

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 6, 2026

Manager Zahorchak collected Certificates of Election and Residency from the newly elected officials and Magistrate Evans swore in the newly elected officials.

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Moshe Sherman, do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and that I will discharge the duties of my elected office for the Borough of Edgewood with fidelity.

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Brian Blasiole, do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and that I will discharge the duties of my elected office for the Borough of Edgewood with fidelity.

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Christine Furman, do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and that I will discharge the duties of my elected office for the Borough of Edgewood with fidelity.

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Kerry Ellis, do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and that I will discharge the duties of my elected office for the Borough of Edgewood with fidelity.

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Justin Petrolla, do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and that I will discharge the duties of my elected office for the Borough of Edgewood with fidelity.

Mayor Sherman called the reorganizational meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:32 pm.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following responded: Dr. Blasiole, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Mr. Love, Ms. Yaney and Dr. Petrolla. Also present were Borough Manager Zahorchak, and Solicitor McDermott.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS

Mayor Sherman asked for nominations for Council President.

M-1 Mr. Love nominated Dr. Petrolla for Council President.

There being no further nominations, Mayor Sherman closed nominations for Council President.

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

Mayor Sherman asked for nominations for Council Vice President.

M-2 Dr. Petrolla nominated Mr. Love for Council Vice President.

There being no further nominations, Mayor Sherman closed nominations for Council Vice President.

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

Mayor Sherman asked for nominations for President Pro Tem.

M-3 Dr. Petrolla nominated Brian Blasiole for President Pro Tem.

There being no further nominations, Mayor Sherman closed nominations for President Pro Tem.

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

Mayor Sherman then turned the gavel temporarily over to President Petrolla.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

Ruth Pickering, 416 Locust Street: Ms. Pickering welcomed the new council and mayor into their positions and thanked them for their service. She asked if DPW could patch the potholes at the end of Maple Avenue when the weather allowed.

Steven Willing, 166 Race Street: Mr. Willing commented about speeding cars on Race Street and cars running the stop sign in front of his house.

Frank Annese, 105 Hawthorne Street: Mr. Annese welcomed council and congratulated Mayor Sherman on beating him for the mayor position. Mr. Annese expressed his interest in being considered for the vacant council position.

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-4 Dr. Blasiole read Resolution 2026-01: Appointing Borough Manager/Secretary. Second by Ms. Furman.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-01**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of maintaining a productive, experienced and professional management staff; and

WHEREAS ROB ZAHORCHAK has satisfactorily served in the position of Borough Manager/Secretary;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **ROB ZAHORCHAK** be reappointed to the position of Borough Manager/Secretary for fiscal year 2026 at a salary of \$109,386.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-5 Ms. Furman read Resolution 2026-02: Appointing Assistant Manager/Recreation Director. Second by Dr. Blasiole.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-02**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of maintaining a productive, experienced and professional management staff; and

WHEREAS ABIGAIL AULT satisfactorily served in the position of Assistant Manager;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **ABIGAIL AULT** be reappointed to the position of Assistant Manager and Recreation Director for fiscal year 2026 at a salary of \$71,500.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-6 Mr. Ellis read Resolution 2026-03: Appointing Police Chief. Second by Mr. Love.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-03**

WHEREAS the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of managing and maintaining a professional and well-trained Police Department; and

WHEREA, Sylvan Altieri exhibits both the knowledge and ability to serve in the capacity of Chief of Police with integrity and excellence;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **SYLVAN ALTIERI** be reappointed as Chief of Police for the Borough of Edgewood for fiscal year 2026 at a salary of \$120,000.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-7 Mr. Love read Resolution 2026-04: Appointing Finance Administrator. Second by Dr. Blasiole.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-04**

WHEREAS the Borough of Edgewood has the need for professional financial and accounting staff; and

WHEREAS this position is integral to the overall professional management and administration of the Borough;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **JANET GERBER** be reappointed to the position of Finance Director/Treasurer for fiscal year 2026 at a salary of \$84,000.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood

DISCUSSION: None.

M-8 Dr. Blasiole read Resolution 2026-05: Appointing Borough Solicitor. Second by Ms. Furman.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-05**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of retaining legal counsel on behalf of the Borough; and

WHEREAS THOMAS P. MCDERMOTT, ESQUIRE has exhibited the knowledge, ability and dedication to the Borough in his service as Borough Solicitor;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **THOMAS P. MCDERMOTT, ESQUIRE** be reappointed as Borough Solicitor. The 2026 retainer shall be at a rate of \$800 per month. All work performed by the Solicitor outside the parameters of regular Borough business will be paid at a rate of \$175 per hour.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-9 Ms. Furman read Resolution 2026-06: Appointing Building Inspection and Code Enforcement. Second by Ms. Yaney.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-06**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of maintaining professional and licensed code enforcement consultants; and

WHEREAS BUILDING INSPECTION UNDERWRITERS, INC. has exhibited both the knowledge and ability to provide Building Inspection and Code Enforcement services for the Borough of Edgewood;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **BUILDING INSPECTION UNDERWRITERS, INC.** be responsible for Building Inspection and Code Enforcement.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-10 Dr. Blasiole read Resolution 2026-07: Appointing Engineer. Second by Mr. Love.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-07**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of retaining an engineering firm on behalf of the Borough; and

WHEREAS LENNON, SMITH, SOULERET ENGINEERING, INC. has exhibited both the knowledge and ability to serve in the capacity of Borough Engineer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **LENNON, SMITH, SOULERET, INC.** be reappointed to the position of Borough Engineer.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-11 Ms. Furman read Resolution 2026-08: Bank Depository. Second by Mr. Love.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-08**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of retaining a bank depository on behalf of the Borough;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **PNC BANK** be appointed as Borough Depositories for a one-year term effective immediately.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-12 Mr. Ellis read Resolution 2026-09: Appointing Auditing Firm. Second by Dr. Blasiole.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-09**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of fiscal transparency and accounting accuracy;

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood desires the borough to undergo an annual internal audit.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Edgewood hereby appoints **MAHER DUESSEL** as the borough's auditing firm for the fiscal year 2026.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-13 Mr. Love read Resolution 2026-10: Appointing Newspaper of General Circulation. Second by Dr. Blasiole.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-10**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of transparency in local government;

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood desires to advertise all meetings, contracts, bids and other announcements,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Edgewood hereby designates the **NEW PITTSBURGH COURIER** as its official newspaper of general circulation. In situations where time is of the essence, the Pittsburgh Post Gazette may be utilized when publication deadlines interfere with holding a public meeting in a timely manner.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-14 Dr. Blasiole read Resolution 2026-11: Appointing Vacancy Board. Second by Ms. Furman.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-11**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of maintaining a productive and effective governing body; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance and need to fill Council vacancies promptly; and

WHEREAS Article IX, Section 901 of the Borough Code provides for a Vacancy Board; and

WHEREAS the Vacancy Board shall consist of Borough Council exclusive of the Mayor, and one registered elector of the Borough, who shall serve as Chairperson of the Vacancy Board;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Edgewood hereby appoints **BHAVINI PATEL** to the Vacancy Board for a term which expires December 31, 2026.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-15 Ms. Furman read Resolution 2026-12: Appointing Zoning Officer. Second by Mr. Ellis.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-12**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the need to maintain a Zoning Officer to administer its zoning ordinance, and

WHEREAS STEVEN STEGNER has exhibited both the knowledge and ability to provide zoning enforcement and administration for the Borough of Edgewood;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **STEVEN STEGNER** be appointed Zoning Officer for the Borough of Edgewood until the next reorganization meeting of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-16 Mr. Ellis read Resolution 2026-13: Appointing Deputy Zoning Officer. Second by Ms. Furman.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-13**

WHEREAS the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the need to maintain a Deputy Zoning Officer to administer its zoning ordinance in the absence of the Zoning Officer, and

WHEREAS ROB ZAHORCHAK has exhibited both the knowledge and ability to provide zoning enforcement and administration for the Borough of Edgewood;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **ROB ZAHORCHAK** be appointed Deputy Zoning Officer for the Borough of Edgewood until the next reorganization meeting of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-17 Dr. Blasiole read Resolution 2026-14: Appointing Evan Burbridge to Planning Commission. Second by Ms. Yaney.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-14**

WHEREAS the Borough of Edgewood recognizes the importance of aesthetics and maintaining the character of the Borough; and

WHEREAS the Borough of Edgewood has an active and involved Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS EVAN BURBRIDGE has exhibited the desire, knowledge and ability to contribute positively to the Planning Commission

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Edgewood Borough Council appoints **EVAN BURBRIDGE** to the Edgewood Borough Planning Commission to a term expiring December 31, 2029.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-18 Mr. Love read Resolution 2026-15: Appointing Cindy Bahn to Civil Service Commission. Second by Ms. Yaney.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-15**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood has a Civil Service Commission and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Borough Council to maintain a degree of continuity and experience on the Civil Service Commission and

WHEREAS, CINDY BAHN has exhibited knowledge and the ability to make positive contributions to the Civil Service Commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Edgewood Borough Council will hereby appoint **CINDY BAHN** to the Civil Service Commission to a term which will expire December 31, 2031.

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-19 Ms. Furman read Resolution 2026-16: Appointing George Fuller to WPJWA Board. Second by Mr. Ellis.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
RESOLUTION 2026-16**

WHEREAS, a volunteer representative of the Board of the Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water Authority (WPJWA) attends monthly Edgewood Borough Council meetings to provide information and updates; and

WHEREAS, George Fuller has served in this capacity for the Water Authority Borough since 2003; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fuller's current appointment expired December 31, 2025 and he desires to be reappointed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Edgewood Borough Council appoints **GEORGE FULLER** to a term which will expire December 31, 2029.

ADOPTED this the 6th day of January, 2026 at the meeting of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood

ADOPTED THIS THE 6th day of January 2026 by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-20 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 \$152,348.92. Second by Ms. Furman.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love reported that the large expenditures were for the firefighter stipends and commercial insurance packages.

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

BUSINESS MEETING - None.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

M-21 It was moved by Dr. Blasiole and seconded by Ms. Furman to adjourn at 8:08pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager