

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**  
**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 5, 2025**

Council President Petrolla called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:36 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call the following responded: Mr. Love, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, Ms. Yaney, and Dr. Petrolla. Also present were Mayor O'Donnell, Borough Manager Zahorchak, Fire Chief Ben Reynolds, Police Chief Robert Payne, and Patrick Buchanon for Solicitor McDermott. Dr. Blasiole and Dr. Epitropoulos were absent.

**PLEDGE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:**

The following public comment was received.

George Pettrone, 113 Harlow Street: Mr. Pettrone spoke with concern about safety of trees on his street.

Roderick Lapid, 401 West Hutchinson Street: Mr. Lapid thanked borough representatives and the Volunteer Fire Department for efforts in maintaining safety issues and trees.

Christine Furman, 1201 Savannah Ave: Ms. Furman spoke about voting locations in the borough. She noted that there was an error on the county website for the polling location of some residents. This is getting fixed and the county should be notifying residents.

Tom Reichner, 540 Allenby Avenue: Mr. Reichner spoke with concern about speeding on his street. He requested for a 'dead end' (no outlet) sign to be installed. It was responded that Council would look into it.

Curtis Abbott, 306 Garland Street: Mr. Abbott spoke with concern about response time on tree removal following the recent storm. He noted that he cut some of the tree himself.

Additional residents from Morris Street addressed Council to inquire when power would be restored to their street and to express discontent of the response from Duquesne Light. It was responded that although we the borough generally does not receive specific updates, that they could look into it. It was noted from the DLC website that a ticket had been opened for that area earlier in the day. Discussion ensued on this topic.

**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 \$14,045.25. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that most bills were standard and included a \$400 bill for tree trimming.

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

### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

- M-2** Mr. Sherman moved to appoint Alyssa Catalano to the Zoning Hearing Board for a two-year term. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: It was noted that Ms. Catalano is a member of the Volunteer Fire Department.

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

- M-3** Ms. Patel moved to appoint Ben Reynolds to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-4** Mr. Sherman moved to amend the Agenda to prolong disaster declaration until the next council meeting on May 19. Second by Ms. Patel.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that this allows the borough to secure contracts in an accelerated fashion to continue street clearing and repairs following the recent storm.

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

- M-5** Ms. Yaney moved to extend the May 1, 2025 disaster declaration until May 19, 2025. Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

**VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Chief Reynolds reported that the department responded to forty calls related to the storm on April 29. The department had prepared for a potential emergency situation based on weather reports that day, and members were posted at the station. He noted that there was a communication failure at the 911 dispatch station and that calls were not able to get through. He implored Council to follow up on that. Mr. Reynolds recognized Eric Neilson for his notable efforts through the situation. He addressed shortcomings of the generator currently at the department building. Discussion ensued on that matter. Mr. Reynolds stated that there are shortages this year in grant funding. Due to that, other efforts are underway to raise funds. A 'Cash Bash' event is coming up on May 17. Tickets are a \$30 donation. Food and drinks are included and you do not need to be present to win.

**WATER AUTHORITY REPORT:** Mr. Fuller stated that the Authority met and provided the following report. Jet Jack will be installing a new water line on Elmer Street. The authority is seeking a grant of \$100,000 for work in Wilkinsburg and Jet Jack was awarded a contract for more lead line replacements. Mr. Zahorchak thanked Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water Authority for providing water to the fire department.

**RECREATION REPORT:** Mr. Zahorchak reported that we have extended registration for Tball and Softball.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** Mr. Zahorchak had nothing to report.

**COG REPORT:** Mr. Love reported that there was a meeting on April 24, with low attendance. Another meeting is May 22. They had a meeting planned with the Water Authority. The COG building is moving in June to Monroeville. There was a recent police officer training. The Reconnecting Communities grant has been postponed. The PA COG committed to another year of funding. There is a chance that municipal bonds may lose tax exempt status. Thirteen municipalities completed the trash collection survey. Some dissatisfaction with Big's Sanitation was noted. No voting took place at the meeting.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Buchanon had nothing to report but noted that an Executive Session would take place following the regular meeting.

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Zahorchak thanked the police and fire departments and specifically Officer Rick Susalla, our Emergency Management Coordinator. One fire fighter suffered a minor injury while removing a fallen tree in the recent storm. Our small water and sewer grant application has been submitted. There was a meeting with Abigail Salisbury and representatives of C.L.A.S.S. Ms. Salisbury is working to find funds to fix the driveway as we look into the process of turning over ownership. Successful testing of three police officer candidates took place in April and a Civil Service meeting will be scheduled to certify the list and move forward in the process. Davey Tree Service is continuing the process of clearing street trees affected by the storm. Additionally, we are cleaning tree debris. The borough office is up and running again with a generator in place. Mr. Zahorchak thanked Public Works for their efforts.

**NEW BUSINESS –**

Council President Petrolla offered his thanks to everyone who helped in the efforts following the recent severe storm.

**M-6** It was moved by Ms. Patel and seconded by Dr. Blasiolo to adjourn at 8:32pm.  
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

An Executive Session was held from 8:32-9:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager