

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

An Executive Session was held from 7:00-7:45 pm.

Council President Petrolla called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:47 pm.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following responded: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Epitropoulos, Mr. Love, Ms. Patel, Mr. Sherman, and Dr. Petrolla. Also present were Mayor O'Donnell, Junior Councilperson Kochupura, Borough Manager Zahorchak, Solicitor McDermott and Police Chief Payne and Fire Chief Ireland. Ms. Yaney was absent.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

The following public comments were received.

Rick Belloli, 1122 Mifflin Ave: Mr. Belloli provided an update regarding the water overflow issue under his property.

Steve Zelenko, 310 Dewey Ave: Mr. Zelenko inquired if there was an update regarding the business building near the residential perimeter, with concern about noise and other potential issues caused by this. Solicitor McDermott responded that we are unable to stop any development on the Wilkinsburg side of the property. However, the portion of the parcel that is owned in Edgewood cannot be used for commercial purposes. In a recent meeting, the company requested temporary use for their business on the Edgewood portion of the parcel in exchange for consideration to revise the Wilkinsburg site plan in order to add a fence around the Wilkinsburg perimeter of the property to provide a buffer. Discussion ensued concerning this matter.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-1 Mr. Love moved to authorize the payment of bills for goods and services received by the borough from the general fund in the amount of \$32,730.40. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love stated that this was a smaller bill run, with the exception of a payment for a fire department pass through. Mr. Zahorchak noted that this is for an insurance payment that is reimbursed through the state.

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

COMMITTEE ACTION

M-2 Mr. Love moved to exercise the borough's right to extend its contract with Republic Services for Solid Waste, Collection, and Removal Services for one year commencing January 1, 2023 and terminating December 31, 2023 pursuant to the terms contained in the duly executed contract. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-3** Mr. Sherman moved to lift the ban on alcohol consumption in Koenig Field for the Edgewood Foundation's Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 15, 2022. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-4** Ms. Patel read Resolution 2022-21: Act 57 Property Tax Penalty Waiver. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that this allows for penalty exemptions, for instance in the case of those who have fallen behind or missed tax payments but are making good faith payments.

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

- M-5** Dr. Epitropoulos did the second reading of ORDINANCE 1075- 2018 IPMC ADOPTION (title only). Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 1075

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING THE 2018 EDITION OF THE ICC *INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE*, WITH SUCH REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS AS NOTED HEREIN, REGULATING AND GOVERNING THE CONDITIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL PROPERTY, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES; PROVIDING THE STANDARDS FOR SUPPLIED UTILITIES AND FACILITIES AND OTHER PHYSICAL THINGS AND CONDITIONS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THAT STRUCTURES ARE SAFE, SANITARY AND FIT FOR OCCUPATION AND USE; PROVIDING FOR THE CONDEMNATION OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES UNFIT FOR HUMAN OCCUPANCY AND USE AND FOR THE DEMOLITION OF SUCH STRUCTURES IN THE BOROUGH; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND COLLECTION OF FEES THEREFOR; PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR APPEALS FROM ADVERSE DECISIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Sherman requested a change to the language on the portion regarding plants, where it makes a distinction for plants that may be considered weeds. He stated that this language is outdated, and

there are many possible plants that are grown purposefully that may be considered weeds. Discussion ensued over the language of that portion of the ordinance, and how that is interpreted and managed.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Eptropoulos, Mr. Love, Ms. Patel, and Dr. Petrolla. The following responded no: Mr. Sherman. **Motion carried.**

- M-6** Dr. Eptropoulos motioned for the final reading of ORDINANCE 1075- 2018 IPMC ADOPTION (as read in second reading). Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-7** Dr. Petrolla asked, "shall this ordinance pass?"

DISCUSSION: None.

Upon roll call vote the following responded yes: Dr. Blasiolo, Dr. Eptropoulos, Mr. Love, Ms. Patel, and Dr. Petrolla. The following responded no: Mr. Sherman. **Motion carried.**

- M-8** Dr. Blasiolo did the second reading of ORDINANCE 1076- IPMC APPEALS BOARD. Second by Ms. Patel.

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE NO. 1076**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD ENTERING INTO AGREEMENT WITH OTHER MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES OF THE TURTLE CREEK VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE JOINT BOARD OF APPEALS AS REQUIRED BY THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood has received a request from the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments to participate in a joint Property Maintenance Code Appeals Board, and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edgewood Council feels that it would be advantageous to participate in a joint Property Maintenance Appeals Board, and

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained and enacted by the Council for the Borough of Edgewood that:

1. The Borough of Edgewood shall enter into an intergovernmental cooperative agreement with the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments and its member municipalities to participate in a joint Property Maintenance Appeals Board.

2. The Borough of Edgewood shall pay its pro-rated share of costs for the establishment and operation of the joint Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments Property Maintenance Appeals Board with the understanding that a large share of the operating expenses shall be borne by the individual applicants to the Appeals Board.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED this 3rd day of October, 2022.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-9** Dr. Blasiolo motioned for the final reading of ORDINANCE 1076- IPMC APPEALS BOARD (as read in second reading). Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-10** Dr. Petrolla asked, "shall this ordinance pass?"

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-11** Mr. Love moved to amend the agenda regarding a package of personnel motions. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-12** Ms. Patel moved to accept Tim Kozub's letter of resignation dated Friday, September 30, 2022 and effective Friday October 14, 2022. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-13** Dr. Blasiolo moved to authorize the borough manager to advertise and accept resumes for the Public Works Laborer position. Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-14** Mr. Sherman moved to make a conditional offer of employment to candidate 'X' at a starting rate of \$23, contingent upon a successful background screening and physical. Second by Dr. Epitropoulos.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

BUSINESS MEETING

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT Chief Ireland reported that they have surpassed 500 calls for the year. He stated that, following more proactive recruiting efforts, there has been a recent increase in interested candidates. He discussed continued funding needs.

WATER AUTHORITY REPORT Mr. Fuller reported that the authority met, with continued discussion about lead line replacement. About thirty percent of that is completed. The state has made \$200,000,000 available for the project. Grants will be environment justice grants, to target lower income communities, making Edgewood ineligible. They are now caught up with replacements to the point where they will replace their portion three weeks after a customer replaces the line on their end.

RECREATION REPORT Mr. Zahorchak stated that Youth Soccer is about halfway through their season. We did have some game cancellations this past Saturday due to Hurricane Ian, otherwise the season is going well. Registration for both Youth Basketball and Men's Basketball will be opening up at the end of this month. Men's Basketball starts in December, and the Youth league starts in January. Both leagues meet at the Edgewood Primary gymnasium. As always, we are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help coach in our youth league. If anyone is interested, or knows someone who is, please email Abby at office@edgewoodboro.com

Our combined Fallfest/Oktobefest event is coming up on Saturday, October 15 at Koenig Field. We will be offering hayrides, crafts for kids, and a market vendor show, while the Foundation will have their pig roast and a selection of seasonal beers (21+), plus some non-alcoholic options and snacks. Milepost 6 will be joining us again this year to add some musical entertainment. Fallfest activities are free; Oktoberfest is accessible by purchase of a wristband from the Foundation. Our last movie of the year is scheduled for Friday, October 21, featuring 'Coco.' This will be combined with CC Mellor Library's Halloween Parade. The parade will start at 6:30, with the movie playing after that. All activities will take place at Koenig Field. Registration for this free event is available on the Library and Borough websites.

PLANNING COMMISSION Mr. Zahorchak stated that the Planning Commission will meet October 20 at 6pm to review a conditional use application for the proposed distribution center at the Towne Center.

COG REPORT Ms. Patel reported that she attended the most recent meeting where they discussed code enforcement technology.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT Mr. McDermott made a recommendation concerning the water overflow issue under the Belloli property, in order to come to an agreeable conclusion to the issue there, to motion to amend the agenda, and to approve the following motion: A motion to authorize Borough Manager to issue, at no cost to the Property Owners, all necessary permits or permissions necessary to authorize the Property Owners (Belloli) to remove and disconnect the drainage Pipe traversing their Property, and associated catch basins and connections, from the Borough's storm water system, upon execution by Property Owners and the Borough of a Memorandum of Understanding and Mutual Release with terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Borough Solicitor, and to authorize the Borough Manager to cooperate and assist Property Owners in the removal and disconnection of said Pipe, and associated restoration, by causing its DPW Dept. and Borough paving contractor to perform such work as agreed between the parties, also at no cost to Property Owners.

M-15 Dr. Epitropoulos moved to amend the agenda to adopt the motion recommended by Solicitor McDermott, as it was stated. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that the 2022 paving program is slated for the end of October. The asphalt for the repaving of the tennis court requires sixty days of settling prior to the acrylic top-coat being placed. This tennis court maintenance will have to be held until spring when temperatures warm up. Trick or Treat will be taking place on October 31 from 6-8pm. The fire code is being worked on. The sunscreen dispenser grant has been submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

M-16 It was moved by Dr. Blasiolo and seconded by Mr. Sherman to adjourn at 8:50 pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager