

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

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, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney and Dr. Petrolla. Also present were Mayor O'Donnell, Police Chief Payne, Borough Manager Zahorchak, and Patrick Gannon substituting for Solicitor McDermott. Ms. Patel was absent.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: No comments received.

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 \$19,341.95. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that it was almost entirely Community Day related.

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

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Ms. Yaney moved to hire Michael Shook as a full time police officer conditioned upon a successful physical, psychological, and background examination. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-3 Dr. Epitropoulos moved to hire Denise Parsons as a part time crossing guard at a rate of \$21.04/hour, conditioned upon a successful background examination and obtaining her Act 33/34 clearances. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-4** Dr. Blasiolo moved to accept gWorks's proposal providing accounting and payroll services beginning October 1, 2024, and to continue said services on an annual basis beginning January 1, 2025. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that the company that provides our accounts payable services was bought out by gWorks. Following research into the new company, he recommends we go with them for continuity. This should also allow for some upgrades to our current system. The transition would take place in October.

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

- M-5** Mr. Sherman moved to accept Maher Duesell's June 13, 2024 proposal for auditing services for fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak stated that this is just a renewal of current services.

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

- M-6** Mr. Sherman moved to the borough engineer's August 21, 2024 letter, I move to reduce the completion bond amount currently held by the borough for the Edgewood Center Retirement Residence from \$412,848.70 to \$1,100.00. Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak stated that, pending some final paperwork, the bond has been fulfilled for site remediation at the retirement residence.

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

BUSINESS MEETING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: Nothing was reported

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT: Mr. Fuller was not in attendance and nothing was reported.

RECREATION REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak provided the following report. Community Day has concluded and went well. Thanks to everyone who helped with that. Our final movie night is happening on Saturday, featuring 'Wonka.' This is planned in conjunction with the Foundation's 'Sleepover in the Park.' Fallfast/Oktoberfest are coming up on September 28. We're working with the Foundation on that, as well as the Fire Department to offer hayrides around the field again. We'll be providing crafts for kids, and market vendors are being accepted now. Music is being worked out with Mike Hooks.

Fall Soccer starts this week. We have 6 teams over 3 divisions ready to play. We would like to bring back referees this year, for our upper 2 divisions. In the past we have used a professional referee service. This time we would like to train and employ youth referees. We could provide our own training at no cost, via our volunteer coaches (with referee experience). We are suggesting for this to be a paid position, at Council's discretion. For reference, we utilize adult referees for our Basketball league which are accredited and certified and receive \$35 per game. For comparison, Dynamo Soccer in Pittsburgh pays \$12 hourly for youth referees. Clearances would be required.

PLANNING COMMISSION: A meeting should be upcoming to seek approval for the elementary school's proposed land development. Ms. Yaney inquired what work is taking place now. Mr. Zahorchak replied that they are currently doing permitted building façade work and window replacement as well as upgrades to the HVAC system. The meeting would entail the proposed governor's drive. Brief discussion ensued on this matter.

COG REPORT: Nothing was reported.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: The solicitor had nothing to report.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that there should be a meeting coming up concerning the project at the school. We have some emergency tree removal to do, which will be costly based on the size. This will exceed our budget, but they do pose a potential threat. These are on E End Ave, Elm St, and Oakview. Mr. Zahorchak noted that we did receive a check from a police vehicle that was totaled, which could be allocated towards this. Additionally, trees on E End Ave should be pruned. Brief discussion ensued on this matter. The county is asking about using the Borough Building for elections. Mr. Zahorchak noted that feedback received from our office and emergency service workers who are in the building has been that this practice is very disruptive. We would still accommodate the upcoming election in November, but would like to consolidate all voting to the one location, at the elementary school. Council had no objections.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Love noted that there is another community planning meeting happening tomorrow.

M-7 It was moved by Dr. Blasiolo and seconded by Dr. Epitropoulos at 7:58pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager