

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD JULY 6, 2021

Council President Wainright called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:38 pm.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following responded: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. Mayor Jack Wilson, Manager Rob Zahorchak, and Solicitor Tim Barry were also present. Dr. Petrolla and Jr Councilperson Berman were absent.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Wilson read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION 2021-04

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood recognizes exceptional service and acknowledges commitments to community; and

WHEREAS, Boy Scout Troop 23 was established in Edgewood in 1912 in order to build character and responsibility in young people; and

WHEREAS, the rank of Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America and requires extensive service and leadership;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Edgewood recognizes and thanks EDWARD LOCKMAN for his many hours spent fundraising and constructing a gazebo in Memorial Park to serve as a place of gathering and reflection for the residents and veterans of Edgewood Borough; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the Borough of Edgewood commends EDWARD LOCKMAN for earning the rank of Eagle Scout from the Boy Scouts of America and proclaims Friday, July 9, 2021 as EDDIE LOCKMAN DAY.

PROCLAIMED this 6th day of July 2021 by the Mayor of the Borough of Edgewood.

Mr. Wainright noted that Dr. Petrolla joined the meeting.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: The following public comments were received.

Beth Battaline, 15 Washington St: Ms. Battaline stated that she wished to provide an update about the community group project to make updates to Koenig Field. She noted that she attempted to send the survey to Mr. Zahorchak but received an error message. After confirming when that happened, Mr. Zahorchak responded that there was a brief server outage, and asked her to resend that. Ms. Battaline reiterated some goals of the project. She noted that the group has spoken with the Foundation and believes that they are willing to provide some support towards it. She noted that one of the group members started looking into grants.

Mr. O'Donnell noted that there is worthiness in the project but stated that he did have some questions. He went on to inquire whether the group sees this as one inclusive project, noting that there are many items being listed within the scope of it, that are not directly linked to each other. He further inquired if the group had a priority for which piece(s) of this project they would most like to see completed. Ms. Battaline responded that they would determine that based on the results of the public survey. She noted that at this point there was a high priority on fixing the steps from Garland Street. It was confirmed that the group is looking at this project by project, under the larger umbrella of improvements to Koenig Field.

Mr. O'Donnell asked hypothetically if someone with professional expertise could be brought in to view the space and make their recommendations from a technical standpoint, noting that he could not promise anything on behalf of Council, would that have an impact on what the group is looking to prioritize? He suggested that projects could be based on safety concerns, budget/feasibility, or based on the desired use of the space by the community. He stated that having more insight could help, and that could be a possible first step in working towards making upgrades to the field. Ms. Battaline agreed that if that were possible, it would be helpful in reaching their goals. Mr. O'Donnell asked if there was an estimate for the number of upgrades they are looking at. Ms. Battaline responded that there were approximately 6 or 7 projects being discussed.

Ruth Pickering, 416 Locust St: Ms. Pickering stated that she had several items that she would like to see addressed by the borough. The first was garbage cans being left on the sidewalk for several days after trash collection. She noted that she was still seeing garbage cans sitting out on weekends. The next item was speeding. She noted that people tend to speed on her street from the stop sign, going up the hill. She stated that there is an issue with weeds, and that she believed that per borough ordinance, weeds should not exceed six inches. She noted that it is especially an issue at abandoned houses.

Ms. Pickering stated that at the corner of Beech and Locust, in the location where a new fire hydrant was installed, there is a sewer cover that is separating from the concrete. She added that there is an issue with potholes on the streets as well. Ms. Pickering inquired as to when Beech Street, up to Dewey, would be paved. Mr. Zahorchak responded that he was unsure where Beech Street fell within the paving rotation. Finally, she inquired whether Belgian Block was still available. Mr. Zahorchak confirmed that it is still available for purchase, using the current order form on the borough's website.

Louise DeRiso, 412 Greendale Avenue: stated that she just wanted to follow up on a previous request to place sunscreen dispensers in the borough, specifically in the area of Koenig Field. She noted that several dermatologists in

the area would like to see these dispensers be installed. Ms. DeRiso added that they would be attached to a poll and available for the public to use, and that she would be responsible for refilling them. Mr. Zahorchak responded that he received her application, and he would get back to her shortly.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-1 Mr. O'Donnell 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, from the General Fund in the amount of \$64,981.58 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$13.87 for a total of \$64,995.45. Second by Mr.

DISCUSSION: Mr. O'Donnell stated that there were few items of note. The ones he did have included a payment of \$44,700.32 for the new Ford Explorer, which is the most recent police vehicle. He also noted a bill of \$13.87 to PA One, from the sewer fund.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Dr. Petrolla, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Mr. Love moved to hire Nathaniel Hess as a summer help laborer at a rate of \$11.00 per hour effective immediately. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak stated that Mr. Hess has moved out of the area.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Dr. Petrolla, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

M-3 Mr. Fuller moved to accept Jennifer Gleba's letter of resignation from the Vacancy Board dated June 21, 2021. Second by Dr. Petrolla.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Wainright noted that Ms. Gleba is now a member of Council and is no longer eligible to stand on the Vacancy Board.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Dr. Petrolla, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

BUSINESS MEETING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT Mr. Zahorchak stated that no one from the Fire Department was available to provide a report.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT Mr. Fuller reported that the Water Authority did meet, and there were a few items of note. The first was that the Consumer Confidence report is available on their webpage for the public to view. The next item was a bid for an alum storage tank that was \$300,000 more than they expected it to be. This was the second bid

attempt, and the first time, only one engineer said they could do it. The water company responded that they could reduce their bid price by \$250,000 which was acceptable to the authority.

Lastly, there was a situation where an elderly lady's water was shut off. She stated that her landlord was paying it, but she didn't know who that was, and the name on the bill was of a third party, whom she also did not know. The water was turned back on, and the Water Company will have to accept the loss, as there is no specific policy to address this situation. They will be working to draft something to address this going forward.

RECREATION REPORT Mr. Zahorchak reported that Tball and Softball have just passed the half-way mark, and everything is going well. The coaches are doing a fabulous job, the kids are having a great time, and we have been getting lots of positive feedback from families. Soccer registration opens up next week, on July 15 and runs until August 15. The season will start at the end of August.

We had our first movie night at the end of June, when we aired Moana. The move to Friday worked out well, and we had a nice crowd of about 100 to 120 people. The weather was perfect, and families enjoyed the feature. Attendees left many comments of appreciation on their way out. Our next feature is Raya and the Last Dragon, playing on Friday, July 30. We're waiting for confirmation from PGH Crepes, about joining us with their food truck.

Plans are coming together for Community Day. We've been getting interest from market vendors and food trucks. The logo design has been finalized, and we'll be using that to advertise through all of our media platforms, and on yard signs, banners/posters, and the in upcoming newsletter.

We have set a date for Fallfest, for Saturday, October 2. New this year, this event will be combined with the Foundation's Oktoberfest. The event will feature glass-blowing demonstrations. Otherwise, more details will be available in the near future.

PLANNING COMMISSION Mr. Zahorchak stated that the Planning Commission did not meet. He did note however that they received and accepted Mr. Schmaus's letter of resignation. They also anticipate a letter of resignation from Mr. Cook, which has not yet been received. This will leave two openings on the Planning Commission. As these two were not able to participate recently, this should allow space for more active members. The vacancies will be advertised in the upcoming newsletter.

COG REPORT Mr. Wilson stated that there was nothing to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT Mr. Barry stated that there was nothing to report.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that the Oakview Ave retaining wall is fully completed. The project came under bid, with an expected bid of \$146,000.00, and an actual cost of \$143,000.00. The new police vehicle will be retrieved tomorrow. There will be motions at next week's meeting to sell the old equipment. Mr. Zahorchak stated that he spoke with the General Government committee to establish an account through the PA Local Government Investment Trust to house the borough's ARPA funds. We were advised to separate these funds from the General Fund. Also, Mr. Zahorchak reported he submitted the 2021 list of streetlights for LED retrofit to Duquesne Light. The retrofit process takes around six months to complete. The borough received its reimbursement payment from PennDOT for the Maple Avenue traffic signal. Police body worn cameras are operational and have been deployed in the field. Mr. Zahorchak reported that a DPW employee would be off work for approximately 3-4 months recovering from shoulder surgery for an injury sustained on the job. Lastly, the draft of the borough's revised Emergency

Operations Plan is complete and is being reviewed internally by department heads. The Public Safety Committee will be called upon to review the final document prior to council adoption. Mr. Zahorchak thanked Paul Nye for his work on this document.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

M-4 It was moved by Mr. Fuller and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to adjourn at 8:00 pm.
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager