

BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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JUNE 7, 2010

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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
JUNE 7, 2010**

Council President Schaefer called the Meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order on Monday, June 7, 2010 at 7:36 PM in the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL

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

Ms. Waldock was absent.

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

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ms. Schaefer explained that the agenda originally had a Woodland Hills School District presentation regarding Edgewood Primary School. The audience members thought they were coming to a Planning Commission meeting, according to Ms. Schaefer, and their presentation to the Borough will take place after that meeting.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Mrs. McGregor of Walnut Street informed Council that her husband, Honorable Judge McGregor, had passed away at the end of May. She continued by stating that their grandson, James McGregor, along with Chief Payne and Officer Livingston, had participated, on their own time, in the honor guard at the funeral. She wanted Council to know that the Borough had no expense for this at all.

Ms. Schaefer extended condolences to Mrs. McGregor on behalf of the staff and thanked her for the work her husband did for others by sharing his story with cancer research. Ms. Schaefer acknowledged Judge McGregor's willingness to reach out and help others and expressed appreciation for his acts.

Mr. Belmont, Councilperson from Forest Hills Borough, then spoke with regard to a conversation he had with Ms. McKenzie regarding police regionalization. He indicated that Churchill voted not to participate in the study. Ms. McKenzie will contact someone to find out the costs involved.

According to Ms. Schaefer, an article in the newspaper was not correct regarding a movement for regionalization. She stated that this was discussed years ago. She went on to say that Public Safety is 53% of the budget and the effort is to keep the Borough safe, not to lay off police officers.

The study for this topic was free and, according to Ms. Schaefer, Mr. Belmont was able to work with Senator Costa. The study also allowed Edgewood Borough to know if this was something they may want to consider, although the newspaper did not present it that way.

JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON PRESENTATION

Ms. Schaefer gave the history of the Junior Councilperson Program, indicating that former Council member Heidi McDonald set the program up for the Borough. She then called the current Junior Councilperson, Brian Horner, forward and presented him with a plaque following a prepared speech from Brian.

Ms. Schaefer then shared the Citizen's Police Academy plaque and picture with Council members and said that this was a wonderful program run by Chief Payne, Officer Livingston and Sgt. Kaskie. She mentioned that presenters included judges, investigators, Secret Service officers and probation officers. Ms. Schaefer also spoke of the topics included in the training such as verbal judo to de-escalate situations. She stated that the program was well thought out and was presented by people who volunteered their time. A fall Academy is being planned, according to Ms. Schaefer and this may be done in the Woodland Hills School District for students who may want to go into law enforcement.

Mr. Wilson agreed that this was an amazing program in which the entire group was involved.

Ms. Schaefer then read from the Citizen's Police Academy plaque and gave a recommendation for anyone who might be interested in taking the class.

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 \$47,883.54 from the General Fund and \$8,216.97 from the Sewer Fund. Second by Mr. Wilson.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cecconi answered an insurance question posed by Mr. Hellett.

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

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Mr. Hellett moved to accept the letter of resignation dated May 19, 2010 from Officer Kempert, effective June 1, 2010. Second by Mr. Wilson.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-3 Mr. Bowers moved to reject bids received for the Nine Mile Run Interceptor Repair Project as recommended by Jason Stanton, Borough Engineer. Second by Ms. Gleba.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer asked the lowest bidder's price and Mr. Cecconi stated that the only bid to come in was for \$708,045 for repair of 1700 ft. of sewer pipe. He indicated that Mr. Stanton of Lennon Smith Souleret Engineering is working on alternatives.

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

M-4 Ms. Gleba moved to approve payment of the two Cowden Associates invoices (numbered 20949 & 20958) in the amount of \$2,437.50 dated May 6, 2010 for Pension Fund Services and send to Charles Schwab Trust Company for payment from the Pension Funds. Second by Mr. Wilson.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Halle outlined the 21 calls that the Volunteer Fire Department had in May, including assisting with a structure fire in Swissvale. Another call was for a woman who had inhaled a chlorine and ammonia mixture and was taken to the hospital. Crews from Swissvale assisted with getting the chemical smell out of the house.

It was reported by Mr. Halle that Eastern Area Ambulance has combined with Medic 920 and the units will now be traveling with a doctor on board, giving a lot more capability to the Eastern Area staff.

Preparations are underway for Community Day, but Mr. Halle said that with the abbreviated schedule, the department is not sure what to expect.

A helicopter will land on Koenig Field on Thursday at 7:30 PM as part of the department's certification.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer asked that this fact be placed on the website.

During the weekend, Mr. Halle reported that Verizon wires came down Love Place and were lying across a driveway. He indicated that Verizon is non-responsive in situations such as this and reported that a resident was upset that the department would not pick the wire up.

Ms. Schaefer felt that a call or letter should be sent to Verizon and asked Mr. Cecconi to take care of this.

Mr. Halle also reported that the Borough sleeping quarters are 98% completed and someone who will be attending Pitt is to move there in August.

Mr. Hellett reported that former Councilperson McDonald emailed him that she was very excited that the fire department had come to her rescue during a lockout situation.

Ms. Schaefer noted that lightning had also struck a pole.

Information regarding EMS billing for services was also given by Ms. Schaefer and she stated that the Borough will be working with non-profits to see what we can do to help with funding.

Mr. Halle explained that UPMC will supply the vehicles with AEDs, jump kits and oxygen for emergencies.

Mr. Hellett shared a note of caution that a friend's tailpipe had fallen off and the freon was sucked in and turned into mustard gas.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Fuller informed Council that the East McKeesport job is completed. He said an 8 ft. line was purchased to upgrade the fire service. He indicated that the water used to be brown in that area, but the water quality is better now.

According to Mr. Fuller, the website should be up and running in July and it is hoped that customers will be able to pay through this site.

Water service for Carrie Furnace has been completed. Penn Hills School District will switch from Oakmont to Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water Authority.

A test run of the monthly billing will be done in Wilkinsburg with the help of students to save costs.

DISCUSSION: None.

RECREATION REPORT

Mr. Cecconi noted that T-ball and girls' softball will be starting. He also spoke of Ms. Slavic and her friends who have put together the First Annual Fitness Camp to try to get children moving. This program is intended to reach out to more than organized sports and information will be passed out in the schools.

Ms. Gleba asked that this information be placed on the marquee.

The Strawberry Festival at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood on Wednesday was noted by Ms. Schaefer.

PLANNING COMMISSION

In Ms. Waldock's absence, Ms. Schaefer reported that the Committee has not met.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cecconi noted that former Council member, Mr. Cook, is interested in being on the Planning Commission.

COG REPORT

Mr. Hellett reported that the COG met and the evening was centered on sealed bids for various projects.

Ms. Amick, a Woodland Hills School District art teacher, will be visiting the Borough in the next month as there is a pride movement for the District, intended to deliver a message. Four foot by eight foot glass and ceramic murals are being done and various communities will be petitioned.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer concurred that the murals and mosaics are just marvelous, lovely works of art.

Mr. Hellett noted that things are moving forward with the crossing guards and the school district and there appears to be interest in getting everyone on both sides to send a letter to the Woodland Hills School District. He said that information is still being gathered to see exactly what direction is being taken and how to allocate resources for this project. He informed Council that Ms. Waldock sent a letter to Ms. McCool of the district to see what payments are from other municipalities.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Barry had no separate report.

DISCUSSION: None.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Cecconi stated that he attended a Local Government Academy meeting regarding shared services, including mutual aid, intergovernmental cooperation, public safety, homeland security and consolidation. He stated that of the 200 people in attendance, he said that the ones who needed to be there were not.

At a CONNECT meeting which he attended, Mr. Cecconi said the topic was shared services, but the meeting garnered more CONNECT staff than outsiders. Mr. Cecconi reported that the joint electric bid will save a few thousand dollars. He said the City of Pittsburgh is our partner on this project and that the numbers are solid for three years.

Mr. Cecconi reported that a tree count will be done on Saturday, June 12 at 9:00 AM by the Nine Mile Run Watershed Association. He said there will be a short presentation to teach people how to inventory. The trees to be counted are between the curb and sidewalk.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Schaefer asked that this be put on the marquee and the website. She felt there were a number of residents who learned a lot at the last tree count.

A report on the flood of last Saturday was given by Mr. Cecconi. He said that the Edgewood missed most of the storm. He informed Council of a gas repair which required a temporary cold patch on Garland Street. The storm washed gravel into the middle of the street and Mr. Cecconi stated that he and Police Chief Payne met about the storm.

Ms. Schaefer noted that there is a storm sewer that looks like it collapsed in the middle of Gordon Street and Mr. Cecconi said that Public Works will take a look at it. He did note that this storm was not like the one on June 17, 2009.

Ms. Schaefer told Council that they will try to get grant money to move the playground from its current home to the basketball courts.

Mr. Cecconi said the upper playground did not get flooded this time, but no sewer backup existed for the resident on Greendale who had had trouble previously. According to Mr. Cecconi, a crew from Wilkinsburg will do some of the cleanup.

Ms. Schaefer gave her take on the interconnectedness of committees and the need to work together.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bright reported that the Pension Committee is studying defined contribution plans and will have a presentation for Council when it is completed. He said that the managers of the pension plan will have a report within sixty days.

Mr. Hellett offered to Council the rules given by Mr. Nicholas, Vice President of the Motion Picture Screen Actors' Guild, surrounding movies to be shown on Movie Night and copyrights. Mr. Hellett has also spoken with the Pittsburgh Filmmakers and they will advise what the Borough's best options are. He said this will be pursued so that no laws are broken.

Mr. Wilson reported that Dr. Andrews drew up a set of rules and requested heavy police presence and visibility for Movie Night. It was noted in those rules that one gate only should be opened for entering the park. As well, the idea of giving bracelets to all attendees might help and other rules, including no smoking, alcohol or fighting would be posted.

It was Ms. Schaefer's opinion that signage should be in place permanently, as well as for Movie Night.

Mr. Hellett set a Personnel Committee meeting for 6:00 PM and a Public Safety meeting for 7:00 PM on June 28, 2010.

Mr. Wilson set a Community Service meeting for 5:00 PM on June 14, 2010.

Mr. Hellett introduced Ms. Augustine as the new Newsletter Editor/Advertising Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

M-5 It was moved by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Ms. Gleba to adjourn this meeting at 8:58 PM.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

Warren Cecconi
Borough Manager