

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
October 9, 2019

MEETING was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Chairperson Keane presiding and the following members of the Commission and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Patrick Keane, Mr. Timothy Corcoran, Mr. David Aloe, Mr. David Martin, and Mr. John Schwend, Borough Manager.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on September 11, 2019 were presented to the Commission. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Corcoran with a second from Mr. Keane to approve the September 11, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. All present voted in favor of the motion.

No visitors were present.

NEW BUSINESS:

REVIEW OF ORDINANCE 553: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWORTH ZONING ORDINANCE RELATING TO GAS RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Schwend stated that some residents approached the professional staff with concerns relating to gas drilling in areas surrounding Edgeworth, and requested that the gas ordinance be updated. After review by Edgeworth Borough Council, the proposed amendments to Ordinance 553 include adding provisions already found in state statutes regarding gas resources development. The proposed amendments also change the approval process for gas development, from a Special Exception case decided by the Zoning Hearing Board to a Conditional Use case presented to Borough Council.

Mr. Martin expressed concern regarding little discussion in the proposed changes to the ordinance regarding escaping gases, specifically methane, and liquids from drilled wells and caps. Mr. Keane stated that the escaping gases and liquids would be included under waste regulations. Mr. Aloe stated the approval process for gas development at the state level would regulate escaping gas and liquids, and that any future applicant would be required to receive state approval as well as approval from Borough Council.

Upon further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Martin with a second from Mr. Aloe to accept the proposed modifications with possible additions as necessary to Ordinance 553: An Ordinance Amending the Provisions of the Borough of Edgeworth Zoning Ordinance Relating to Gas Resources Development. All present voted in favor of the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.
-John F. Schwend, Secretary