

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 18, 2025

MEETING was called to order at 7:00 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, Mr. Gregory J. Marlovits, Mr. Daniel S. Wilson, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Genter, Mrs. Katherine D. Larsen, Rev. Rebecca M. Cartus, Borough Manager Ellen E. Politi, and Mr. Brendan Lucas representing the Borough Solicitor.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on January 21, 2025 were presented to Council. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second by Mr. Hofmann to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from January 21, 2025. All present voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Hoepp stated that there would be a change to the order of the Agenda and Council would take action on the hiring of Mr. Russell Hartzell, found under New Business.

ACTION CONCERNING HIRING OF MR. RUSSELL HARTZELL AS A FULL-TIME PATROL OFFICER: Mr. Hofmann stated that he and Mr. Hoepp had the opportunity to interview Mr. Hartzell and were impressed with the quality of his background and experience. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Rev. Cartus to hire Mr. Russell Hartzell as a full-time patrol officer. All present voted in favor of the motion. At this time, Mrs. Politi administered the oath of office to Mr. Hartzell and he was presented with his badge. Lieutenant Och and Council congratulated him and welcomed him to Borough staff.

TREASURER'S REPORT for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORT for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of January 2025 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$239,989.39 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$47,808.05 were presented to Council as per the following list.

<u>Scheduled Expenditures Account</u>			
237	G Salandro Excavating	Walker Park Restoration	\$6,918.75
238	Office Furniture Warehouse	Admin Furniture	\$11,467.50
239	Davey Tree Expert	Arborist Fees	\$1,275.00
240	Garvin Boward Beitko	Engineering Fees	\$28,146.80

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Wilson that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$239,989.39, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$47,808.05. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. Jordan Tax Service reported collecting real estate taxes in the amount of \$5,454.23. After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. District Justice Guiseppe Roselli, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$948.28 to the Borough for the month. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. Mr. Hoepf remarked that there seems to be a rise in the number of traffic accidents and suggested stricter traffic enforcement on Ohio River Boulevard. Mrs. Politi stated that she would discuss the issue with Chief Burlett. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FIRE REPORT for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. Mrs. Politi reported that the Department handled sixteen call-outs for snow in the month of January, and Council complimented their efforts. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BUILDING PERMIT AND ZONING PERMIT REPORTS for the month of January 2025 were presented to Council. After discussion, the reports were ordered received and filed.

MS4 UPDATE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. After discussion, the report was ordered received and filed.

QUAKER VALLEY COG REPORT for the month of January 2025 was presented to Council. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Minutes from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority meeting were received. Mrs. Politi stated that she had recently spoken with Mr. Sean O'Neil from the Authority and he reported they are currently looking for lease space to move their office. Various options and ideas were discussed for their current lot on Beaver Road.
- B. The Quaker Valley Ambulance Authority Audited Financial Statement was received.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. William Lang – 617 Maple Lane
Mrs. Laura Hartzell – Ohio Township
Sergeant William Hanlon – Sewickley Police Department
Officer Matthew Baroni – Sewickley Police Department

OLD BUSINESS:

BEAVER ROAD WALL UPDATE: Mrs. Politi reported that approximately 90 nails had failed quality control tests, were redrilled, and are awaiting reinspection. Mrs. Genter asked how the Borough was handling quality control and Mrs. Politi stated that the Borough Engineer had been on-site for the entirety of the redrilling. Mr. Wilson asked if there had been any complaints from the Oliver Road residents who are affected by the project. Mrs. Politi reported that there was a concern about extra traffic on Oliver Road and police have been doing additional patrols in the area. Mrs. Politi stated that the new sidewalk is still

slated to be installed in late February and the wall contractor will return in the Spring to apply the shotcrete finish. After further discussion, Council thanked Mrs. Politi for the update.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE – CURRENT HYDRO: Mr. Marlovits stated that the Property Committee met to discuss the project and found it to be an interesting proposal, but have concerns about disruptions to residents during the construction phase. Mrs. Politi stated that she attended Current Hydro's public stakeholders meeting regarding the project, along with Mr. Hoepf and Assistant Manager, Ms. Amy Brown. She reported that Current Hydro had made several changes to their design and are actively working with the Army Corp of Engineers. Mr. Hoepf remarked that the Borough's current access point to the land is not sustainable and that eventually, a bridge will be required. Mr. Wilson asked what the Borough currently stores on the land and Mrs. Politi stated that the Public Works Department dumps leaves and brush that are collected from residents. Mr. Marlovits and Mrs. Genter spoke of their interest in the proposed project and the value of bridge access to Borough land, but stressed the importance of also having a proper land lease in place if the project comes to fruition. Current Hydro requested access to the land to complete further environmental testing and Mr. Lucas stated they would need to sign an access license. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Marlovits with a second by Mrs. Genter to authorize the Borough solicitor to prepare an access license to allow Current Hydro on Borough land for the purposes of environmental testing. All present voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA ENERGY CONSORTIUM MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: Mrs. Politi explained that the Memorandum allows the Borough to participate in collective purchasing in order to reduce energy costs through economies of scale and that this is the third renewal of the Memorandum. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Genter with a second by Mrs. Larsen to execute the Western Pennsylvania Energy Consortium Memorandum of Understanding. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING PURCHASE OF 2025 POLICE FORD EXPLORER INTERCEPTOR: Mrs. Politi presented a quote in the amount of \$44,572.30 for the purchase of a 2025 Explorer Interceptor for the Police Department and stated that the purchase is included in the 2025 Budget. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Marlovits to approve the purchase of a 2025 Police Ford Explorer Interceptor in the amount of \$44,572.30. All present voted in favor of the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council entered Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 8:31 p.m., and returned to Regular Session at 8:40 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Ellen E. Politi – Borough Manager