

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 15, 2020

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MEETING was called to order via Zoom 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. Daniel S. Wilson, 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 November 17, 2020 were presented to Council. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Hofmann to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes as amended from November 17, 2020. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

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

INVESTMENT REPORT as of December 17, 2020 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORT for the month of November 2020 was presented to Council. Mr. Schwend stated that additional legal and engineering expenses throughout the year are attributed to litigation and the Oliver Road sewer separation project. After further review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of December 2020 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$208,225.30 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$491,890.75 were presented to Council as per the following list.

Scheduled Expenditures Account

6463	A. Folino Construction	Oliver Road Project	\$369,095.81
6464	A. Folino Construction	Oliver Road Project	\$53,430.31
6465	Robert Crusan	Arborist Fees	\$2,000.00
6466	Garvin Boward Beitko	Engineering Fees	\$2,014.54
6467	Home Depot	Fuel Tank Supplies	\$315.00
6468	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineering Fees	\$13,838.52
6469	Mariana & Richards	Brick Wall Rebuild	\$23,800.00
6470	Matcon Diamond	Crack Sealing	\$9,999.66
6471	Penn Landscape and Cement	Fall Tree Planting	\$15,716.00
6472	Tall Timber Tree Experts	Tree Removal	\$1,645.00

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 \$208,225.30, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$491,890.75. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

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

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of November 2020 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$1,183.10 to the Borough for the month. After review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

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

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

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of November 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 November 2020 were presented to Council. Mr. Schwend briefly explained upcoming cases before the Zoning Hearing Board. After review and discussion, these reports were ordered received and filed.

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

QVCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT for the month of November 2020 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Minutes from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority were received.
- B. Minutes and correspondence regarding the Act 537 Plan from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority were received. Mr. Schwend explained that the letter provides recalculations for expansion costs and estimated rate savings, as well as redraws the plans for the force main through the Borough, however the proposed plan does not include an existing wet weather force main connection at the Edgeworth Lane pump station. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough will respond to the Authority, and the Sewers Committee will meet to discuss the plan in the coming weeks.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Hugh St. Martin	609 Maple Lane
William Lang	617 Maple Lane
Gail Murray	605 Maple Lane

OLD BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING FINAL 2021 BUDGET: President Hoepf stated that Council held a public hearing on the proposed 2021 budget prior to the Council meeting. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Marlovits to adopt the final 2021 budget. All present voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING RESOLUTION 2020-08 – FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR

2020: Mr. Wilson stated that for the eighteenth consecutive year, the tax rate in the Borough would remain at 4.15 mills. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mrs. Genter to approve Resolution 2020-08, fixing the tax rate for the Borough of Edgeworth at 4.15 mills for fiscal year 2021. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING RESOLUTION 2020-09 – ELIMINATING CONTRIBUTIONS BY

PARTICIPANTS UNDER THE BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN: Mr. Schwend stated that this resolution eliminates police officers' contributions to the pension plan under Act 600, and that the elimination is effective for one year. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Wilson to approve Resolution 2020-09, eliminating contributions by participants under the Borough police pension plan. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING RESIDENT APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: Mr.

Wilson stated that the Personnel Committee had reviewed and recommended the listed appointments to the following boards and commissions:

Building Code Board of Appeals:	Mr. Joseph Meier	Term Ending 12/31/2023
Civil Service Commission:	Ms. Jennifer Giotto	Term Ending 12/31/2026
Shade Tree Commission:	Mr. Greg Marlovits	Term Ending 12/31/2025
Leetsdale Municipal Authority:	Mr. Hugh St. Martin	Term Ending 12/31/2025
Zoning Hearing Board:	Ms. Elizabeth Wilson	Term Ending 12/31/2023
Planning Commission:	Ms. Mary Ferris	Term Ending 12/31/2024
Planning Commission:	Mr. Timothy Corcoran	Term Ending 12/31/2024
Planning Commission:	Mr. David Aloe	Term Ending 12/31/2024

Mr. Schwend stated that Ms. Kristi Yager was eligible for reappointment to the Edgeworth Municipal Authority, however she chose to remove her name from consideration. Mr. Wilson stated the Personnel Committee had interviewed Mr. Christopher Blazak to fulfill the position on the Edgeworth Municipal Authority. The Committee felt that Mr. Blazak would serve in the position well, and recommended him for appointment. A motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mr. Marlovits to approve the list of appointments and their terms, as well as to appoint Mr. Christopher Blazak to fulfill the vacancy on the Edgeworth Municipal Authority, with a term ending on December 31, 2025. All present voted in favor of the motion.

Additionally, Mr. Wilson stated that the Personnel Committee had interviewed Mr. Blazak to fulfill the vacancy of the Elected Tax Collector. Mr. Schwend explained that Elected Tax Collector will appoint Jordan Tax Service for all collection purposes. The appointment would take effect on January 1, 2021 until December 31, 2021. After discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Genter with a second from Mr. Wilson to appoint Mr. Christopher Blazak as the Borough Tax Collector, effective January 1, 2021. All present voted in favor of the motion. Council thanked Mr. Robert Grey for his many years of service to the Borough as Tax Collector.

ACTION CONCERNING APPOINTING THE LEETSDALE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY TO ACT AS THE BOROUGH'S BILLING AND COLLECTION AGENT FOR 2021 SEWER CHARGES: Mr.

Schwend presented a letter from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority requesting written consent to act as the billing and collection agent for sewer charges in the Borough for 2021. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Marlovits to appoint the Leetsdale Municipal Authority as

the Borough's billing and collection agent for sewer charges in 2021. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING APPOINTMENT OF THE BOROUGH ENGINEER FOR 2021: Mr. Schwend presented Council with the Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering Inc. fee schedule for 2021. He stated that there were no increases to hourly rates. Mrs. Genter however noted that the premium overtime rate had increased five percent, and asked if we were charged for services at the overtime rate. Mr. Schwend stated that during the course of a large project, when there is an engineering representative on site, the Borough does pay the premium rate, as well as for various other tasks throughout the year. Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Schwend if the 2020 premium rate had increased since 2019, and Mr. Schwend stated that the rate had increased by ten percent from 2019 to 2020 as well. Discussion continued about the need for engineering supervision at all times during construction projects, and the consensus of Council was that it is in our best interest to have representation on site at all times, however given the amount of money spent for supervision during the Oliver Road project, Council questioned if this supervision could be performed in another manner. Mr. Schwend noted that he and Fred Gregorich do visit the site often, but cannot be there at all times. Council asked Mr. Schwend if he was satisfied with the supervision that was provided by the engineer, and Mr. Schwend stated that he and Fred did have to address some concerns that were not addressed by the engineer on site. Mr. Hofmann suggested accounting for overtime hours in future engineering contracts, as well as seeking a reduction in engineering fees related to issues identified by Borough staff during the Oliver Road project. Mr. Aloe recommended meeting with Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering to discuss services in the future. After further discussion, Council decided to table action on appointing the Borough Engineer for 2021, and revisit the matter at the next meeting.

ACTION CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2021: Mr. Schwend presented a list of proposed meeting dates for 2021, with all Borough Council meetings taking place on the third Tuesday of each month. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Wilson to establish the following meeting dates for 2021, with a start time of 7:00 pm. All present voted in favor of the motion.

January 19, 2021	July 20, 2021
February 16, 2021	August 17, 2021
March 16, 2021	September 21, 2021
April 20, 2021	October 19, 2021
May 18, 2021	November 16, 2021
June 15, 2021	December 21, 2021

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager