

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**  
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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**  
**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF JANUARY 21, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Petrolla called the Public Hearing meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:37 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**PLEDGE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**M-1** Mr. Love moved to open the Public Hearing for the Verizon Franchise Agreement. Second by Ms. Patel.

Mr. Love read the Opening Remarks of the Borough of Edgewood for the Public Hearing on Verizon Cable Franchise Renewal.

*Good evening. This is a public hearing of the Borough Council regarding cable franchise renewal for the Borough of Edgewood. This public hearing is held pursuant to Section 626 of the federal Cable Act, which sets forth the process for franchise renewal. The Borough's current franchise with Verizon is within the industry norm renewal window, and the Borough is beginning the process of renewing the franchise expiring December 31, 2025.*

*This public hearing is part of the preliminary portion of franchise renewal in which the Borough reviews the cable operator's past performance and identifies the Borough's future cable-related community needs. As such, as part of this public hearing, we invite comments from any citizens who wish to speak regarding either or both of the aforementioned subjects.*

*Franchise renewal is the best opportunity for municipalities to assert their rights with respect to their cable operator and to obtain important benefits in return for granting the cable operator the right to use their public rights-of-way. These benefits include:*

1. *A State-of-the-Art Cable System now and in the future;*
2. *Strong Customer Service Standards;*
3. *Free Services to Community Facilities;*
4. *Better Reporting Requirements from the Cable Operators;*
5. *Maximized Franchise Fees;*
6. *Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Channel(s) (if desired);*
7. *PEG Capital Support Funding (if desired);*
8. *Legal Protections of the Rights-of-Way; and*
9. *Better Mechanisms to Enforce the Franchise Agreement.*

*These are just some of the potential benefits available through franchise renewal. Citizens may address these items or any other cable-related items that are important to them. We will now open the hearing up to citizen comments. Thank you.*

*Public Hearing January 21, 2025*

Mr. Zahorchak spoke briefly about the renewal.

President Petrolla opened the floor to public comment.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR** No comments were received.

Mr. Sherman moved and Ms. Patel seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm. The aye vote was unanimous.



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Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager