

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 16, 2017

MEETING was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with Council President Joseph T. Hoepp presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Joseph T. Hoepp, Mr. Ivan T. Hofmann, Mrs. Carrie Duffield, Mr. Daniel S. Wilson, Mr. Gregory Marlovits, Mrs. Elizabeth Genter, Mayor Gary L. Smith, Borough Manager John F. Schwend, and Mr. Brendan Lucas, Esq., representing the Borough Solicitor.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on April 18, 2017 were presented to Council. After some review and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Wilson to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from April 18, 2017. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

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

INVESTMENT REPORT as of May 16, 2017 was presented to Council. Mrs. Genter requested clarification on the payment to MEIT. Mr. Schwend stated that the payment to MEIT was for employee health insurance. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

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

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of April 2017 in the amount of \$138,790.77 and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$18,470.43 were presented to Council as per the following list.

Scheduled Expenditures Account

6184	Axon Enterprise Inc.	Police Tasers	\$6,306.58
6185	Carl's Tree Service	Stump Removal	\$1,750.00
6186	Duquesne Light Co.	LED Light Heads	\$3,270.00
6187	Garvin Boward Beitko	Geotech Engineer Services	\$1,333.00
6188	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineer Fees	\$3,248.35
6189	Urban Forestry Consultants	Arborist Services	\$2,562.50

Such bills were reviewed by Council. After further review and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Marlovits that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$138,790.77 and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$18,470.43, the motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

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

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of April 2017 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of

\$1,543.75 to the Borough for the month. After review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of April 2017 was presented to Council. Chief English stated that the Police Department had received tasers and had taken the required training as well as implemented a taser policy for the Department. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FIRE REPORT for the month of April 2017 was presented to Council. Mr. Hofmann commended Sewickley Academy on their exemplary turnaround regarding false fire alarms. After review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of April 2017 was presented to Council. Mr. Schwend discussed the temporary employee that was hired through JASE Contracting. He commended the temporary employee for his work ethic and highlighted how much he has contributed to the short staffed Public Works Department. With there being no further input this report was ordered received and filed.

BUILDING PERMIT and ZONING PERMIT REPORTS for the month of April 2017 were presented to Council. Mr. Schwend discussed the upcoming Zoning Hearing Board cases that will be heard on May 18, 2017 highlighting that two of the scheduled applicants withdrew their applications before the Board. 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. Mr. Andrew House introduced himself as the Borough's MS4 intern. Mr. House stated that he would be working in Edgeworth as well as Leet Township and Sewickley Borough for a twelve week period. Mr. House stated that he would be focusing his efforts on community engagement and outreach on the topic of stormwater management throughout the Quaker Valley. Borough Council welcomed Mr. House to the Borough staff. With there being no further input, the report was ordered received and filed.

QVCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mrs. Genter inquired regarding the salary of the Quaker Valley COG Executive Director. Mr. Schwend discussed the selection process that was used to hire the Executive Director. Mr. Schwend also highlighted the potential goals of the COG which revolve around shared services such as recycling and financial bookkeeping. Mrs. Genter inquired regarding the benefits of being a part of the COG. Mr. Schwend acknowledged her concerns and highlighted services like joint-purchasing for salt agreements and the relative affordability of the dues. After further review and discussion the report was ordered received and filled.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Correspondence was received from the Little Sewickley Creek Watershed Association inviting any interested parties from Edgeworth Borough and the surrounding region to the Watershed Wonders Event which will be held on Sunday May 21st from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- B. Correspondence was received from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority concerning unaccounted for water in the most recent report submitted. Mr. Hofmann stated that the letter did not address his core concerns and that he would like to speak with the Authority along with Mr. Schwend to seek greater clarification.
- C. Minutes from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority were received and filed.

- D. Correspondence was received from Mrs. Shelley Whittier concerning the safety conditions on Hazel Lane. Mrs. Whittier expressed her desire for Hazel Lane to become a one-way road to reduce congestion and increase safety. Mr. Hoepf highlighted attempts in the past to restrict traffic to one way on Hazel Lane and various other roads within the Borough. Mrs. Duffield stated that Sewickley Academy's reduction in parking has increased the congestion on Hazel Lane. Mr. Hoepf stated that you could not make a major artery such as Hazel Lane one-way without inconveniencing numerous residents in the Borough. After further discussion Council directed Mr. Schwend to reply to the request.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

The following visitors were present:

Mr. Max Junker Babst Calland Associates

OLD BUSINESS:

LITTLE SEWICKLEY CREEK ROAD FORCE MAIN EXTENSION: Mr. Schwend began discussion by highlighting that the bids received for the Little Sewickley Creek Road Sewer Extension Project were higher than anticipated. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough had ninety days from the bid opening to either accept or reject the bids, so Council must take action during this meeting. Mr. Schwend stated that interest in the project may have been low due to upcoming larger projects that contractors may be pursuing and the permitting requirements set forth by PennDOT on Little Sewickley Creek Road. Mr. Schwend stated the higher bids posed a problem because residents directly impacted by the project had signed an agreement agreeing to pay a percentage based on the engineer's opinion of probable cost of \$100,000. Mr. Hoepf stated that he would be in favor of the Borough absorbing the additional costs of the project highlighting that the Borough has a responsibility to provide essential services such as sewer access to its taxpayers. Mr. Hofmann highlighted the increased property values that would follow the installation of a sewer system on Little Sewickley Creek Road and stated that the Borough should not subsidize the project any further than initially agreed upon. Mr. Hofmann recommended that the Borough propose that the affected residents pay the agreed upon percentage on the final cost of the project. Mr. Marlovits highlighted the goal of reducing septic system use in the Borough stating that the sewer extension would be a positive in that regard. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Marlovits to accept Stefanik's Next Generation Contracting Company's bid of \$126,097.00 to extend the sewer system on Little Sewickley Creek Road. All present unanimously voted in favor of the motion. After further discussion, an additional motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mrs. Genter to maintain the original agreements with the residents including the percentage calculated for each resident's portion on the new total of \$126,097.00. All present unanimously voted in favor of the motion with the exception of Mr. Marlovits who voted nay.

BEAVER ROAD WALL REPAIR: Mr. Schwend began discussion by highlighting the length of time and amount of planning that has been required to propel the Beaver Road Wall repair forward. Mr. Schwend stated that all five property owners abutting the proposed repair area had employed Mr. John Edson as their representation. Mr. Schwend highlighted the residents' concerns regarding the legal terminology which would allow the earthen mound to remain on each of their properties. Mr. Lucas stated that progress has stalled because multiple residents have mortgage lenders that are reviewing right-of-way terminology. Mr. Hofmann inquired as to how much land that resident's would have to submit for the Borough's use and maintenance of the sloped wall. Mr. Schwend stated that the current proposal would include fifty feet of permanent right-of-way. Mr. Wilson stated that amount of land that is being discussed is significant for some affected property owners. Mr. Lucas highlighted the Borough's need to have access to the right-of-way along the Beaver Road Wall. Mr. Schwend stated that all affected property owners agree that the wall needs repaired as soon as possible but do not want to see their property values

harmd in the process. Mr. Lucas emphasized that the mortgage lenders' research could take time. Mr. Hoepf emphasized the need to protect the work that is done on the wall stating that the materials and grading should not be altered in the future without the Borough's approval. Mr. Schwend stated that the wall is in precarious condition and a common solution regarding the terminology would be needed if the project would be completed before the end of the year. Council continued to discuss alternative repair techniques including the use of large gabion baskets, a wall structure that would require access to less land from the residents, and the use of eminent domain to expedite the current proposal and to ensure the safety of all Borough residents. Mr. Lucas stated that he would continue to work with Mr. Edson in the coming week to find a proposal that would work for all parties involved. The discussion will be continued at the June Council Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING POLICE OFFICER APPRECIATION WEEK: Mr. Hofmann began discussion by thanking the Edgeworth Police Department for all that they do for the community. Mr. Hofmann highlighted the schedule of events for the week of May 14-20 which includes daily recognitions of the Police Department and invited all Borough Officials to participate in the various events. Chief English thanked Mr. Hofmann and Borough Council for the kind words and highlighted the importance of Police Officer appreciation events in memory of those who have lost their lives in the line of duty as well as those officers currently protecting citizens all across the country. Mr. Hofmann thanked Mr. Schwend for organizing the events for Police Officer Appreciation Week. After further discussion a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Marlovits recognizing May 14-20 as Police Officer Appreciation week. The motion was carried by all in attendance. Mayor Smith read the proclamation for all in attendance recognizing May 14-20, 2017 as Police Appreciation week in the Borough of Edgeworth.

ACTION CONCERNING APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT AND REASSIGNMENT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES: President Hoepf began discussion by highlighting the vacant position of Borough Council Vice-President stemming from the appointment of Dr. Gary L. Smith as Mayor. After further discussion Mr. Hoepf appointed Mr. David Aloe as Borough Council Vice President. Mr. Hoepf also stated that Mrs. Elizabeth Genter would be filling the vacancies on committee posts formerly held by Dr. Smith. Mr. Hoepf highlighted that 2018 would be a reorganizational year where Council Members may be asked to rotate certain committee posts.

OTHER BUSINESS:

UPDATE – PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE SEARCH: Mr. Schwend opened discussion by highlighting the progress regarding the search for a new Public Works Department employee. Mr. Schwend stated that both he and Public Works Supervisor Mr. Fred Gregorich had interviewed seven total candidates and would be bringing four back for second interviews in the coming weeks. Mr. Schwend discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates interviewed and highlighted the likelihood of needing to hire two employees due to the retirement notice of Mr. Abercrombie. If two employees are to be selected Mr. Schwend expressed his desire to expand the pool of candidates again by re-advertising the position.

Borough Council entered Executive Session to discuss a legal matter at 9:25 p.m., and returned to regular session at 10:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager/Secretary