

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 21, 2020

MEETING was called to order via Zoom at 7:05 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. Daniel S. Wilson, Ms. Carrie A. Morris, Mr. Gregory J. Marlovits, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Genter, Mayor Gary L. Smith, Borough Manager John F. Schwend, and Mr. Brendan Lucas, Esq., representing the Borough Solicitor.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on June 16, 2020 were presented to Council. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Wilson to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from June 16, 2020. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT for the month of June 2020 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

INVESTMENT REPORT as of July 21, 2020 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORT for the month of June 2020 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of July 2020 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$188,276.76 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$49,833.02 were presented to Council as per the following list.

Scheduled Expenditures Account

| | | | |
|------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| 6426 | Garvin Boward Beitko | Engineering Fees | \$1,144.20 |
| 6427 | Horizon Information Systems | Security Camera | \$1,525.00 |
| 6428 | Lennon Smith Souleret | Engineering Fees | \$4,835.82 |
| 6429 | Matthews International | Memorial Plaque | \$114.00 |
| 6430 | Whitmoyer Ford | 2020 Ford 350 Pickup | \$42,214.00 |

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Aloe that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$188,276.76, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$49,833.02. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT for the month of June 2020 was presented to Council. After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of June 2020 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$708.68 to the Borough for the month. After review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of June 2020 was presented to Council. Council congratulated Chief English for recently being sworn in as the President of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FIRE REPORT for the month of June 2020 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of June 2020 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BUILDING PERMIT AND ZONING PERMIT REPORTS for the month of June 2020 were presented to Council. Notice was given to Council of the upcoming July 27th meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board. After review and discussion, these reports were ordered received and filed.

MS4 UPDATE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: President Hoeppe opened the floor for public comment on the topic of stormwater by reviewing the June 2020 MS4 report. After discussion, the report was ordered received and filed.

QVCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT for the month of May 2020 was presented to Council. Mr. Schwend stated that the Edgeworth Municipal Authority was recently awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) that will be administered through the QVCOG. The Authority's infrastructure improvements will benefit all Edgeworth rate payers. After further discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Minutes from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority were received.
- B. Minutes from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority were received.
- C. Correspondence was received from Mr. Douglas McAdams regarding congested parking near the 400 block of Woodland Road due to ongoing construction in the area. Mr. Hofmann asked what alternative options for parking could be in the area, such as restricting parking to one side of the street or implementing resident-only parking. Mr. Hoeppe suggested issuing parking guidelines along with building permits, or enacting an ordinance to enforce parking restrictions within a certain distance from a driveway. Mr. McAdams stated that the issue is continuous, and asked Council to consider painting yellow curbs on either side of his driveway. Chief English stated that the police department placed temporary no parking signs along the street, which has provided some relief to residents. Mr. Aloe expressed hesitation with enforcing parking violations without a written ordinance specifically related to parking restrictions. Ms. Morris stated that the issue is visible throughout the Borough, and recommended a thorough review of parking alternatives. After further discussion, Mr. Hoeppe directed the issue to the Streets Committee for consideration.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Susan Kaminski | 443 Maple Lane |
| William Lang | 617 Maple Lane |
| Douglas McAdams | 430 Woodland Road |
| Suzanne Watters | 107 Woodland Road |
| Jeff Neff | Three Rivers Trust |

OLD BUSINESS:

OLIVER ROAD SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT: Mr. Schwend stated that Columbia Gas is currently ahead of schedule for the gas line replacement on Oliver Road, and the Borough's contractor will begin replacing the sewer line within the next few weeks. He explained that there have been minimal traffic issues and complaints from residents, and that work should be completed by the end of the fall season. After further discussion, Council thanked Mr. Schwend for the update.

In addition, Mr. Hoepf stated that Ms. Alie Gruelle recently contacted Council about a further review of the Borough's small cell tower ordinance. Mr. Hoepf explained that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has ruled that 5G cell providers are considered public utilities and are exempt from zoning ordinances in the public right of way. Mr. Lucas stated that the Court's decision will be reviewed in detail, and he will advise Council if any updates to the Borough's ordinance are recommended.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED LOT CONSOLIDATION – THREE RIVERS TRUST, 446

BEAVER ROAD: Mr. Jeff Neff, representing Three Rivers Trust, stated that the proposed lot consolidation concerns parcels 602-F-280 and 602-F-310. The property owner wishes to consolidate the lot fronting Beaver Road with the half-acre parcel abutting the rear. Mr. Neff explained that the two lots would be consolidated to establish one parcel located at 446 Beaver Road. Mr. Schwend stated that the proposed consolidation conforms with Borough ordinances. The Edgeworth Borough Planning Commission reviewed the plan and recommended approval to Council, and the Allegheny County Planning Commission placed a favorable review on the plan as well. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Aloe to approve the proposed lot consolidation. All present voted in favor of the motion.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. HUGH ST. MARTIN TO FILL VACANCY ON THE LEETSDALE

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY BOARD: Mr. Wilson stated that the Personnel Committee recently met with Mr. St. Martin to discuss his background and interest in the Leetsdale Municipal Authority Board. Mr. Hofmann stated that Mr. St. Martin will be an excellent addition to the Authority, and has the best interest of the Borough in mind. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mr. Marlovits to appoint Mr. Hugh St. Martin to the Leetsdale Municipal Authority Board. All present voted in favor of the motion.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. JOSEPH MEIER TO FILL VACANCY ON THE UNIFORM

CONSTRUCTION CODE BOARD OF APPEALS: Mr. Wilson stated that the Personnel Committee recently met with Mr. Meier, who is interested in filling the vacancy on the Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals. Mr. Hofmann stated that Mr. Meier has an extensive background in engineering, and possesses the expertise necessary to fill the position. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mr. Marlovits to appoint Mr. Joseph Meier to the Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING REPLACEMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS MOWER TRACTOR: Mr. Schwend stated that a new mower tractor for the Public Works department was included in the 2020 budget. He explained that mowers are typically replaced on a twenty-year rotation, and the new mower would replace one in use since 1999. The cost of the purchase through EH Griffith for a 2020 Ventrac tractor is \$31,545.60. Mr. Schwend also asked Council to authorize the listing of the 1999 Toro tractor for public auction. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mrs. Genter to approve the purchase of a 2020 Ventrac mower tractor from EH Griffith in the amount of \$31,545.60, and to authorize the sale of the 1999 mower through public auction. All present voted in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

LGA INTERN SUSTAINABILITY PRESENTATION: Ms. Emily Schnarre came before Council to discuss the Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification application she compiled on behalf of the Borough. After explaining the criteria and scoring method used to determine certification levels, Ms. Schnarre stated that Borough was currently a Silver Certified community with 93 total points. She explained that after researching current Borough policies and procedures, an additional 36 points were identified that could be applied to the application. Ms. Schnarre then discussed her recommendations for sustainable policies, procedures, and resolutions which would bring the Borough to Gold Certified status. The recommendations included orientation training for newly elected officials, the creation of a sustainability program with a staff member appointed to manage it, ensuring sustainability components at Borough events, and expanding recycling in the Borough building. Ms. Schnarre also discussed her research at the recycling center, and provided recommendations for improvement and increased efficiency. Council discussed various options for the center, including increased education efforts, a temporary closure of the center, material segregation, and access control mechanisms such as gates or manned operations. After further discussion, Mr. Hoeppe moved the discussion to the Sanitation Committee for further consideration. Council and Mr. Schwend thanked Ms. Schnarre for her presentation and excellent work throughout the summer.

SHIELDS SPRING PRESERVATION GRANT: Mr. Hofmann stated that the Sewickley Valley Historical Society offers grant opportunities of up to \$10,000 for historic structure preservation. He believes that the grant would help the Borough restore and preserve Shields Spring. Mr. Schwend stated that the Public Works department cleared debris around the area, however the stones around the spring need repointed and additional work is necessary. Mr. Hofmann explained that the project would be competitive for grant consideration, and represent the Borough's dedication to historic structures. Mr. Hoeppe and Mr. Aloe expressed concern with water damage behind the wall, and ensuring proper drainage in the future. Mr. Hofmann recommended that the Borough receive estimates for the scope of work in order to determine an overall cost. After further discussion, Council agreed to receive cost estimates for preserving Shields Spring.

Mayor Smith stated that in honor of Chief English recently becoming the President of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, he and Borough Council would like to formally recognize his accomplishment. Mayor Smith then read the following proclamation into the record:

Borough of Edgeworth
PROCLAMATION 2020-02

“WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgeworth is home to residents who value the safety and protection provided by its police force, and;

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police, John English, has led the police force with compassion and respect since 2001, and;

WHEREAS, Chief English served the public diligently throughout his many responsibilities in law enforcement over the past forty-six years in Edgeworth and in West Palm Beach, Florida, and;

WHEREAS, Chief English has proven to be an exemplary member of his community through his various leadership positions in police associations and the Pittsburgh Technical College, and;

WHEREAS, while serving as Chief of Police, Chief English has discharged his duties in a highly dignified and respectable manner. He has contributed greatly to the health, safety, and wellbeing of all residents and visitors of Edgeworth Borough, and has executed his responsibilities with a caring and attentive demeanor, and;

WHEREAS, thanks to his well respected and tenured leadership in the policing profession, Chief English was sworn in as the President of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association on July 14, 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Gary L. Smith, Mayor of the Borough of Edgeworth, on behalf of the Council of the Borough of Edgeworth, do hereby recognize Chief John English for his tremendous accomplishment, and offer our sincere gratitude for his many years of service and dedication to the Borough of Edgeworth.”

Following the proclamation, Chief English expressed his gratitude to Council and Mayor Smith for the recognition.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager