

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD  
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**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD**  
**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 7, 2022**

Council President Petrolla called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:31 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call, the following responded: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Epitropoulos, Mr. Love, Ms. Patel, Dr. Petrolla, Mr. Sherman, and Ms. Yaney. Mayor O'Donnell, Manager Zahorchak, and Solicitor McDermott were also present.

**PLEDGE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Rick Belloli, 1122 Mifflin Ave: Mr. Belloli stated that he met with borough representatives and engineers regarding the sewage overflow issue at his property. Following the review, there are a few possible solutions. He noted that from discussion, there should be a sufficient grade on Horace Way to evacuate the water there without a catch basin. Mr. Belloli noted that engineer drawings were taken in November, and just a few other items need be reviewed, such as elevations of adjacent garages. The other option is to take the catch basin out to Sanders St. To add manholes to catch the water in two proposed areas, Mifflin Ave and Horace Way, it is a cost of \$10,000 each. He provided a final solution estimate of about \$50,000-\$60,000 to regrade Horace Way, redo the driveway entrance for impacted garages and add manholes. Mr. Belloli stated that he believes less could be spent by utilizing an alternative method without catch basins. Discussion ensued concerning the options proposed and the impact to neighboring residents.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS**

**M-1** Mr. Love 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 \$44,100.63 and from the sewer fund in the amount of \$3,703.86, for a total of \$47,804.49. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that this was a standard bill run.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Epitropoulos, Mr. Love, Ms. Patel, Dr. Petrolla, Mr. Sherman, and Ms. Yaney. **Motion carried.**

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

None.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT** Mr. Zahorchak stated that there was nothing to report.

**WATER AUTHORITY REPORT** Mr. Fuller reported that the Water Authority me to reorganize. A new General Manager will be taking over on February 11, with the former General Manager remaining until February 28. The lead line replacements are continuing, so far coming in \$750,000 under the expected budget. They sent 500 customer letters, and have received about 330 responses, to start customer line replacements in the spring. All lead lines are to be identified by 2024. They estimate there are 400,000 unknown pipes in existence. They have put in an order for pipe.

Mr. Zahorchak inquired if it was known when service line replacement on Gordon would occur. Mr. Fuller responded that it was not. Discussion ensued over customer line replacement.

Police Chief Payne provided a brief update on the police department. He stated that there is an upcoming reorganization meeting, due to a loss in personnel. Assignments will need to be made for officer responsibility.

**RECREATION REPORT** Mr. Zahorchak reported that Youth Basketball is going well despite Covid. There are 115 kids participating, and 30 volunteer coaches. There was one weather related cancellation of games, with plans to reschedule towards the end of the season. Men's Basketball is going well, with about 20 participants. Sign ups are still open for Youth Futsal, which is starting soon, led by Dr. Petrolla.

We are holding another spring plant sale. Orders were requested by February 5, but can still be accepted, for remaining seeds that are available. Orders can be taken online, with information on our webpage and Facebook page. Distribution will occur in May. The annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on April 10 at 1pm, with a rain date on Sunday. The format will be similar to last year, with hunts being broken down by age. Help is needed to distribute eggs on the field.

**PLANNING COMMISSION** Mr. Zahorchak stated that the Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on February 24 at 7pm. The commission will review a navigation plan submitted by A.M. Rodriguez for the multi-fam dwelling at the Edgewood Towne Center and possibly review improvement items at the School for Deaf.

**COG REPORT** Mr. O'Donnell stated that COG did not meet. Mr. Zahorchak added the invitations were sent to Council, in case anyone wants to attend the COG dinner. RSVPs are due February 16. Please let Mr. Zahorchak know if you would like to attend. He noted that he will forward information regarding the date of the event.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT** Mr. McDermott stated that he had nothing additional to report.

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Zahorchak reported that a preconstruction meeting will be scheduled soon with Jetjack, for the 2022 sewer maintenance project. The project includes cleaning, televising, and lining multiple portions of the borough sewer system. Areas of focus include the School for Deaf, Walnut St, and E Hutchinson St. There will be exploratory work done on the 9 Mile Run watershed area, as well as cleaning and televising of the sewer overflow at Koenig Field, and work on Garland St.

Preparations will be starting for the 2022 road paving program, which is a continuation of work started in 2021. This was cut short due to weather. A list of streets will be gathered that need to be worked on this year. Mr. Zahorchak noted that approximately \$400,000 is spent on paving each year. A road study is done to determine streets in need of

urgent repairs, as well as a review to assess street conditions following any weather-related breakdown after the winter. The goal is to have a list of streets available in March.

The borough is undergoing its internal annual audit, which started last week. So far there are no items to report. It takes approximately one month to complete the audit, after which it is reviewed by General Government, and a copy of the report is shared with Council, which can be reviewed with the auditors. The results will be advertised in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette. Mr. Zahorchak noted that since our current Finance Administrator, Janet Gerber, has been with the borough, there have been no findings of concern.

There are several surplus items are listed for sale, which will be coming due soon. Council will have the opportunity to review best offers on these items, with motions to proceed with sales. Mr. Zahorchak added that sales are going well. We have received notice that we will be getting the Allegheny County Park's stage trailer for Community Day. That will allow us to have a stage for live entertainment, rather than just a tent. Community Day will take place on August 27.

The first draft of the signal drawing for the traffic light for Race and Pennwood was received. This has not yet been reviewed with the engineer. Updates will be provided. Progress is being made towards getting Mr. Fuller bonded as Tax Collector. Once the school district ratifies his deputization agreement, they will be able to move forward with that. There are no new updates concerning the 5G pole proposed for Greendale Ave, however Mr. Zahorchak noted that he did have a productive conversation with Verizon where they agreed to review alternative locations for the pole. He is awaiting a response, expected by early March, to determine feasibility.

Council President Petrolla stated that there would be a brief executive session following the regular meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Dr. Epitropoulos inquired about the blinking light on E. Swissvale Ave, and whether that was a shared intersection with the Borough of Wilkinsburg. Mr. Zahorchak responded that the cross street, Walnut, is the boundary between Edgewood and Wilkinsburg. Even though the traffic light is cross-jurisdictional, the box itself is on the Wilkinsburg side, and therefore owned by them. He noted that from his understanding, the reason that the signal is blinking is because it is in need of replacement parts, that the Borough of Wilkinsburg is not able to budget for at this time. He added that Wilkinsburg did ask him about the Green Light Go grant, which we have used. Mr. Zahorchak stated that even with that, it will likely be a long process. He noted that it took over a year to get the process going with the light at Race and Pennwood, and then it was further delayed with Covid, etc.

**M-2** It was moved by Dr. Epitropoulos and seconded by Dr. Blasiolo to adjourn at 8:00 pm.  
The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



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Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager