

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 21, 2017

MEETING was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with President Joseph T. Hoopp presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Joseph T. Hoopp, Mr. David T. Aloe, Mr. Ivan T. Hofmann, Mrs. Carrie Duffield, Dr. Gary Smith, Mayor Wayne T. Murphy, Borough Manager John F. Schwend, and Mr. Brendan Lucas, Esq., representing the Borough Solicitor.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on January 17, 2017 were presented to Council. After some review and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Hofmann to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from January 17, 2017. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT for the month of January 2017 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

INVESTMENT REPORT as of February 21, 2017 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORT for the month of January 2017 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, the report was ordered received and filed.

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of February 2017 in the amount of \$177,195.74 and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$53,042.96 were presented to Council as per the following list.

Scheduled Expenditures Account

6176	Beth's Barridcades	Traffic Control Beaver Rd.	\$2,900.00
6177	Garvin Boward Beitko	Geotech Fees	\$1,067.00
6178	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineering Fees	\$10,833.46
6179	Stefaniks Contracting Co.	Beaver Road Wall Rep.	\$38,242.50

Such bills were reviewed by Council. After further review and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Aloe that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$177,195.74 and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$53,042.96, the motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT for the month of January 2017 was presented to Council. After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of January 2017 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$886.36 to the Borough for the month. After review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of January 2017 was presented to Council. Chief English made a brief statement urging residents of the Borough to lock their car doors in order to prevent easy

theft. Chief English also discussed the Duquesne Light work alert door hangers placed on various properties in the Borough. Mr. Schwend discussed the tree pruning operation being conducted by Duquesne Light pointing out that the work would be occurring in front of various residences over the next few months. Mr. Schwend also stated that he would be working with Duquesne Light to determine a more proper channel of communication to alert the residents of the work. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FIRE REPORT for the month of January 2017 was presented to Council. After review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of January 2017 was presented to Council. Mr. Schwend stated that the mild winter has reduced the amount of salt that the Borough has needed to use thus far. Mr. Schwend also discussed the sidewalk slab replacement program that would be beginning in the coming months. Mr. Schwend stated that the sidewalk repair program would coincide with letters being sent out requesting that residents remove brush, trees, or other hazardous impediments from the sidewalks. Mr. Schwend stated that the emergency repair to the Beaver Road retaining wall and sidewalk had been completed. The plan for a permanent solution to the Beaver Road retaining wall is in the planning stages. Dr. Smith inquired about the new restrooms in Walker Park. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough has budgeted for the new restrooms and is awaiting the final pricing options from two different companies. Mr. Schwend discussed the pricing of a new leaf loader stating that he and Mr. Gregorich have identified, tested, and received quotes for two models. Mr. Schwend highlighted that the Borough had received competitive pricing through Co-Stars joint-buying program and requested permission to sell the old trailer and box units from the outgoing leaf loader. Mr. Hofmann inquired about the lifespan of the new machine. Mr. Gregorich stated that the typical lifespan is 20 years. After further discussion a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Dr. Smith to approve the purchase of an ODB truck mounted vacuum leaf loader for the price of \$169,275.75 and to approve the sale of the outgoing box and leaf trailer. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

BUILDING PERMIT and ZONING PERMIT REPORTS for the month of January 2017 were presented to Council. After review and discussion these reports were ordered received and filed.

MS4 UPDATE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Mr. Schwend opened the meeting for public comment on the topic of stormwater. Edgeworth Public Works Supervisor Mr. Fred Gregorich stated that the department would be continuing to monitor catch basins in the Borough. Mrs. Duffield inquired about the new MS4 plaques placed on various catch basins. Mr. Gregorich stated that the Department would be continuing to install them. With there being no further input, the report was ordered received and filed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Minutes from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority were received and filed.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

The following visitors were present:

Mr. Joseph Boward
Mr. Fred Gregorich

Garvin Boward Beitko Engineering, Inc.
Edgeworth Borough Public Works Department

Mr. Westley Brooks
Mr. Tim Merrill
Mrs. Karen Smith

8 Way Hollow Road
605 Poia Road
44 Little Sewickley Creek Road

OLD BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING POTENTIAL LAND DONATION TO THE BOROUGH- CHESTNUT ROAD VACANT LOT: President Hoepp opened discussion by reviewing the proposition by a property owner that expressed interest in donating a vacant parcel of land on Chestnut Road to the Borough. Borough Council discussed the pros and cons of the donation and highlighted various risks involved with the proposal. Mayor Murphy inquired as to if the owner would be willing to sell the property to the abutting neighbors. Mr. Aloe pointed out that he believed that the developer could donate the land to any individual and receive the same tax benefit as by donating it to the Borough. Mr. Schwend stated that he would relay the recommendations to the owner. A motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Hofmann to decline the donation of the vacant lot on Chestnut Road to the Borough. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING APPROVAL OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COVERED PORCH ACCESSORY STRUCTURE IN THE MACLEOD SUBDIVISION: Mr. Schwend reviewed the previous application and approval process regarding the application for a covered deck in the Macleod Subdivision. Mr. Schwend stated that Mr. Brooks of 8 Way Hollow Road had previously been granted a recommendation for a special exception from the Planning Commission, received a special exception from the Zoning Hearing Board, and received permission from Borough Council to build in “non-developmental land,” in the MacLeod Subdivision. After the approval process, Mr. Brooks’ foundation for the deck was constructed using an alternative foundation method which was not consistent with the approved foundation method. Once this was discovered, Mr. Brooks was issued a stop-work order and instructed to reapply for approval using the alternative foundation method or to remove the foundation and install the foundation according to the approved plans. According to Mr. Schwend, Borough Council must approve the new foundation if work should continue because according to the covenants in the MacLeod subdivision, structures located in the portion of the lot deemed “non-developmental land,” must be granted approval by Borough Council after it has been designed and reviewed by a qualified soils engineer. Mr. Brooks stated the he had authorized the use of steel piers in place of the approved concrete piers for the deck’s foundation. Mr. Brooks also highlighted that he did not make any structural changes above ground. Mr. Joe Boward representing the Borough’s geotechnical Engineering firm, Garvin Boward Beitko discussed the difference between the approved building materials and the installed building materials. Mr. Boward stated that 24 steel helical piers were screwed into the ground and based on the geotechnical analysis conducted by the applicant’s engineer, ACA Engineering, the piers had been drilled to an appropriate depth with at least 75 percent hitting strata and bedrock. Mr. Boward highlighted the three requirements that he looked for to determine if the installed building material could be considered safe. First, Mr. Boward determined that the structural foundation installed could indeed handle the overall load of the proposed deck. Second, Mr. Boward determined that at least 75 percent of the installed piers were drilled to bedrock; because of this the structure can be considered stable. Lastly, Mr. Boward determined that though every post likely does not go down to bedrock, the material of the deck will be able to withstand slight settlement and would be safe to construct. Mr. Boward stated that the steel piers being installed caused minimal disturbance to the hillside and was a generally safer installation process. Mr. Hofmann inquired as to where the land would subside if a landslide occurred. Mr. Boward stated that all of the risk of a landslide would rest with the applicant. After further discussion a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Hofmann to approve the construction of a covered porch accessory structure in the Macleod subdivision. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING TESTIMONIAL RESOLUTION NO. 2017-01 FOR MAYOR WAYNE T.

MURPHY: President Hoopp read testimonial Resolution No. 2017-01 honoring Mayor Wayne T. Wayne Murphy for his service to the Borough of Edgeworth. The Resolution thanked Mayor Murphy for his community service and his caring and thoughtful contributions to the Borough and the Sewickley Area. Mayor Murphy thanked the Borough Council for the thoughtful words and stated that it had been an honor for him to represent the Borough as its Mayor. Mr. Schwend presented Mayor Murphy with an honorary plaque for his service to Borough. A motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Hofmann to adopt Testimonial Resolution No. 2017-01 honoring Mayor Wayne T. Murphy for his service to the Borough of Edgeworth and to regretfully accept his letter of resignation. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF DR. GARY L. SMITH FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL:

Dr. Gary Smith stated that he would be resigning his post as a Borough Council member. Dr. Smith has served on Borough Council since 1992, currently serving as Vice President of Borough Council. Dr. Smith stated that he has enjoyed his time on Borough Council and looks forward to serving the Borough in a new capacity. A motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Aloe to accept the resignation of Dr. Gary L. Smith from Borough Council. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING APPOINTMENT OF EDGEWORTH BOROUGH MAYOR:

President Hoopp presented Dr. Gary L. Smith as candidate for the Mayor of Edgeworth Borough. Dr. Smith thanked outgoing Mayor Wayne Murphy for his service to the Borough and stated that he would remain in contact with Mr. Murphy for the upcoming challenges that he may face in his new position. After further discussion a motion was made by Mrs. Duffield with a second by Mr. Hofmann to appoint Dr. Gary L. Smith as Mayor of Edgeworth Borough. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Mr. Schwend swore Mayor Gary L Smith in as Edgeworth's sixth Mayor.

OTHER BUSINESS:

STREETS COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE REGARDING POIA ROAD: Mayor Smith summarized the Streets Committee meeting held on February 8, 2017 where interested residents who reside on Poia Road met with the Borough to discuss Poia Road becoming a public road. Mayor Smith discussed the need for the Borough to decide whether it would want to adopt an official policy regarding accepting private roads that would establish a procedure for roads being accepted. Mayor Smith specifically stated that he would be willing to concede that the caul-de-sac would not need to meet PennDOT standards, sidewalks may not be needed, and wedge curbs could be sufficient in place of concrete curbs. If these concessions were made by the Borough, Mayor Smith stated that the residents on Poia Road would begin the core boring process to determine the overall cost of the project. Mr. Hofmann stated that wedge curbs would be more susceptible to wear and would need replaced more frequently than concrete curbs. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough Engineer recommended enforcing the ordinance for concrete curbs and also pointed out that concrete curbs would channel stormwater more effectively into Borough owned storm sewers. Mr. Aloe inquired about the condition of the catch basins and their ability to deal with the water flow on Poia. Mr. Schwend stated that the condition of the sewer would be evaluated when the road would be brought up to Borough standards and any repairs that would be needed to the storm sewers would be incurred by the Borough. Mr. Hofmann stated that bringing Poia Road up to a generally accepted standard would increase property values for all residents on that road. Mr. Hofmann also inquired about the overall cost per resident if the concrete curbs are required. Mr. Schwend stated that concrete curbs would cost approximately \$6,000 per resident more than wedge curbs. The overall price of the entire road project according to Mr. Schwend would be hard to estimate until the core borings would be conducted. Mr. Tim Merrill representing the residents on Poia Road highlighted that the problem that

residents face on Poia Road is unique because the Borough owns the storm sewers while the residents own the road. Mr. Merrill also discussed the past attempts that residents on Poia have made to have the road adopted by the Borough. Mr. Merrill stated that if the Borough would require concrete curbs it would likely eliminate the desire for Poia Road residents to pursue this matter any further. Mr. Merrill concluded by highlighting that he believed that the Borough owned storm sewers have proven to be inadequate and have contributed to the deterioration of Poia Road. President Hoepf stated that the storm sewers are in adequate condition. Mr. Schwend described the process required to further the road adoption highlighting that the Borough would manage the project through the bidding stage and monitor the paving process. Mr. Schwend stated that the residents would be responsible for organizing the core boring and the final payment of the project. Mr. Aloe expressed his desire to have a fire hydrant installed before the Borough would consider adoption. Mr. Hofmann voiced his concern with the precedent that this road adoption would set if certain requirements set forth in the Borough Ordinance would be forgone. After further discussion President Hoepf recommended the further review of the proposed street policy to the Streets Committee.

MEMO CONCERNING CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAM: Borough Administrative Assistant Mr. Patrick Connors discussed the curbside recycling program that began in the summer of 2014. Mr. Connors highlighted that the use of the recycle center has diminished since the curbside program began. Since 2014, the recycle center has seen a 56.9 percent decrease in overall material collected. According to Mr. Connors, residents seem to be recycling at a slightly higher pace than before the program's implementation. The overall conclusion of the analysis according to Mr. Connors is that residents are using the curbside pickup more and the drop off center less. Mr. Aloe inquired as to whether this shift is likely to continue. Mr. Connors stated that due to the steadiness in sales of recycle containers and the current usage rates that it is likely for growth in the curbside program to continue.

ACTION CONCERNING LGA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM: Mr. Connors discussed the interest that the Borough arborist and surrounding communities have shown in digitally categorizing Borough owned street trees into a Geographic Information System (GIS) database. Mr. Connors stated that the Local Government Academy would be awarding a grant to interested communities with summer projects for college students. Mr. Connors highlighted his experience working with LGA and the invaluable learning experience that it provided to him. According to Mr. Connors, Edgeworth would be well positioned to apply for the aforementioned program with the intention of developing a project that would inventory all of the Borough street trees. Mr. Connors stated that the application process would be competitive and there would be no guarantee that Edgeworth would be selected, but if selected, it would give an interested candidate an opportunity to work in local government, and the Borough would have access to a talented student to help accomplish the project. The Borough would be responsible for 50 percent (approximately 5 dollars per hour) of the candidate's wages over the course of the 480 hour project. After further discussion a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mrs. Duffield to approve Edgeworth's application to the Local Government Academy's summer intern program. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Borough Council entered Executive Session to discuss a legal matter at 9:10 p.m., and returned to regular session at 9:25 p.m.

After consultation with the solicitor, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Aloe to instruct the solicitor to not waive the conflict that would allow Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC to represent Robert Morris in the tax exception application involving the Robert Morris University owned residence at 515 Maple Lane. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager/Secretary