2021

This meeting was held virtually using GoToMeeting.

Council President Wainright called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:32 pm.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following responded: Mr. Fuller, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Yaney, and Mr. Wainright. Mayor Jack Wilson, Manager Rob Zahorchak, and Solicitor Tim Barry were also present. Councilperson Petrolla and Jr Councilperson Berman were absent.

Mr. Wainright read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION 2021 – 02

WHEREAS, Council Member John F. “Jack” Bright was born in 1938 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to John and Virginia Bright and passed away suddenly at the age of 82 on March 1, 2021, and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Bright attended the Lawrenceville School, Princeton University and the University of Pittsburgh, and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Bright worked his entire life as an insurance salesman, financial advisor, and small business owner, and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Bright was involved in many Republican organizations including as long-time chair of the Edgewood Republican Committee and was well known as an enthusiastic grassroots organizer of numerous election campaigns, and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Bright served on the Edgewood Borough Council for the past 12 years and took special pride in expanding the fun at the annual Community Day activities where he tirelessly worked the “Break a Plate” booth.

WHEREAS, Mr. Bright believed Edgewood is a wonderful town and worked with other members of council to keep the borough an attractive place to live and raise a family and hoped future councils would continue this work.

NOW, THEREFORE on this the 5th day of April, 2021, the Office of the Mayor of the Borough of Edgewood, in partnership with Borough Council, honors the life and service of Council Member Jack Bright and his numerous personal and professional accomplishments and proclaims Friday April 9, 2021 as “**JACK BRIGHT DAY.**”

PROCLAIMED at the meeting of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood the 5th day of April, 2021.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

Mr. Zahorchak shared the following public comment, received via telephone, from Jessica of 522 Greendale Ave. He stated that Ms. Sullivan was concerned with speeding on Greendale Ave, and wished to make Council aware. This follows a recent incident where several cars were side-swiped on the street, and a police report was filed. Mr. Zahorchak noted that he discussed the use of a radar sign on the street to collect data on vehicular speed. The data has shown a problem of traffic volume more than issues with the percentage of people speeding. He discussed further details of measures being taken to calm traffic on the street, including the addition of special markings, as well as things that are already in place. Ms. Sullivan would specifically like to see an increased police presence at the entrance of Koenig Field, as she feels that is a particular problem area. Mr. Zahorchak noted that he will relay that suggestion to the Chief of Police.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-1 Mr. O'Donnell 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 \$65,927.69 and from the sewer fund in the amount of \$171,331.53, for a total of \$237,259.22. Second by Mr. Fuller.

DISCUSSION: Mr. O'Donnell noted that the largest payment item was \$51,610.00 payment to Traffic Systems to cover the third payment on the Maple Ave traffic signal. There was also a payment of \$3,000 to A. Wilkins for a new breaker, and a quarterly pass through payment to ALCOSAN for \$171,331.53.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Yaney, and Mr. Wainright. **Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Mr. Fuller read Resolution 2021-09, Hazard Mitigation Plan. Second by Mr. Love

RESOLUTION 2021-09

Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania is most vulnerable to natural and human-made hazards which may result in loss of life and property, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety, and

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires state and local governments to develop and submit for approval to the President a mitigation plan that outlines processes for identifying their respective natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities, and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood acknowledges the requirements of Section 322 of DMA 2000 to have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan as a prerequisite to receiving post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds, and

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the Allegheny County Emergency Management Agency and the Allegheny County Planning Commission in cooperation with other county departments, and officials and citizens of Edgewood Borough, and

WHEREAS, a public involvement process consistent with the requirements of DMA 2000 was conducted to develop the Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan recommends mitigation activities that will reduce losses to life and property affected by both natural and human-made hazards that face the County and its municipal governments,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body for the Borough of Edgewood:

- The Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan is hereby adopted as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of Edgewood Borough, and;
- The respective officials and agencies identified in the implementation strategy of the Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan are hereby directed to implement the recommended activities assigned to them.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Yaney, and Mr. Wainright. **Motion carried.**

M-3 Mr. Love moved to hire George "Jeff" Gall as a summer help laborer at a rate of \$10.00 per hour.

Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that Mr. Gall has experience as a laborer, and will be hired on a part time basis. He will start this week.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Yaney, and Mr. Wainright. **Motion carried.**

M-4 Mr. O'Donnell moved to accept the 2020 audit results from Maher Duessel as presented.

Second by Mr. Fuller.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Barry mentioned that he did not receive a copy. Mr. Zahorchak confirmed that he will get one.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Yaney, and Mr. Wainright. **Motion carried.**

M-5 Mr. Fuller moved to advertise the 2020 audit as required by the PA Borough Code.

Second by Mr. O'Donnell.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Yaney, and Mr. Wainright. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Wainright noted that there would be a discussion regarding the most recent draft of Ordinance 1072, to decriminalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana. Discussion started with a comment from Police Chief Robert Payne. Chief Payne stated that he does support the ordinance, but with one concern. If the ordinance is left to include juveniles, that would not be equivalent to current alcohol laws, where possession and use is restricted for those under 21. The first offense is \$500, and each thereafter is \$1000. Also, no one under 21 can purchase tobacco in PA. With a fine of \$30,000 or less for possession of marijuana, he expects there would be backlash from parents. Mr. O'Donnell asked for clarification, as to whether he was specifically referring to the ordinance as it pertains to young adults. The ordinance as written applies a penalty for possession to adults 18 and over. Chief Payne confirmed that is the group (ages 18-20), that he had concerns about, and would support the ordinance if it were changed to apply to adults 21 and over.

Solicitor Barry inquired of Chief Payne what he believes is the best way to handle those under 21 using or possessing. Chief Payne responded that the law as written should be enforced. He believes it would fall in line with the enforcement of alcohol, and those under 21 could be subject to a misdemeanor or arrest.

Mr. Wainright stated that Council, including the presence of Chief Payne, would enter into executive session, under the recommendation of Solicitor Barry. Council remained in executive session from 7:56pm, until 8:09pm.

Mr. O'Donnell inquired if the discussion on Ordinance 1072 was still open. He noted that he was open to revisiting the applicable age as suggested by Chief Payne. Mr. Love requested clarity regarding the age change, and Chief Payne's use of the terms juvenile versus adult. Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Wainright confirmed that, although 18 is the age of majority in PA, for the purposes of controlled substances, 21 is the age used.

BUSINESS MEETING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT Mr. Zahorchak stated that there was nothing to report.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT Mr. Fuller reported that the Water Authority met. Mr. Fuller discussed that the moratorium on shut-offs has been lifted, however changes to the payment plan have been made to make it easier for customers. Previously a large payment had to be made to enter the payment plan. They hope the payment arrangement will help to prevent shut-offs. Mr. Fuller noted that the water company did receive greater payments when the moratorium was lifted. The authority filed suit against the township of Monroeville for the MS4 ordinance, along with Gateway School District and other non-taxable entities. They put in an application to obtain funding to replace lead service lines, not to include private property lines.

Mr. Wainright made an inquiry, unrelated to the Water Authority report, about whether street sweeping would resume. Mr. Zahorchak confirmed that street resumes this week, and that parking enforcement and ticketing resumes as well. He noted that the public would be notified via our online media.

RECREATION REPORT Included in the Manager's report.

PLANNING COMMISSION Mr. Zahorchak stated that the Planning Commission did not meet.

COG REPORT Mr. Wilson reported that COG did not meet.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT Mr. Barry had nothing additional to report.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that registration for T-ball and Softball begins on April 15, and lasts until May 15. We will follow the same protocol regarding Covid 19 that we did last year, around sanitizing equipment, physical distancing, mask wearing, limiting spectators and asking people to stay home with signs of illness or when in quarantine. Our adult Tai Chi class will return, outdoors at Koenig Field. A new class is being offered for adults as well, a Karate Self Defense course. These have all been advertised in the newsletter and will be available on the webpage as well for anyone interested.

Mr. Zahorchak stated that there is one final step to complete the Maple Ave traffic signal project, which is the installation of new crosswalks. Once the crosswalks are painted, PennDOT can do a review and hopefully sign off on the project. Then we can request reimbursement from the state. Mr. Zahorchak noted that the traffic signal is included on this year's paving programming. That is why the crosswalks are being painted, and not being done with thermal lining, until the intersection is paved. The paving project will address the low grade at that intersection as well. There are plans to pave several brick streets. Mr. Zahorchak noted that brick is very costly to reset by hand, and engineers recommended that full reconstruction would need to be performed, rather than spot fixes. Specifically, it was recommended to remove brick and install asphalt on Pliney Way. Other streets will be reviewed, taking in account residents' sensitivity to their viewpoint on changing brick streets.

Mr. Zahorchak stated that there is a plan to have a presentation from Jason Stanton regarding regionalization through ALCOSAN. ALCOSAN has provided a list of things they would like to see, and Lenin-Smith has price checked those improvements. The goal is to find a satisfactory agreement that still benefits the borough, with as minimal of a price point as we can get. The progress and details of the plan will be presented at next week's meeting.

Regarding the Oakview Avenue parking lot retaining wall project, approved with this year's budget, the drawings for plans for remediation of the failing retaining wall were approved by our engineer last week. A final set of plans will be created with our contractor. Construction should begin in May. Vehicles will need to be relocated while the project is being completed.

Mr. Zahorchak stated that the Easter Egg Hunt was a success, with an excellent turn-out. Besides being over cautious with the length of time between age groups, everything went well. Thanks to everyone who came to help!

Mr. Zahorchak inquired of council what their thoughts are on holding a Community Day event this year. Mr. Wainright hopes that we will achieve a high level of vaccination by the end of summer, and believes that we should try. Mr. Zahorchak noted that if we do wish to move forward, that we need to give Zambelli sufficient notice. He has also begun communication with Dr. Amy and her husband Mike, who coordinate music, to see what their thoughts are about interest from musicians. Mr. Zahorchak noted that we could potentially shorten the day. There were no current objections from Council to move forward with making plans for Community Day.

Ms. Yaney inquired about the alley on Pliney Way and noted that El Burro has been using that for outdoor seating. She noted there could be concerns to the aesthetic of that street with the use of asphalt. Considering the potential for

additional outdoor dining, especially in light of prior difficulty around options for outdoor dining faced by business owners, Ms. Yaney feels that it is worth looking into further. Discussion ensued over the challenges of maintaining resident satisfaction when considering the paving of brick streets versus the difficulty of maintaining those streets. Mr. Zahorchak stated that there could be further discussion with business owners concerning Pliney Way. He noted that due to lack of state construction projects, there is a lot of competition for projects at this time, pulling costs down. For that reason, it could be an ideal year to complete as many paving projects as reasonable.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was presented.

M-6 It was moved by Mr. Fuller and seconded by Mr. Love to adjourn at 8:38 pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager