

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
June 20, 2023

---

MEETING was called to order at 7:00 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. Gregory J. Marlovits, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Genter, Mrs. Katherine D. Larsen, Mayor Gary L. Smith, Borough Manager John F. Schwend, and Borough Solicitor Philip J. Weis.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on May 16, 2023 were presented to Council. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Marlovits to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from May 16, 2023. All present voted in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. After brief discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORT for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of June 2023 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$254,257.70 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$28,277.94 were presented to Council as per the following list.

| <u>Scheduled Expenditures Account</u> |                           |                      |             |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| 106                                   | Davey Tree Expert Co.     | Street Tree Pruning  | \$625.00    |
| 107                                   | Garvin Boward Beitko      | Engineering Fees     | \$1,538.75  |
| 108                                   | Lennon Smith Souleret     | Engineering Fees     | \$17,826.19 |
| 109                                   | Markl Supply Co           | Firearms             | \$792.00    |
| 110                                   | Penn Landscape and Cement | Spring Tree Planting | \$3,156.00  |
| 111                                   | Robert Crusan             | Arborist Fees        | \$4,340.00  |

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mrs. Genter that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$254,257.70, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$28,277.94. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$1,120.98 to the Borough for the month. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FIRE REPORT for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BUILDING PERMIT AND ZONING PERMIT REPORTS for the month of May 2023 were presented to Council. After discussion, the reports were ordered received and filed.

MS4 UPDATE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. After discussion, the report was ordered received and filed.

QUAKER VALLEY COG REPORT for the month of May 2023 was presented to Council. Mr. Schwend highlighted that the COG recently received a \$100,000 grant from the Keystone Communities Program for the installation of three or four license plate identification readers throughout the COG. The Police Chiefs committee met to discuss possible locations for the readers, and will finalize plans in the coming weeks. Chief Burlett explained that the technology is utilized for serious crime incidents, and monitored by the PA State Police, who in turn notify local police. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Minutes from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority meeting were received.
- B. Minutes from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority meeting were received.
- C. Correspondence from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority to Sewickley Borough regarding their Act 537 Plan was received.
- D. Correspondence was received from Sewickley Heights Borough regarding the Way Hollow Road closure. Mr. Schwend explained that Sewickley Heights and PennDot have come to a general consensus, and more details regarding the turnback program and reopening of the road will be received in the coming weeks.
- E. Correspondence was received from Mr. John Orndorff requesting a bike trail through the Borough. Mr. Orndorff stated that the bike trail would be part of a larger trail network connecting the Montour Trail to the Ohio state border, and presented a proposed bike trail with signage that avoids Beaver Road. Mr. Marlovits asked whether experienced cyclists utilize the existing parts of the trail, and stressed the safety of pedestrians and cyclists both. Mr. Hofmann expressed concern with large groups of cyclists coming through the Borough and disrupting neighborhoods and vehicles. Mr. Orndorff stated that experienced cyclists typically utilize the trail, however it would be open to anyone. Numerous residents expressed concerns with the location of the proposed trail in the Borough as well. After further discussion, Mr. Hoeppe directed the matter to the Streets Committee for review.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Dan Kudirka – 217 Chestnut Road  
Mr. William Lang – 617 Maple Lane  
Ms. Jennifer Murdock – 211 Orchard Lane  
Mrs. Laurel Echavarria – 319 Woodland Road  
Dr. Jim Ransom – 319 ½ Woodland Road  
Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Frances Blumenkopf – 431 Maple Lane  
Mr. Charles Harris and Ms. Darlene Nowak – 526 Irwin Drive  
Mr. Donald and Mrs. Betsy Spalding – 402 Maple Lane  
Mr. Mark and Mrs. Christine Fuoss – 453 Leet Road  
Mr. John Orndorff – Ohio River Trail Council  
Mr. Leland Floyd – Woodland Swim Club

Mr. Charles Harris came before Council to discuss the land development and conditional use applications for a proposed medical marijuana dispensary site at 301 Ohio River Boulevard. Mr. Harris stated that he has attended two Planning Commission meetings where the application was discussed, and expressed concern with parking and traffic congestion. He noted that proposed parking spaces and hourly transaction estimates significantly decreased between presentations, and stated that the location is not sufficient by the applicant's own criteria. Mr. Bennett Blumenkopf questioned the potential for increased crime in the area. Mrs. Christine Fuoss also expressed concern over parking and safety of patients at the adjacent medical building. Ms. Darlene Nowak expressed doubt over the zoning classification of the proposed dispensary, and asked if legal briefs may be filed with the Borough prior to the conditional use hearing in August. Mr. Weis stated that any briefs may be sent to the Borough Solicitor and the applicant. Mr. Dan Kudirka asked whether the opinions of residents will be taken into account during Council's consideration of the applications. Mr. Hofmann stated that Council will ensure that the applicant fully complies with all ordinances before approving the land development or conditional use applications. Mr. Hoopp stated that Council also has the ability to set reasonable conditions that the applicant must comply with if the applications are approved. Mr. Donald Spalding stated that a flyer was distributed around town regarding the proposed dispensary, and asked when the plan will be presented. Mr. Schwend explained the legal timeline and process, and stated that Council will hold a hearing during their August meeting to hear the conditional use application. Mr. Weis stated that interested residents should attend the hearing to ensure their concerns are incorporated into the official record.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

STREETS COMMITTEE – CHALLIS LANE AND CHESTNUT ROAD: Mr. Schwend stated that the Streets Committee met to discuss the parking and pedestrian concern at the intersection of Challis Lane and Chestnut Road. The Borough Traffic Engineer provided two recommendations; prohibiting parking at all times on Challis Lane and for 75 feet in each direction of Chestnut Road, or eliminating a parking space on Chestnut Road and creating a sidewalk bump out to allow pedestrians better visibility. The Committee determined that eliminating parking would cause a hardship on residents who rely on on-street parking, or require considerable infrastructure costs and updates. Due to the problem only arising during school dismissal times, the Committee recommended discussing the issue with the school district, and requesting in writing that the district review dismissal procedures to ensure pedestrian safety. After brief discussion, Council thanked Mr. Schwend for the update.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION OF LOT LINE CHANGE REQUEST – WOODLAND SWIMMING CLUB, 526 WOODLAND ROAD: Mr. Leland Floyd presented a lot line change request to Council for the Woodland Swimming Club located at 526 Woodland Road. He stated that the property line between the Club and the neighboring property owner would change, and no new parcel is being created. Mr. Schwend explained that the Planning Commission reviewed the proposed change and recommended its approval. Mayor Smith asked whether the lot line change will have any impact on other adjacent property owners, and Mr. Schwend stated that it will not. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Marlovits to approve the lot line change request of the Woodland Swimming Club located at 526 Woodland Road. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. 23-SW01 – SIDEWALK AND CURB SPOT REPAIRS: Mr. Schwend stated that three bids were received for the 2023 Sidewalk Repair Program, from Penn Landscape and Cement, from N&N Landscaping, and from Aveli Construction. Penn Landscape and Cement is the low bidder in the majority of categories listed, including concrete repair and grinding. Mr. Schwend noted that cost sharing for properties with sidewalk slab damage caused by street trees will be available this year. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Marlovits with a second from Mrs.

Genter to award Contract No. 23-SW01 – 2023 Concrete Sidewalk and Curb Spot Repairs to Penn Landscaping and Cement. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING PURCHASE OF SEWER PUSH CAMERA: Mr. Schwend stated that three proposals for purchasing a sewer push camera were reviewed, and the Pow-R-Mole camera was determined to be the best option. The total cost of the technology includes the camera and locator, a digital receiver, the option for audio commentary, GIS mapping capabilities, and approximately 400 feet of cable. Mr. Hofmann asked whether the purchase will result in a cost savings compared to outsourcing services. Mr. Gregorich explained that sewer cleaning will still be outsourced, however the purchase would allow the Public Works department to check for sewer back ups and accurately map the sewer system. Mr. Schwend stated that the purchase was included in the 2023 budget, and includes a three year warranty. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to authorize the purchase of a sewer push camera from Pow-R-Mole in the amount of \$23,370.00. All present voted in favor of the motion.

REQUET FROM REP. VALERIE GAYDOS REGARDING SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 589 REGARDING LANDSLIDE INSURANCE: Mr. Schwend stated that Rep. Gaydos' office is seeking letters of support for legislation that would create an insurance program to aid property owners who experience damage caused by landslides. Letters were drafted to be sent to the chairs of the Environmental Resources and Energy committee. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to send letters of support for House Bill 589 regarding landslide insurance. All present voted in favor of the motion.

TESTIMONIAL RESOLUTION 2023-02 – RECOGNIZING MR. DOUGLAS SILK: Mayor Smith read the Testimonial Resolution 2023-02, in recognition of Mr. Doug Silk's retirement after thirty-three years as a police dispatcher and part time public works laborer. Chief Burlett noted that Mr. Silk was an exceptional employee and served the Borough well. Mr. Silk thanked Mayor Smith and Council for their kind words, and expressed gratitude for his long career in Edgeworth. A motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Larsen to adopt Testimonial Resolution 2023-02. All present voted in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM UPDATE: Mr. Alex Clifford came before Council to discuss the 2023 Sidewalk Repair Program, and his work on the project so far. Mr. Clifford explained that he used ArcGIS software to create a map for documenting sidewalk issues, and walked all of the Borough's sidewalks to identify the slabs in need of repair. The information was compiled into a spreadsheet, and letters will be sent to residents in the coming weeks. Mr. Clifford proceeded to report on the scale and projected price of sidewalk repairs. Mr. Hofmann asked about how tree related slabs will be dealt with, and Mr. Hoepf asked about the specifications for repair. Mr. Clifford explained how tree related issues are listed in the spreadsheet, and how the letters prompt residents to contact the Borough in the case of tree related issues. Mr. Clifford also explained the alternatives to slab replacement, including grinding and patching. After brief discussion, Council thanked Mr. Clifford for the update.

JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> BIKE PARADE: Administrative Assistant Ellen Politi stated that the July 4<sup>th</sup> bike parade will take place on Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. The parade will be escorted by Cochran Hose Co. and the Edgeworth Police Department, and Eat'n Park has donated cookies for the event. Mayor Smith and Mr. Hofmann stated that they will donate water bottles as well. After brief discussion, Council thanked Mrs. Politi for the update.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council entered Executive Session at 8:39 p.m. to discuss a legal matter, and returned to regular session at 9:05 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager