

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 16, 2026

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

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following responded: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Mr. Love, Ms. Nielsen, and Dr. Petrolla. Also present were Mayor Sherman, Borough Manager Zahorchak, Police Chief Altieri, and Solicitor McDermott. Ms. Yaney was absent.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

The following public comment was received.

Al Caruso, Edgewood Foundation: Mr. Caruso provided an update on behalf of the Foundation. The Progressive Dinner went well, with about 115 people participating. The Senior Brunch will take place in May. If anyone knows any high school seniors, they may contact the Foundation. Mr. Caruso noted event and funding highlights from the 2025 budget.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-1 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2026 Council Meeting. Second by Ms. Furman.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Mr. Love, Ms. Nielsen, and Dr. Petrolla. **The motion carried.**

M-2 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2026 Council Meeting. Second by Ms. Furman.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Mr. Love, Ms. Nielsen, and Dr. Petrolla. **The motion 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 \$149,987.48 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$228,524.52 for a total of \$378,512.00. Second by Mr. Ellis.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that the only notable item was an unexpected insurance payment.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes to the bills: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Mr. Love, Ms. Nielsen, and Dr. Petrolla. **Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Love reported that several things were discussed including rates for rental space at Koenig Field, police detail for work to take place along the Parkway over the summer. The fire department is interested in acquiring the old police car. Brief discussion ensued and commented on the other updates.

POLICE: Mayor Sherman reported that crisis intervention training has taken place. Chief Altieri participated in a March reading event. The department is revamping evidence room procedures. The monthly report is being expanded. Chief Altieri discussed changes to the report.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Mr. Zahorchak reported on the traffic signal replacement project on S. Braddock Avenue. He discussed a proposed change to the left turn on Race St and some other street improvements that could be included in a forthcoming ARLE Grant application.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Mr. Zahorchak noted that there was one last basketball payment for playoffs. A meeting will be scheduled to pick and chair and discuss more items.

PENSION AND PERSONNEL: Dr. Blasiolo stated that they did not meet, but some items are in discussion. This includes the actuary statement. Discussion ensued on this matter.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: Nothing was reported.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor McDermott had nothing to report.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that our engineers are entering the 9 Mile Run culvert to obtain some calculations. We received approval for an extension for the proposed Koenig Field steps which will take place on the Monongahela Ave instead. The audit is in a draft now and will be shared soon. Mr. Zahorchak noted that he will be away for the next regular meeting. There is a trail grant that we could apply for to potentially add a shelter at Koenig Field.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor Sherman noted a downed tree on Elmer. Mr. Zahorchak stated that it has been removed and our arborist is recommending removal of an adjacent tree. Mayor Sherman inquired about a pipe in front of the building. Mr. Zahorchak responded that it is a roof drain. Once work is complete it can be trimmed. The Garden Club has some recommendations for plantings around the building.

COMMITTEE ACTION

- M-4** Dr. Blasiolo moved to approve the purchase of a 2026 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor from Jim Shorkey Auto Group at the COSTARS price of \$63,225 including upfitting. Second by Mr. Ellis.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Ms. Nielsen, Mr. Love, and Dr. Petrola. **Motion carried.**

- M-5** Mr. Ellis moved to revise Section 4.3, Paragraph (h), line (1) to read “three (3) years as Patrol Officer,” meaning that an external applicant for appointment to a Sergeants position shall have at least three (3) years of full-time law enforcement experience to be eligible for appointment.

I move to revise Section 4.4, Paragraph (c), line (1) to read “four years as a patrol officer. Experience shall be considered any combination of time the applicant served as a sworn police officer at any agency, with a minimum of one year of full time service with the Edgewood Borough Police Department”. Second by Ms. Nielsen.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that where it reads ‘Patrol Officer’ it should say ‘Police Supervisor’ in section 4.3.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Ms. Nielsen, Mr. Love, and Dr. Petrola. **Motion carried.**

- M-6** Mr. Ellis moved to authorize the Chief of Police to conduct a promotional examination for the purpose of filling two vacant sergeant positions in the department. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Ms. Nielsen, Mr. Love, and Dr. Petrola. **Motion carried.**

- M-7** Ms. Furman moved to hire Matthew Love as a summer help employee at a rate of \$13/hour. Second by Mr. Ellis.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that the candidates have requested a pay raise from the originally scheduled \$12 rate.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Ms. Nielsen, and Dr. Petrola. Mr. Love abstained. **Motion carried.**

- M-8** Ms. Nielsen moved to hire Gionna Blasiolo as a summer help employee at a rate of \$13/hour. Second by Mr. Ellis.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Ellis, Ms. Furman, Ms. Nielsen, Mr. Love, and Dr. Petrola. Dr. Blasiolo abstained. **Motion carried.**

M-9 It was moved by Ms. Furman and seconded by Dr. Blasiolo to adjourn the meeting at 8:43pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager