

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD APRIL 7, 2025

An Executive Session was held from 7:00pm-7:50pm to discuss a personnel matter.

Council President Petrolla called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:55 pm.

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

The following public comment was received.

Beth LaFace, 318 Laurel Street: Ms. LaFace spoke about noise from the Parkway. She inquired about having a sound barrier installed. Brief discussion ensued. Ms. LaFace further inquired about cones on the sidewalk near her residence.

Stephanie Ulmer, 427 Elmer Street: Ms. Ulmer spoke regarding a street tree that she believes has been injured and possibly killed. She expressed concern over safety of additional trees with work being done there.

Chet Dietrick, 120 Ivy Street: Mr. Dietrick spoke about a tree growing into power lines and inquired about having the tree cut back. He noted that this is at the intersection of Laurel and Ivy. Mr. Zahorchak replied that it will be addressed.

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 \$44,902.66 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$2,785.15 for a total of \$47,687.81. Second by Dr. Blasiole.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that there was a large check of \$15,000 to the engineer for a geotechnical report on the steps by Koenig Field.

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

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Dr. Blasiole moved to accept the 2024 borough audit results as presented. Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION: It was noted that the results of the audit were once again very good.

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

- M-3** Ms. Patel moved to authorize the borough manager to advertise the 2024 audit results in the New Pittsburgh Courier. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-4** Ms. Yaney moved to hire Matthew Love as a summer help employee in the Department of Public Works at a rate of \$12/hr. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-5** Dr. Epitropoulos moved to hire Joseph Malia as a Laborer in the Department of Public Works at a rate of \$22.54/hr and consistent with the terms of the Department's collective bargaining agreement. Second by Ms. Patel.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that one of the previous candidates had become unresponsive to communications and this new candidate has been selected in his place.

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

BUSINESS MEETING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that a state grant that the department applied for was denied. He noted that Mr. Haley is home now and is improving.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT: Mr. Fuller stated the Authority met and provided the following report. Phase 3 lead line replacement funding has closed, with \$6.9 million in grant funding and \$3.1 million with a one percent interest rate. Over one thousand replacements have been done. There is money left from Phase II which will go towards restoration. A fence replacement is in process in Braddock Hills. About ten percent of the authority budget has gone towards paving.

RECREATION REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak provided the following report. Futsal has ended, thanks to the coaches for their time and to WPSD for the use of the gym. Registration for t-ball and softball is now open through May 2. We have some interested parent volunteers and are working on getting clearances. We can still accept more volunteers if more people are interested. The Easter Egg Hunt is this Saturday, April 12 at 1pm. Volunteers are welcome to help distribute eggs starting at noon. The Scouts will be offering photos with the Easter Bunny and the Fire Department will be there with their coffee fundraiser. Also, new this year, Sunshine for Tomorrow, a charity that has attended our Community

Day and Fallfest in the past, will be there to do cookie decorating with kids. Sunshine for Tomorrow will be holding a Pysanka workshop at the Koenig Field-house on Saturday, April 19 from 11am-1pm. Pysanka is a type of Ukrainian egg decorating. Registration for this event is available online.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Mr. Zahorchak reported that Phillips Edison will be submitting a site plan for a proposed project at the Towne Center. More information will be provided after plans are received.

COG REPORT: Mr. Love reported that he attended a recent meeting with fourteen people in attendance. A Mon Valley health and welfare grant was announced, however Edgewood would not qualify for it. The COG is moving into a new building in Monroeville. It was noted that our local COG is part of a larger PA COG. Several previously announced grants are at risk with recent changes in federal government funding. COG is seeking additional utility billing. Mr. Love stated that the COG would like to advertise more community events and noted that some communities are doing backyard composting. A refuse collection program was discussed, with concerns raised about price and service.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. McDermott had nothing to report, but noted that any additional discussion on the matter covered in the earlier Executive Session could take place at the next meeting.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that the police pension is nearly done. Work on the railroad is complete. The McKay Street storm sewer relocation will be discussed next week. Mr. Zahorchak will be meeting with the gas company and water company on Elmer Street tomorrow to discuss work taking place there. Davey Tree Service will be looking at trees next week. The Koenig steps geotechnical report is complete, with less than ideal results. A plan for the site will need to be carefully considered. The Egg Hunt is on Saturday, dependent on weather conditions.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

M-6 It was moved by Ms. Patel and seconded by Dr. Blasiolo to adjourn at 8:34pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager