

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
June 20, 2017

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MEETING was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with Council President Joseph T. Hoeppe presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Joseph T. Hoeppe, Mr. Ivan T. Hofmann, Mr. David T. Aloe, 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 May 16, 2017 were presented to Council. After some review and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second by Mr. Aloe to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from May 16, 2017. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

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

INVESTMENT REPORT as of June 20, 2017 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORT for the month of May 2017 was presented to Council. Mrs. Genter requested clarification between legal fees and special legal service fees. Mr. Schwend stated that special legal service fees are typically designated for the zoning hearing board's solicitor while legal service fees are designated for the Borough solicitor. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of May 2017 in the amount of \$207,875.17 and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$68,679.42 were presented to Council as per the following list.

Scheduled Expenditures Account

6190	Void		
6191	Garvin Boward Beitko	Geotech Engineer Services	\$2,163.25
6192	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineer Fees	\$8,916.55
6193	Penn Landscape	Spring Tree Planting	\$14,672.00
6194	ROMTEC	Walker Park Restrooms	\$42,317.62
6195	Slagle Trucking Co.	Mulch	\$540.00

Such bills were reviewed by Council. After review and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Wilson that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$207,875.17 and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$68,679.42, the motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

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

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of May 2017 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$1,399.11 to the Borough for the month. After review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of May 2017 was presented to Council. Chief English stated that Officer Mark Smilek would be taking a leave of absence from the department. Chief English stated that the department would be hiring a new part-time officer to help fill the schedule in Mr. Smilek's absence. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FIRE REPORT for the month of May 2017 was presented to Council. President Hoeppe began discussion by highlighting the house fire on Sycamore Road that occurred on May 16, 2017. Mr. Aloe stated the narrow street and the distance to the nearest fire hydrant as challenges that were faced at this fire. Mr. Schwend suggested that Cochran Hose Co. should consider purchasing a small pumper truck in the future in order to navigate the narrow streets in Edgeworth. Borough Council discussed the need for a greater number of fire hydrants within the Borough. After further review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of May 2017 was presented to Council. Mr. Schwend stated that the Public Works Department is currently installing new restroom facilities in Walker Park. Mr. Schwend also highlighted the extra work conducted by Public Works Supervisor Fred Gregorich during the period when the Public Works Department has been shorthanded. With there being no further input this report was ordered received and filed.

BUILDING PERMIT and ZONING PERMIT REPORTS for the month of May 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. Mr. Andrew House introduced himself as the Sewickley Valley Community Fund's MS4 intern. Mr. House provided Borough Council with a PowerPoint presentation handout and discussed the importance of diligent stormwater management and public outreach. Borough Council thanked Mr. House for his presentation. With there being no further input, the report was ordered received and filed.

QVCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: for the month of May 2017 was presented to Council. After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Correspondence was received from Mr. Richard McCormack stating that he was resigning from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority's Board. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Wilson to accept the resignation of Mr. McCormack. The motion was unanimously carried.
- B. Correspondence was received from Mr. Richard Ullery stating that he would be moving out of the Borough and would need to resign from his position on the Edgeworth Municipal Authority's Board. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Wilson to accept the resignation of Mr. Ullery. The motion was unanimously carried.
- C. The 2016 Annual Fiscal Report was received from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority. Mr. Hofmann questioned a property sale that was conducted by the Authority. Mr. Schwend stated that he would follow up regarding the matter after further research.

- D. Minutes from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority were received and filed.
- E. Minutes from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority were received and filed.
- F. Ms. Sandi Wrath representing the Leetsdale American Red Cross Community Shelter Team was present to discuss the organization's accomplishments, goals, and need for volunteers. Ms. Wrath highlighted the organization's importance during times of emergency and stated that many communities are forming community shelter teams in the region to better prepare themselves during an emergency. Ms. Wrath stated that the Leetsdale Community Shelter Team hopes to incorporate more communities in the region with the overall goal of becoming the Quaker Valley Community Shelter Team. Ms. Wrath emphasized the need for volunteers to ensure that stability and progress of the organization. Borough Council thanked Ms. Wrath for her presentation and directed the Borough Manager to include information regarding Community Shelter Teams on the Borough's website and in future newsletters.
- G. Mr. Schwend stated that Ms. Terri Tunik had reached out to the Borough regarding regulating small games of chance. According to Mr. Schwend, Sewickley Hospital has annually partnered with the Edgeworth Club to raise money through a raffle and banquet event. Mr. Schwend stated that this event had taken place for many years but attention has been brought to Edgeworth's prohibition regarding small games of chance by Sewickley Hospital's new legal counsel. Mr. Schwend stated that Ms. Tunik had requested that Edgeworth Borough put the issue on the ballot in the next available election. According to Mr. Schwend, the next election a referendum can be placed on the ballot is during the 2019 municipal primary election. Mrs. Genter recommended that the event be held in Sewickley where there is no regulation regarding small games of chance.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

The following visitors were present:

Ms. Sandi Wrath	The American Red Cross Leetsdale Community Shelter Team
Mr. Jeff Weatherby	Leetsdale Borough Council
Mr. Jeff Martin	Rossman Hensley Inc.

Mr. Alex Austin introduced himself as the Borough's Local Government Academy summer intern. Mr. Austin stated that he would categorize and evaluate the condition of all Borough street trees. Mr. Austin stated that he would be inputting the collected data into a digital map that the Borough could use to plan for future tree maintenance, including more strategic planting locations and removal of decaying and unhealthy trees. According to Mr. Austin, 89 percent of Borough street trees were in healthy condition. Mr. Austin stated that he used ArcGIS for the data collection, and Mr. Schwend stated that the program had proven to be a valuable tool and may be useful in other data collection endeavors. Mr. Austin highlighted that periodically updating the shade tree data will be the most important aspect of the GIS program after the digital map is created

OLD BUSINESS:

PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE SEARCH: Mr. Schwend stated that the search for two public works laborers has been narrowed down to two qualified candidates. Mr. Schwend highlighted that both candidates have Commercial Drivers Licenses and also have experience plowing snow. Mr. Schwend stated that the final background checks would be conducted by the Edgeworth Police Department. Mr. Wilson stated that the Personnel Committee had met and agreed that the starting wage of both employees should be equal. After further discussion, Mr. Wilson stated that the Personnel Committee agreed with the Manager's recommendation of a starting wage of \$22.50 per hour. Mayor Smith inquired regarding the physical examination requirements. Mr. Schwend stated that the candidates must pass a physical examination prior to being hired.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE – QUAKER VALLEY COG: Mr. Marlovits began discussion by reviewing the proposal for Edgeworth Borough to join the Quaker Valley COG’s recycling committee. Mr. Marlovits highlighted that Edgeworth already provides many of the services that the COG program proposes to do, including leaf collection and maintaining a recycling center for Borough residents. Mr. Marlovits stated that the Sanitation Committee recommended reviewing the COG’s recycling committee after a year in order to re-evaluate Edgeworth’s position regarding the matter. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Marlovits to decline the proposal to join the Quaker Valley COG’s recycling committee. The motion was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARD VACANCIES: Mr. Wilson began discussion by stating that the Personnel Committee had met with Mr. Benjamin Yocca regarding a vacancy on the Leetsdale Municipal Authority’s Board, and Mr. Chuck Etta regarding a vacancy on the Edgeworth Municipal Authority’s Board. Mr. Wilson highlighted the resumes of both candidates and stated that they were enthusiastic to serve on behalf of the Borough. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mrs. Genter to appoint Mr. Yocca to the Leetsdale Municipal Authority’s Board and Mr. Etta to the Edgeworth Municipal Authority’s Board. The motion was unanimously carried.

ACTION CONCERNING CONTRACT NO. 17-SW01 2017 SIDEWALK AND CURB SPOT REPAIRS: Mr. Schwend stated that there were two contractors who submitted bids for this contract, with Penn Landscaping being the apparent low bidder. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough Engineer had identified unsafe sidewalk pads and that affected residents would receive notification via mail regarding their sidewalk condition. Mr. Schwend highlighted that residents must either arrange a repair on their own or agree to have the Borough’s contractor repair the different slabs. Mrs. Genter inquired regarding the Borough’s enforcement powers. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough had the power to perform repairs and place a lien upon any property that does not comply with the required repairs. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Wilson to award contract No. 17-SW01 to Penn Landscaping and Pavement for the 2017 Sidewalk repair program. The motion was unanimously carried.

WAIVER REQUEST FOR WRIGHT PROPERTY – SPANISH TRACT ROAD: Mr. Schwend stated that Mr. Robert Wright had requested a waiver from Edgeworth’s stormwater ordinance. The ordinance states that no stormwater pipe shall be less than 15” in diameter. The proposed plan calls for the use of a 12” pipe. After discussion, and a positive recommendation from the Borough Engineer, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Marlovits to grant Mr. Wright a waiver from the Edgeworth stormwater ordinance for his residence on Spanish Tract Road. The motion was unanimously carried.

ACTION TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR CONTRACT 17-R01 2017 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: Mr. Schwend stated that up to \$440,000 had been designated for street paving projects in the 2017 Scheduled Expenditures budget. Mr. Schwend highlighted Academy Avenue which was slated to be paved this year as an area for intergovernmental collaboration. According to Mr. Schwend, Sewickley Borough, Edgeworth Borough, and Columbia Gas all could have interest in a resurfacing project on Academy Avenue in the upcoming year. This collaboration could ensure cost savings for all parties involved. Mr. Schwend stated that portions of Oliver Road, Pine Road, Leet Road, Patterson Road, and Neville Road were all slated to be paved for the 2017 Roadway Improvement program. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Wilson to authorize the advertisement for Contract 17-R01 for the 2017 Roadway Improvement Program. The motion was unanimously carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

MANAGER'S UPDATE: Mr. Schwend began his Manager's report by highlighting Act 172 which allows for municipalities to award earned income tax and real estate tax credits for volunteer firefighters and emergency first responders. Mr. Hofmann stated that he liked the idea of rewarding those who volunteer and sacrifice so much of their time for their communities. The issue was referred to the Fire Committee. Next, Mr. Schwend discussed the retaining wall along Beaver Road across from the Borough Building. Mr. Schwend stated that the wall had deteriorated a great deal since the original failure during the summer of 2016. Chief English verified the precarious condition of the wall. Mr. Brenden Lucas stated that the Borough could pass an ordinance to better enforce the wall repair. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough could remove the debris that is currently within the Borough's right-of-way and charge the property owner for the service. Next, Mr. Schwend stated that he had acquired a bid to upgrade the technical capacity of the Borough Council Chambers. Mr. Schwend highlighted that the upgrades would be especially useful during Zoning Hearing Board and Planning Commission presentations. After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Wilson to approve the bid received from Horizon Information Systems in the amount of \$5,035.00 for Council Chambers technology upgrade. Next, Mr. Schwend stated that the next phase of the Route 65 beautification project would be to level the terrain and plant grass in between Edgeworth Lane and Chestnut Road in order to allow the Public Works Department to regularly mow the area. Three bids had been received for the work, with JASE Contracting being the lowest bidder. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Wilson to accept the bid from JASE Contracting in the amount of \$9,500. Lastly, Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough had budgeted for minor Borough Building upgrades including a new garage door, stair railings, and trim painting and would be seeking bids to upgrade the aforementioned facilities.

SIDEWALK OBSTRUCTION UPDATE: Mr. Conners began discussion by stating that he had monitored all Borough sidewalks and identified obstructions that would impede their safe use. According to Mr. Conners, 28 residences received violation notices that politely asked them to remove the various obstructions from their sidewalks. Mr. Conners reported that only 7 of the identified properties had yet to remove their obstructions. Mr. Conners stated that in order for the clear sidewalk initiative to be effective the sidewalks will need to be monitored multiple times per year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Borough Council entered Executive Session to discuss a legal matter regarding the Beaver Road wall repair at 9:10 p.m., and returned to regular session at 9:45 p.m. Mr. Wilson recused himself from the discussion and did not participate in Executive Session due to the fact that his property abuts the Beaver Road wall.

Council briefly discussed the options they face with the necessary long term repair and stabilization of the wall along Beaver Road that abuts property owners on Oliver Road, as well as a temporary repair needed for an area of the wall which is currently bulging. Ensuring the safety and welfare of all who travel along Beaver Road is crucial to the Borough. Council agreed that all options should be explored to ensure that a solution is achieved with the best interest of all Borough residents in mind – options include other types of wall structures and acquiring the necessary land to construct the berm option. A motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to authorize an advertisement for immediate repairs on the bulging section of the wall, as well as to hire an appraiser to assess the value of the land needed to construct the berm option. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with Mr. Wilson recusing himself from the vote.

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