

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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MARCH 1, 2010

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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
MARCH 1, 2010**

Council President Schaefer called the Meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 7:30 PM in the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL

Borough Manager Warren Cecconi called the roll and the following responded: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer.

Mayor Jean O. Davin was not in attendance and Solicitor W. Timothy Barry was present, as was Junior Councilperson Horner.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Catherine Wreath of 16 Love Place spoke regarding parking on Love Place, specifically an area where she must navigate to turn around and where a neighbor cannot accommodate the parking needs of her mother's caretakers.

Ms. Schaefer asked Mr. Cecconi and the Police Chief to follow up with Ms. Wreath regarding this situation.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-1 Ms. Gleba moved to authorize the payment of bills, for goods and services received by the Borough, having been reviewed and approved by the General Government Committee in the amount of \$35,067.35. Second by Mr. Hellett.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. **Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Ms. Gleba offered Resolution 2010-21 and asked for its immediate adoption. Second by Mr. Hellett.

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD

RESOLUTION 2010-21

WHEREAS, it is the prerogative of the Council of the Borough of Edgewood to suggest the amount of the Tax Collector's Bond; and

WHEREAS, by the Local Tax Collection Law of 1945, P.L. 1050 as amended, the Court of Common Pleas, is authorized to fix the amount of the Tax Collector's Bond which amount shall never exceed the amount of taxes charged in the duplicate to be delivered to the Tax Collector in any one year; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Edgewood recommends to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County that the Bonds of the Tax Collector be fixed in an amount sufficient to warrant adequate protection to the Borough for the protection of all Borough of Edgewood taxes to be collected by the duly elected Tax Collector.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in meeting assembled, it is hereby resolved by the Council of the Borough of Edgewood, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, that the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania be respectfully requested to require the following Tax Collector of the Borough of Edgewood, before entering upon their duty as Tax Collector in the collection of Borough of Edgewood taxes as shown by the tax duplicates for the year 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 for which they were elected to give Bond in the manner required by law, in an amount equal to at least 50% of the Tax Collector's total tax duplicate set forth below:

| BOROUGH | NAME | TOTAL DUPLICATE BOND |
|------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Edgewood Borough | Maureen Smith | \$1,281,724 |

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of March, 2010.

ATTEST

Borough Secretary

Council President

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cecconi noted that the County requires that the Tax Collector be bonded and this resolution recognizes her as the Tax Collector for the Borough for the next four years.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer, Ms. Waldock voted yes. **Resolution Passes.**

M-3 Ms. Gleba moved to authorize the payment of property tax refunds, per the bill list dated February 25, 2010, and having been reviewed and approved by the Borough Tax Collector in the amount of \$4,166.25. **Second by Ms. Waldock.**

DISCUSSION: Borough Manager Cecconi said that there are people who have increases in their property taxes, but these increases will not be seen by the Borough for several months.

Mr. Bright queried Solicitor Barry regarding his personally knowing one of the refundees and whether he should abstain from voting.

Mr. Barry replied that the custom of this Borough is to approve tax refunds, but it is up to Mr. Bright to abstain on any or all of the motions in question.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Mr. Bright (vote covers all except Mulroy, as Mr. Bright knows them personally), Mr. Bowers, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer, Ms. Waldock voted yes. **Motion carried.**

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Halle noted that February was a busy month, with 39 calls during the month. Mr. Halle then gave specific events covered by the Volunteer Fire Department such as lockouts, investigative calls, wires down (either cable or light), Hazmat condition, and the tremendous weather conditions which were endured during the several storms during the month.

Mr. Halle thanked the Public Works Department for keeping Edgewood roads clear.

The upstairs fire quarters are being cleaned and painted and the carpeting will also be cleaned.

To the new Council members, Mr. Halle encouraged them to look at the equipment on their trucks and to come see what the firefighters really do. He extended to each of them an opportunity to visit during drill night on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer commented that the rescue/fire equipment was a collaborative effort with the Borough when the need arose for equipment for use on the Parkway calls. Ms. Schaefer encouraged Council to meet with the firefighters to see what their needs are.

Agreeing with Ms. Wreath who spoke during the Items from the Floor, Mr. Halle corroborated that the fire trucks could not get to the extra 50 feet of Love Place.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Fuller reported that the pump station on Nadine Road lost power and water conservation efforts were in place. Thirty five water breaks were reported in January.

The Water Authority is anticipating that March will have heavy snow.

Mr. Fuller also updated Council regarding new construction for 2010 and 2011 as it concerns the UCC code.

DISCUSSION: None.

RECREATION REPORT

Mr. Cecconi reported that the basketball program is steady, with the children playing Saturday mornings.

The numbers and program for baseball are being prepared and Mr. Cecconi gave the anticipated cost for each of the groups between seven and twelve, that cost being between \$65 and \$115. Mr. Cecconi spoke of the need to meet quickly regarding the decision to raise costs.

Mr. Hellett suggested using gift cards for fundraising efforts for baseball.

Mr. Cecconi felt that an athletic group might be formed to run baseball as a league, thereby possibly getting sponsors for each team.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer asked that Community Service members meet to discuss the sponsorship guidelines.

Ms. Waldock felt it might be interesting to see what other communities do

Ms. Schaefer asked Mr. Wilson to contact Mr. Kefalos asking him for input to be given to Council.

Mr. Cecconi informed Council that, as of right now, there will not be a COLT league.

Referring to the Comprehensive Plan, Ms. Schaefer stated that the Plan said to look at what is around our Borough; Swissvale has a COLT league and the Borough's children might play with them.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Ms. Schaefer had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION: None.

COG REPORT

Mr. Hellett reported that the COG's scheduled meeting had taken place and officers were sworn in. City of Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl was the keynote speaker. Mr. Hellett mentioned that Forest Hills personnel are interested in the Junior Councilperson program and sharing resources with both Public Safety and the Police.

DISCUSSION: None.

LIBRARY REPORT

According to Ms. Schaefer, the Library only meets quarterly. The current Library Board Report will appear in the agenda of the April Council meeting, following the quarterly meeting of the Library.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Barry had no separate report.

DISCUSSION: None.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Cecconi informed Council that, thanks to Mr. Bowers' collaboration, two of his work study students, along with adult supervisors, are providing cleaning services to the Borough Building on Tuesday and Thursday each week.

In reporting about the Act 32 meeting he attended, Mr. Cecconi explained the weighted approach in dividing up various groups.

As far as the newsletter, Mr. Cecconi stated that he is talking with Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and Ms. Augustine is doing a letter to us comparing costs. It was Mr. Cecconi's opinion that the newsletter could be done cheaper and might be redesigned.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer noted that at the CONNECT meeting the upcoming thaw was discussed. As well, she mentioned that she had talked with Mr. Ravenstahl regarding Nine Mile Run and will write a letter to connect into the city's system.

Mr. Cecconi said that the outside renovations to the Train Station are complete and the final request for the County's share of the project has been turned in to Allegheny County. The rest of the money will come from the Port Authority.

The Nine Mile Run Watershed group is designing a rain garden for the Train Station. The date for the RFP has been extended, according to Mr. Cecconi.

An involved discussion ensued when Mr. Cecconi reported that he has been talking with an aide to Mr. Kenney, Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, regarding purchasing the Borough's sewer lines.

Mr. Bowers asked about the negative aspects of this and Mr. Cecconi said this could be outside the Borough's authority and control. He also mentioned that he believes that Alcosan will triple their costs over the next few years. An explanation of holding tanks and other available options was given by Mr. Cecconi.

Ms. Waldock asked if the Borough would lose control and have an increase in resident costs to which Mr. Cecconi answered that whatever is done, residents will experience a huge increase.

Mr. Barry noted that the sewers of the boroughs of Swissvale, Forest Hills and Braddock Hills run through Edgewood.

Mr. Hellett asked what type of protection the Borough would have against privatization.

Mr. Cecconi said that the Wilkesburg Penn Joint Water Authority had meetings about purchasing sewer lines, but this turned out to be a bigger issue than they could handle.

Mr. Barry added that this may be a situation where the legalese involved may be too much of a liability as no one will buy anything that says 'pre-existing condition.' Mr. Barry pondered if the revenue stream is taken away, in what position is the Borough left.

Mr. Cecconi said that the Census Bureau will be conducting job interviews this month and jobs are available at \$15/hr.

NEW BUSINESS

Meetings were set for March 8, 2010: 6:30 PM – Community Service; 7:30 PM – Pension. For March 29, 2010 – Public Works.

ADJOURNMENT

M-4 Following an Executive Session which lasted from 8:46 PM to 9:05, it was moved by Mr. Hellett and seconded by Ms. Waldock to adjourn this meeting at 9:06 PM.

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote, the following was recorded: Mr. Bright, Mr. Bowers, Ms. Waldock, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Gleba, Mr. Hellett, Ms. Schaefer voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Warren Cecconi
Borough Manager