

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Council President Petrolla called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: The following public comments were received.

Rick Belloli, 1122 Mifflin Ave: He stated that the pipe under his property has been filled and the storm water backup issue is fixed. The only thing left is for the alley to be repaved at a later date.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-1 Mr. Love moved to authorize the payment of bills for goods and services received by the borough from the General Fund in the amount of \$61,542.85. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love stated that this includes a large payment to BIU underwriters, which will be reimbursed. Some other payments were for road salt, audit fees, and tree removal.

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

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Ms. Yaney read Resolution 2023-01 Climate Action Plan (title only). Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION 2023-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA TO RECOGNIZE THE CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES (CONNECT) CLIMATE ACTION PLAN: LOCAL ACTIONS & STRATEGIES TO REDUCE CONNECT MEMBERS' GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS & INCREASE OUR RESILIENCE

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that the resolution went through several drafts to reach the intended meaning, as a starting point for climate based municipal planning. Discussion ensued over potential ways to apply climate action, in keeping with the plan's purpose.

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

BUSINESS MEETING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT No report was given. It was noted that Ben Reynolds is currently filling in as acting Fire Chief, since Mr. Ireland stepped down from his position.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT Mr. Fuller reported that the Water Authority met and re-elected the existing officers. They signed a new five year union contract, with the following planned raises: 3%, 3%, 3%, 2.75%, and 2.75%. June 19 (Juneteenth) will be recognized as a holiday. The amount of PTO that can be used at retirement will be cut down to no more than 600 hours. The second phase of lead line replacements is starting. Lastly, the Authority lost their appeal for a fine levied by the PUC for not responding to a PA- One Call within the allotted time. Mr. Fuller noted that the One Call was for a line outside of the Authority's service territory.

Police Chief Payne addressed Council concerning the officer shot and killed in the line of duty in McKeesport. He noted that we assisted in escorting his body, along with officers from other departments. He provided a reminder of the dangers associated with the job.

RECREATION REPORT Mr. Zahorchak reported that Men's and Youth basketball are close to mid-way through their seasons and are both going well. Futsal starts this week with over a dozen kids signed up. Registration for the T-ball/Softball season starts at the end of March. Due to the growing number of participants the league is being split into two age groups, one for children ages 4-7 and the second including 4 year-olds.

Our annual Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 1 at 11 am, with a rain date on Sunday. As always, help is appreciated to spread eggs over the field about an hour or so before the event. The spring plant sale is happening again this year. Pre-orders are being accepted now through February 13. Plants will be available for pick up at the field in mid-May. The online order form is available on our website and Facebook page.

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

COG REPORT Mayor O'Donnell stated that COG did meet, but that he and Mr. Love were unable to attend. There is an upcoming dinner meeting, to which we should be able to send a representative.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT Mr. McDermott stated that he had nothing to report.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that the 2022 Audit is progressing. This should be completed by the end of the month, with the conclusions of the report available in March. The full report can be presented to Council if desired. No problematic findings are expected. Work on the hot water heat system for the front half of the borough building is progressing. The new front entry doors for the borough building are constructed, and the carpenter is waiting for favorable weather conditions to install them.

Quotes are being sought for the retaining wall reconstruction at the Dewey St parking lot. Plans have been received in preparation of work on Giant Eagle's new Neighborhood Retail Distribution Facility and are under review. Construction

is starting on the senior living residence being built at the Towne Center. The Civil Service Commission will meet on Wednesday at 6pm to authorize police testing.

NEW BUSINESS Mr. Sherman stated that staff members from Penn Environment would like to talk to Council about a potential plastic bag ban. He noted that this relates to the Climate Action plan, and is part an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Such discussions are taking place in other areas within the state and Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are in the process of enacting related bans. Brief discussion ensued over interest in receiving a presentation and details of scheduling it.

Dr. Blasiolo stated that Pittsburgh Transit is proposing a route change to the P3 bus which would cut off direct access between our neighborhood and Oakland. Discussion ensued over the implications of that change and possible options for communication with the Port Authority. Mr. Love provided Council with the most recent financial report from the library.

A brief presentation was provided by resident Wayne Dean concerning a Veteran's monument at Memorial Park with proposed upgrades around the space. A request was made to proceed on the project. Council responded with their approval.

M-3 It was moved by Mr. Sherman and seconded by Dr. Epitropoulos to adjourn at 8:04 pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager