

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 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. Gregory J. Marlovits, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Genter, Mrs. Katherine D. Larsen, Rev. Rebecca M. Cartus, and Borough Manager John F. Schwend. Mr. Ivan T. Hofmann participated via Zoom.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on August 20, 2024 were presented to Council. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Marlovits with a second by Rev. Cartus to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from August 20, 2024. All present voted in favor of the motion.

At this time, Mr. Hoepp announced a change to the order of the Agenda, and stated that Council would receive the annual MS4 Update found on the Agenda under Other Business.

ANNUAL MS4 UPDATE – LENNON SMITH SOULERET ENGINEERING: Mr. John Valinsky presented the annual MS4 training for elected officials. Mr. Valinsky presented a slide show with information about the permit cycle, permit requirements and the importance of good housekeeping and pollution prevention related to storm water. He also highlighted the possibility of the Commonwealth allowing joint pollutant reduction plans in upcoming permit cycles. After discussion, Council thanked Mr. Valinsky for his presentation.

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

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

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of September 2024 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$201,781.72 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$90,884.09 were presented to Council as per the following list.

<u>Scheduled Expenditures Account</u>			
200	Garvin Boward Beitko	Engineering Fees	\$690.00
201	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineering Fees	\$8,143.72
202	Penn Landscape and Cement	Sidewalk Repairs	\$14,614.15
203	Pugliano Construction Co.	Beaver Road Bridge	\$46,938.86
204	Robert Crusan	Arborist Fees	\$5,250.00
205	Sadler Excavation	Sewer Repair	\$3,972.36
206	Tall Timber Tree Experts	Pruning and Tree Removals	\$11,275.00

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 \$201,781.72, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$90,884.09. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT for the month of August 2024 was presented to Council. Jordan Tax Service reported collecting real estate taxes in the amount of -\$7,744.48. After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of August 2024 was presented to Council. District Justice Guiseppe Roselli, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$1,025.87 to the Borough for the month. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of August 2024 was presented to Council. Mr. Hofmann highlighted the successful Pizza with the Police event, and thanked all who help put the event together. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

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

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of August 2024 was presented to Council. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

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

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

QUAKER VALLEY COG REPORT for the month of August 2024 was presented to Council. Mr. Schwend noted that QVCOG dues will remain the same for 2025. 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. The resignation of Mr. Robert Crusan as Borough Arborist was received. Mr. Schwend noted that Mr. Crusan had served as Borough Arborist for many years, and helped to develop planting plans and beautification projects around the Borough. Mr. Schwend explained that he contacted Mr. Robert Kruljak, a certified arborist, who will take over as Borough Arborist. After discussion, Council accepted the resignation of Mr. Robert Crusan.
- D. Correspondence was received from the Department of the Auditor General regarding the Cochran Hose Co. Relief Association Audit.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Hugh St. Martin – 609 Maple Lane
Mr. Bill Lang – 617 Maple Lane
Mr. David Aloe – 504 Beaver Road
Ms. Colleen Whalen – 111 Pine Road
Mr. John Valinsky – Lennon Smith Souleret Engineering
Mr. Dominic Politi

Mrs. Colleen Whalen came before Council on behalf of the Pitcavage family to thank Council, the Police Department, and Borough staff for their efforts in keeping Edgeworth as a great community to live in. Mrs. Whalen stated that the Pitcavage children especially appreciated the police officers keeping a close eye on their mother. After brief discussion, Council thanked Mrs. Whalen and the Pitcavage family for their kind words.

OLD BUSINESS:

PROPERTY COMMITTEE – ADA PARKING IMPROVEMENTS: Mr. Marlovits stated that the Property Committee met to review the proposed ADA parking improvement project plan for which the Borough recently received partial grant funding. Mr. Marlovits explained that the Committee was concerned with the aesthetic view of a full parking area, coupled with the overall cost to gain a handful of parking spaces. He highlighted the need for additional parking spaces as the rear parking area is at capacity with employee vehicles. Mr. Schwend recommended placing the project out to bid in order to get actual costs. Mr. Hofmann stated that the project is too expensive for minimal benefit to the community. Mrs. Larsen stated that the Borough should have an ADA compliant parking space. Mr. Schwend noted that an accessible parking space would block current parking for police vehicles, and explained the current parking situation for employees, police vehicles, and public works equipment. Mr. David Aloe stated that parking availability is currently restricted, and stated that residents should have an easier time accessing the Borough building. After further discussion, the matter was tabled.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING 2025 MMO: Mr. Schwend stated that calculations for the 2025 minimum municipal obligation (MMO) were received from the Borough's actuary. The Borough receives state aid which typically covers a large portion of the funding obligation to the pension plans. The 2025 uniformed pension plan calculation is \$80,150.00, while the non-uniform pension plan does not require a contribution. The MMO costs will be included in the 2025 budget. Mr. Schwend explained that \$23,735 obligation listed for defined contribution plan reflects payroll contributions that will be made throughout the year, and the Borough will receive state aid for the defined contribution aspect of the plan also. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Genter with a second from Mrs. Larsen to approve the 2025 MMO. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. 24-ST01 – WALKER PARK

STREAMBANK RESTORATION: Mr. Schwend stated that seven bids were received for the Walker Park Streambank Restoration project, with the low bid from G. Salandro Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$67,450.00. The scope of work includes repairing the eroded streambank located at Shelter 4 and installing riprap to stabilize the area. Mr. Schwend stated that the contractor has not previously worked in the Borough, however the Borough Engineer is familiar with their work and is confident they will complete the project satisfactorily. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to award Contract No. 24-ST01 – Walker Park Streambank Restoration to G. Salandro Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$67,450.00. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING PARTIAL PAYMENT REQUEST NO. 3 – CONTRACT NO. 23-R01

BEAVER ROAD BRIDGE REPAIRS: Mr. Schwend stated that Pugliano Construction Co. has completed repairs to the Beaver Road bridge, and the Borough Engineer has recommended partial payment in the amount of \$46,938.86. Mr. Schwend noted that there will be a final payment request after proper grass seeding is completed in the spring. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Marlovits with a second from Rev. Cartus to approve Partial Payment Request No. 3 in the amount of \$46,938.86 to Pugliano Construction Co. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING PURCHASE OF LICENSE PLATE CAMERAS: Mr. Hofmann stated that the Police Committee reviewed Chief Burlett's request for license plate cameras to be installed at the intersection of Beaver Road and Academy Avenue, and recommended approval in the amount of \$10,973.40 from David Davis Communications, Inc. Mr. Schwend explained that the cameras will capture license plates on vehicles that are marked as stolen, or have an active BOLO notice. He also stated that the Borough received a \$50,000 donation from the Park Foundation for the Police Department, which would cover the cost of the cameras and future maintenance. After discussion, a motion was made from Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Larsen to approve the purchase of license plate cameras in the amount of \$10,973.40 to be placed at the intersection of Beaver Road and Academy Avenue. All present voted in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

RESIGNATION OF MR. JOHN SCHWEND AS BOROUGH MANAGER: On behalf of Borough Council, Mr. Hoepp thanked Mr. Schwend for his dedication, service, and commitment to the Borough throughout his eight years as Borough Manager. Mr. Hoepp also highlighted Mr. Schwend's work with securing grants, upgrading infrastructure particularly the Beaver Road Wall project, and succession planning as an indelible mark that he has left upon the Borough. Mr. Schwend thanked Mr. Hoepp, and stated that he was grateful for the opportunity to serve the Borough and will miss working with Council and the staff. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Marlovits to accept with regret the resignation of Mr. John Schwend as Borough Manager effective October 1, 2024. All present voted in favor of the motion.

APPOINTMENT OF MRS. ELLEN POLITI AS BOROUGH MANAGER: Mr. Hofmann stated that the Personnel Committee recommended the appointment of current Assistant Borough Manager Ellen Politi to the position of Borough Manager with an annual salary of \$85,000. Mr. Hofmann highlighted Mrs. Politi's six years with the Borough and her educational background, and stated that she is a great candidate to take over from Mr. Schwend. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to appoint Mrs. Ellen Politi to the position of Borough Manager, effective October 1, 2024, with an annual salary of \$85,000. All present voted in favor of the motion.

APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH OFFICIALS: The motion of Rev. Cartus, seconded by Mrs. Larsen, to make the following appointments for the remainder of 2024 and 2025, was unanimously carried.

Borough Secretary – Ellen E. Politi

Treasurer – Ellen E. Politi

Borough Manager – Ellen E. Politi

Solicitor – Philip J. Weis

Engineer – Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering

Zoning Officer – Ellen E. Politi

Assistant Zoning Officer – James D. Vicheck

Building and Plumbing Official – James D. Vicheck

Sewage Enforcement Officer – Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering

Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer – Allegheny County Health Department

3rd Party Code Official – PCS Inc., MDIA, & Steel City Inspection Agency

Emergency Management Coordinator – Lt. William A. Och

Earned Income Tax Collector – Keystone Collections Group

Local Service Tax Collector – Keystone Collections Group

Business Privilege Tax Collector – Keystone Collections Group
Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector – Jordan Tax Service
Deputy Real Estate Tax Collector – Jordan Tax Service
Sustainability Coordinator – Ellen E. Politi
Quaker Valley COG Delegate – Joseph T. Hoepf
Quaker Valley COG Alternate Delegate – Ellen E. Politi
Allegheny County Boroughs Association Delegate – Ellen E. Politi
Allegheny County Boroughs Association Alternate Delegate – Joseph T. Hoepf
Official Newspaper – Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Xtra Local North
Right to Know Officer – Ellen E. Politi
Flood Plain Administrator – Ellen E. Politi
MS4 Administrator – Ellen E. Politi

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager