

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 19, 2023

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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. David T. Aloe, Mr. Ivan T. Hofmann, Mr. Gregory J. Marlovits, Mr. Daniel S. Wilson, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Genter, Mrs. Katie D. Larsen, Mayor Gary L. Smith, Borough Manager John F. Schwend, and Mr. Brendan Lucas representing the Borough Solicitor.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on August 15, 2023 were presented to Council. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Wilson to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2023. All present voted in favor of the motion.

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

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

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of September 2023 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$200,014.57 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$151,817.31 were presented to Council as per the following list.

<u>Scheduled Expenditures Account</u>			
124	John Burlett	Wireless Microphones	\$611.70
125	Robert Crusan	Arborist Fees	\$3,710.00
126	Insituform Technologies	Church Lane Sewer	\$114,750.00
127	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineering Fees	\$13,884.56
128	Penn Landscape and Cement	Sidewalk Repairs	\$15,761.05
129	Suburban Insulation	Salt Building Insulation	\$3,100.00

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 \$200,014.57, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$151,817.31. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

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

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of August 2023 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$581.27 to the Borough for the month. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of August 2023 was presented to Council. Chief Burlett stated that new police car has been completed and is in use. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

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

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

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

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

QUAKER VALLEY COG REPORT for the month of August 2023 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. Correspondence was received from the Sewickley Public Library introducing their new Executive Director, and highlighting partnerships between the library and other community organizations.
- C. Correspondence was received via email from the Pennsylvania Department of Auditor General regarding the Borough's 2022 Liquid Fuels Tax Audit. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough did not receive any findings or comments, and an unmodified report was issued.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mrs. Mary Ferris – 106 Woodland Road  
Mr. William Lang – 617 Maple Lane  
Mr. Hugh St. Martin – 609 Maple Lane  
Mr. Charles Harris and Ms. Darlene Nowak – 526 Irwin Drive

OLD BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING RESOLUTION 2023-05 – PENNDOT TURN BACK PROGRAM FOR WAY HOLLOW ROAD: Mr. Schwend stated that PennDOT has provided a scope of work for repairs to Way Hollow Road. He explained that Sewickley Heights Borough and PennDOT came to an agreement to remediate landslide prone areas along the road, and agreeing to this resolution would turn the road over to the respective municipalities for ownership and maintenance after PennDOT completes necessary repairs to bring the road up to today's Borough standards. The Borough Engineer has reviewed and approved the proposed scope of work, which includes new drainage, new guiderails, and milling and paving. The work would be inspected by the Borough Engineer prior to the Borough assuming ownership of the road. Mr. Aloe asked whether sidewalks were included in the scope of work, and Mr. Schwend stated that they were not. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Hofmann to adopt Resolution 2023-05, agreeing to the PennDOT Turn Back Program for Way Hollow Road. All present voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROPERTY COMMITTEE – DONATION OF 2016 POLICE CRUISER TO THE QUAKER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT: Mr. Schwend stated that the Quaker Valley School

District (QVSD) Police Department recently expressed interest in purchasing the Borough's 2016 Ford police vehicle for their school police officers. Mr. Schwend explained that previously, vehicles were sold on Municibid, and the last vehicle sold for approximately \$7,500, and similar listings are currently selling for approximately \$5,000. The 2016 vehicle is now out of rotation, and is in need of approximately \$2,500 worth of repairs in order to prepare it for sale. Chief Burlett reviewed the 2016 vehicle with the QVSD Police Chief, who is aware of the necessary repairs and is willing to accept the vehicle in its current condition. Chief Burlett explained that the QVSD Police now have an officer located in each school, however they only have two police vehicles to respond to incidents. The Property Committee met to review the request, and recommends donating the vehicle to the QVSD Police Department in its current condition. Mr. Hoepf asked what the relationship is between the Edgeworth Police Department and the QVSD Police Department. Chief Burlett stated that the QVSD officers have arrest powers and can respond to incidents occurring on school property, and each department can provide assistance to each other when necessary. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mrs. Genter to approve the donation of the 2016 Ford police vehicle to the Quaker Valley School District Police Department in its current condition. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING 2024 MMO: Mr. Schwend that the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) for the Borough pension plans has been calculated by the Borough's actuary, Mockenhaupt. The Borough receives state aid which typically covers a large portion of the funding obligation to the pension plans. The 2024 uniformed pension plan calculation is \$45,426, while the non-uniform pension plan calculation is \$39,191. The MMO costs will be included in the 2024 budget. Mr. Schwend explained that \$16,910 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 Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Larsen to approve the 2024 MMO. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING RESOLUTIONS 2023-06, 2023-07, and 2023-08 – APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS THROUGH THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY: Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough is applying for grant funding for three infrastructure projects from the Gaming and Economic Development Tourism Fund (GEDTF) through the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County (RAAC). The projects and their requested amounts are \$500,000 for the Beaver Road Wall, \$163,200 for Phase Two of the Church Lane sanitary sewer lining, \$150,000 for ADA parking improvements at the Borough Building. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Marlovits with a second from Mr. Wilson to adopt Resolution 2023-06 to apply for \$500,000 for the Beaver Road Wall through the RAAC. All present voted in favor of the motion. Second, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Wilson to adopt Resolution 2023-07 to apply for \$163,200 for Phase Two of the Church Lane sanitary sewer lining through the RAAC. All present voted in favor of the motion. Finally, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mr. Aloe to adopt Resolution 2023-08 to apply for \$150,000 for ADA parking improvements at the Borough Building through the RAAC. All present voted in favor of the motion.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION – POLICE ELIGIBILITY LIST: Mr. Schwend stated that boroughs are required to maintain an active eligibility list for qualified police officers in the event that a vacancy becomes available. Chief Burlett explained that eligibility is determined based on interviews, physical, and written examinations, and qualified applicants would be placed on the list for up to one year after its establishment. Mr. Wilson asked whether applicants are aware that a position may not currently be open. Chief Burlett stated that officers are aware of the eligibility list process. Mr. Hoepf asked how many applicants municipalities typically receive when establishing an eligibility list process. Chief Burlett stated that due to challenges with staffing, police departments around the area are experiencing low numbers of applications. He suggested exploring hiring incentives to attract more qualified applicants. Mrs. Larsen asked whether applicants can be on eligibility lists for multiple municipalities. Chief Burlett

stated that they can. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mr. Hofmann to authorize the Civil Service Commission to establish the police eligibility list. All present voted in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

BEAVER ROAD BRIDGE: Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough Engineer has developed drawings for the necessary repairs to the Beaver Road bridge. In order to repair deficiencies noted in state inspection reports, PennDOT requires a guiderail to be placed on top of the existing wall to prevent vehicles from going over the bridge in case of an accident. Mr. Schwend explained that the guiderail could be installed either on top of the existing stone by using brackets, or by cutting the dome to an even surface, and presented photos of a similar installation recently completed. The scope of work also includes drainage, spalled concrete repair, and manhole repairs. Mr. Schwend noted that the project has received grant funding of \$100,000, which is reimbursable based on the cost of the project. Mr. Hofmann asked whether the guiderail is required in order to complete the project. Mr. Schwend stated that the annual reports from PennDOT indicate this as a deficiency. Council then asked what liability the Borough has if they choose not to install the guiderail. Mr. Lucas stated that since the Borough has been notified of the deficiency, in the event of an accident, the Borough could be required to waive its governmental immunity and potentially be liable for up to \$500,000 in damages. Mr. Marlovits, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Hofmann expressed concern with the necessity and the aesthetic impact of the guiderail. Mr. Aloe stated that the Borough should comply with all PennDOT recommendations, including the guiderail. Mayor Smith asked whether one single handrail could be installed to meet PennDOT requirements. Mr. Hoepp asked whether the Borough Engineer had developed cost estimates for the guiderail and its installation. Mrs. Larsen asked whether the Borough Engineer could develop a rendering of the Beaver Road bridge with a potential guiderail installed. Mr. Schwend stated that he would gather additional information from the Borough Engineer. After further discussion, Mr. Hoepp directed the matter to the Streets Committee for review.

DIGITAL DOCUMENTATION STORAGE RENEWAL: Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough's digital documentation storage system, Docuware, is up for renewal. The professional staff met with Docuware representatives from Toshiba to discuss overall cost and further utilization of the system. Toshiba provided a modified renewal package in the amount of \$292.00 per month with an agreement term of five years. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Aloe to renew the Docuware digital documentation storage system in the amount of \$292.00 per month. All present voted in favor of the motion.

Additionally, Mr. Hoepp stated that Ascend Wellness Holdings has withdrawn their conditional use and land development applications.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager