

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 19, 2024

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, Mrs. Katherine D. Larsen, Rev. Rebecca M. Cartus, Mayor Gary L. Smith, Borough Manager Ellen E. Politi, and Mr. Brendan Lucas representing the Borough Solicitor.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on October 15, 2024 were presented to Council. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mrs. Larsen to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 15, 2024. All present voted in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORT for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of October 2024 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$321,371.34 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$128,050.62 were presented to Council as per the following list.

<u>Scheduled Expenditures Account</u>			
213	McClung, Evan	Sidewalk Refund	\$283.73
214	Ambridge Lumber Co.	Walker Park Bridge	\$209.00
215	Flooring by Fischer	Carpet Install	\$5,775.00
216	Forsite	Street Signs	\$2,098.15
217	Frew Inc	Salt Shed Heater	\$9,315.00
218	G. Salandro Excavating	Walker Park Stream Restoration	\$62,268.75
219	Garvin Boward Beitko	Engineering Fees	\$9,259.15
220	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineering Fees	\$17,822.65
221	Pastelak, Dorothy	Sidewalk Refund	\$356.79
222	Penn Landscape	Sidewalk Repairs	\$1,359.20
223	Pittsburgh Socialights	Holiday Tree Lighting	\$3,300.00
224	Pugliano Construction	Beaver Road Bridge	\$4,652.64
225	Rick Hartman Plumbing	Gas Line Install	\$8,185.06
226	Tall Timber Tree Experts	Beaver Road Wall Removals	\$200.00
227	Trans Associates Engineering	Engineering Fees	\$212.50
228	Universal Information Systems	Admin Computers	\$2,753.00

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Rev. Cartus that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$321,371.34, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$128,050.62. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. Jordan Tax Service reported collecting real estate taxes in the amount of \$54,513.22. After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. District Justice Guiseppe Roselli, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$443.33 to the Borough for the month. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. Chief Burlett stated that the department has hired Lori Ann Harnick-Lowry to replace Dan Boyles as Lead Dispatcher when he retires on January 3, 2025. Ms. Lowry is highly qualified for the position and she train with Mr. Boyles until his retirement. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FIRE REPORT for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. Mr. Hofmann complimented the department's recently constructed walking bridge at Walker Park. The bridge was partially constructed using steel that had been donated by Sippel Steel. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BUILDING PERMIT AND ZONING PERMIT REPORTS for the month of October 2024 were presented to Council. After discussion, the reports were ordered received and filed.

MS4 UPDATE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. After discussion, the report was ordered received and filed.

QUAKER VALLEY COG REPORT for the month of October 2024 was presented to Council. 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.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Hugh St. Martin – 609 Maple Lane
Mr. Bill Lang – 617 Maple Lane
Mr. Charles Harris – 526 Irwin Drive

OLD BUSINESS:

BEAVER ROAD WALL UPDATE: Ms. Politi stated that work has been delayed due to the location of a Verizon fiber optic line that runs underneath a portion of the relevant sidewalk. Because of the location of the line, the contractor is not able to install soil nails as they originally planned and must redesign their plans. Mr. Hofmann questioned if this will affect the overall cost of the project. Ms. Politi stated that the cost impact will depend on the design and that the project is now significantly delayed. Ms. Politi said that the redesign should not affect the longevity or any safety components of the wall. Council asked how this delay will affect the sidewalk project. Ms. Politi stated that the sidewalk cannot be completed until the work on the wall is complete. Signs will be placed at the site encouraging pedestrians to detour around

the closed portion of sidewalk. Mr. Hoepf stated he does not anticipate the wall concrete to be installed until Spring 2025. After further discussion, Council thanked Ms. Politi for the update.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ON ADA PARKING SPOTS: Mr. Marlovits stated that the Property Committee met to discuss the proposed project. Mr. Marlovits stated that the committee recommends moving forward with a reduced scope, which will allow for two new parking spots to the left of the current police parking in front of the building, one being ADA compliant. He also stated the importance of utilizing the grant money the Borough has been awarded for this project. Mr. Hoepf asked if the Property Committee had considered additional landscaping once the project was finished. Mr. Marlovits suggested replicating what is currently in place and that aesthetics can be determined at a later date. Mr. Hofmann asked about the grant timeline, and Ms. Politi stated that she is able to ask for an extension if necessary. Mr. Hoepf suggested the Borough put the project out to bid in early Spring 2025 and asked Ms. Politi to confirm a timeline with the Borough engineer.

Additionally, Mr. Hoepf stated he had received a letter from the state informing him that construction on Way Hollow Road will be bid in Spring 2025, and is anticipated to begin in Summer 2025.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING 2025 BUDGET – AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE BUDGET: Mr. Hofmann stated that the Finance Committee, along with Ms. Politi and Ms. Brown, had recently met to discuss the proposed budget. He stated that the budget is fairly conservative on the revenue side while noting a slight increase in operating expense, a 4% wage increase for all employees. Mr. Hofmann stated that the Borough will not be raising property taxes for the twenty-second year in a row. Ms. Politi highlighted that Beaver Road Wall expenses have been appropriately applied to the 2025 budget due to the delay in the project, and that the Scheduled Expenditures budget includes paving, and the purchase of a new police vehicle. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Marlovits to advertise the 2025 budget as presented. All present voted in favor of the motion.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. KEITH SINGLETON TO EDGEWORTH BOROUGH CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: Mr. Hofmann stated the Personnel Committee reviewed Mr. Singleton's credentials, and found him to be highly qualified for the position. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Larsen to appoint Mr. Singleton to fulfill the vacancy on the Edgeworth Borough Civil Service Commission. All present voted in favor of the motion.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. STEPHEN DAWSON-HAGGERTY TO THE EDGEWORTH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY BOARD: Mr. Hofmann stated the Personnel Committee interviewed Mr. Dawson-Haggerty, and found him to be highly qualified for the position. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Larsen to appoint Mr. Dawson-Haggerty to fulfill the vacancy on the Edgeworth Municipal Authority Board. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 (FINAL) – CONTRACT NO. 23-R01 BEAVER ROAD BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS: Ms. Politi explained that the nominal change order was required due to the grant funding received for this project. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Marlovits with a second by Mrs. Larsen to accept Change Order No. 1 for a deduction in the amount of \$4.50 for Contract No. 23-R01. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING PARTIAL PAYMENT REQUEST NO. 4 (FINAL) – CONTRACT NO. 23-R01 BEAVER ROAD BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS: Ms. Politi stated that the final payment request was reviewed by the Borough engineer, and all components of the project were completed to satisfaction. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Rev. Cartus to approve the Final

Payment Request to Pugliano Construction Co. in the amount of \$4,652.64. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1- CONTRACT 24-ST01 WALKER PARK

STREAM RESTORATION: Ms. Politi stated that the change order is due to increased material after additional streambank erosion. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Marlovits to accept Change Order No. 1 for an increase in the amount of \$1,737.50 for Contract No. 24-ST01. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING PARTIAL PAYMENT REQUEST NO. 1 – CONTRACT NO. 24-ST01

WALKER PARK STREAM RESTORATION: Ms. Politi stated that the Borough engineer reviewed and recommended partial payment. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Marlovits to approve the Partial Payment Request No. 1 in the amount of \$62,268.75 to G. Salandro Excavating Inc. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 – CONTRACT NO. 01-24 BEAVER ROAD

RETAINING WALL: Ms. Politi explained that the change order includes producing a shotcrete test panel, showing the color of the final wall. Color samples were required as part of the easements obtained to complete the Beaver Road wall project. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mrs. Larsen to accept the Change Order No. 1 for an increase in the amount of \$4,920.48 for Contract No. 01-24. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING RESOLUTION 2024-05 – ESTABLISHING THE CRITERIA FOR THE

VOLUNTEER SERVICE CREDIT PROGRAM: Ms. Politi stated that this resolution allows for Borough residents who serve as volunteer firefighters and meet the criteria to receive a credit on earned income tax, and a reduction in real estate tax. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Rev. Cartus to approve Resolution 2024-05, establishing criteria for the volunteer service credit program. All present voted in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council entered Executive Session to discuss legal matters at 7:57 p.m., and returned to Regular Session at 8:44 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Ellen E. Politi – Borough Manager