

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD DECEMBER 16, 2024

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

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: The following public comment was received.

Evan Burbridge – 123 W. Hutchinson Street represented the fire department.

Amy Hunt, Edgewood Foundation: Ms. Hunt updated Council on plans for the Foundation's annual Progressive Dinner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-1 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2024 Council meeting. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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.**

M-2 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2024 Council meeting. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-3 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 \$ 32,099.40 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$234,923.04 for a total of \$ 267,022.44. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that the Sewer fund amount is larger due to the quarterly ALCOSAN payment, otherwise bills were mostly standard besides some end-of-year items.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Love reported that they discussed the pending year.

POLICE: Nothing was reported.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Ms. Yaney stated the Public Safety and Infrastructure did not meet.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Mr. Sherman stated that Community Affairs did not meet.

PENSION AND PERSONNEL: Nothing was reported.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: Mr. Love reported that COG has a meeting to discuss multiple items.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. McDermott had nothing to report but requested a brief Executive Session later in the meeting.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that the leaf machine is functioning again and that we will attempt to collect as much as possible. He noted that there is a list of items on the agenda to vote on. One item includes the establishment of an account to manage payments to Big's for solid waste. The Executive Session is requested to discuss the collective bargaining agreement and other end-of-year items. The holiday lunch will take place tomorrow. Members of Council are welcome to attend if they wish.

NEW BUSINESS –

A Public Safety meeting was scheduled for February 3 at 6:45pm.

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-4 Ms. Yaney moved to award Garvin Boward Beitko Engineering the geotechnical investigation contract for the Koenig staircase replacement project in the amount of \$15,655 as recommended by the borough engineer in their October 11, 2024 letter. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that the geotechnical work is essential to designing the stairs.

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.**

M-5 Mr. Love moved to establish a Solid Waste Fund with PNC Bank to serve as a repository for all funds associated with the collection of solid waste in the borough. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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.**

M-6 Dr. Blasiolo moved to adopt the 2025 general fund, sewer fund, and highway fund budgets. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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.**

- M-7** Mr. Love moved to adopt Resolution 2024-20 fixing the 2025 property tax rate at 7.185 mills. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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.**

- M-8** Mr. Sherman moved to adopt Resolution 2024-21 fixing the 2025 sewage rate at \$5.70 per 1000 gallons of water used. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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.**

- M-9** Ms. Patel moved to adopt Resolution 2024-22 establishing the 2025 meeting dates. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-10** Ms. Yaney moved to adopt Resolution 2024-23 setting the 2025 wages for all non-bargained employees. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

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.**

- M-11** Dr. Blasiolo moved to adopt Resolution 2024-24 fixing the 2025 solid waste collection rate at \$79 per quarter. Second by Ms. Patel.

DISCUSSION: None.

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.**

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR P.2: An email was read from resident John Chu, 1120 E End Ave. The letter expressed concerns about the functionality of the borough website, as well as the inclusion of possible outdated information.

Mr. Zahorchak noted that he responded to Mr. Chu to let him know that we are currently in the process of updating the site. Brief discussion ensued.

M-12 It was moved by Mr. Sherman and seconded by Ms. Yaney to move to Executive Session at 7:54pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. Motion carried.

An Executive Session was held from 7:45-8:15pm.

Solicitor McDermott noted that discussion was concerning police contract negotiations and the difference between the Sergeant rate and Patrolman rate increases and that finalized documents will be clarified.

COMMITTEE ACTION Cont.

M-13 Mr. Love moved to approve the collective bargaining agreement between Edgewood Borough and the Teamsters Local Union #205 representing the Edgewood Borough Police Department beginning January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2029, subject to clarifying a discrepancy on the wage chart discussed during executive session. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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.**

M-14 It was moved by Dr. Blasiolo and seconded by Mr. Sherman to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager