

**BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
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BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 19, 2025

Council President Petrolla called the meeting to order at 7:36pm.

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PROCLAMATION & PRESENTATION

Mayor O'Donnell read a proclamation recognizing Emergency Service Workers.

A presentation was provided by the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association in awareness of EMS week. Police Officer Rick Susalla and Fire Fighter Paul Nye were recognized for their efforts in aiding Fire Fighter Steve Halle through a medical emergency.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: The following public comment was received.

Tom Reichner, 540 Allenby Ave: Mr. Reichner addressed Council with concern over speeding on his street. He requested the installation of speed humps or additional signage.

Additional residents of Allenby expressed their concerns. Discussion ensued on this matter.

Anna Marie Caulkins, Edgewood Foundation: Ms. Caulkins provided an update from the Foundation, including a recap on the Senior Brunch. The first Brinton Road clean up is scheduled for June 7. Wine and Chocolate will take place in November. Nominations are being accepted for outstanding community volunteers.

Christine Furman, 1201 Savannah Ave: Ms. Furman addressed Council regarding the upcoming primary election and a mailer sent with an incorrect polling location address.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-1 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2025 Council Meeting. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-2 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2025 Council Meeting. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

M-3 Mr. Love moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2025 Council Meeting. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M-4 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 \$387,155.37 and from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$14.53 for a total of \$387,169.90. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Love noted that the biggest expense was the partial payment for the Elmer Street reconstruction and tree removal.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Love reported that General Government met and discussed the incorrect voting mailer.

POLICE: Mayor O'Donnell thanked the police for their recent efforts. Police Chief Payne had no updates.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Ms. Yaney stated that the Public Safety and Infrastructure did not meet.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Mr. Sherman stated that Community Affairs did not meet.

PENSION AND PERSONNEL: Dr. Blasiolo reported that Pension and Personnel did not meet.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: Nothing was reported.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. McDermott had no updates, but an Executive Session would be required to discuss a personnel matter.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Zahorchak reported that Tree trimming and removal are ongoing and street restoration will follow. He brought attention to the motions to hire police candidates. The Civil Service Committee met to certify the candidate list.

NEW BUSINESS –

Fire Chief Reynolds provided an update on the department. He stated that things are busy but going well. The Cash Bash fundraiser went well. Ms. Yaney inquired about availability of information in emergency situations. It was responded that there is no direct avenue to receive information beyond what it publicly reported.

COMMITTEE ACTION

- M-5** Dr. Blasiolo moved to hire Andrew Kozub as a summer help employee in the Department of Public Works at a rate of \$12/hr. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that he worked for us last year and was a good employee.

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

- M-6** Ms. Yaney moved to hire 'Candidate A' from the certified civil service eligibility list as a full time police officer conditioned upon a successful background, physical and psychological screening consistent with the employment terms defined in the department's collective bargaining agreement. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Zahorchak noted that the Civil Service Committee met to certify the list of three candidates, in anticipation of extending offers of employment to two of them. The candidates are still completing their time at the Police Academy and employment is contingent upon passing the final tests and a satisfactory background check. Brief discussion ensued.

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

- M-7** Mr. Sherman moved to hire 'Candidate B' from the certified civil service eligibility list as a full time police officer conditioned upon a successful background, physical and psychological screening consistent with the employment terms defined in the department's collective bargaining agreement. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-8** Ms. Yaney moved to authorize the borough manager to advertise the Chief of Police job description and receive resumes for same. Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION:

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

Chief Payne requested clarification on Candidate A of the Civil Service list. Solicitor McDermott recommended a motion to reconsider the Candidates and table the motions related to hiring Candidates from the Civil Service list and moving to Executive Session to discuss the matter further.

- M-9** Dr. Blasiolo moved to table the motions to hire Candidates from the Civil Service eligibility list and reconsider Candidate A. Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-10** Ms. Yaney moved to extend the May 1, 2025 disaster declaration until June 2, 2025. Second by Mr. Love.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-11** Mr. Sherman moved to appoint John Wainright to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-12** Dr. Petrolla moved to enter Executive Session, with action to be taken. Second by Ms. Yaney.

DISCUSSION: None.

The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

An Executive Session was held from 8:32-8:57pm.

- M-13** Ms. Yaney moved to hire the amended recommendation for 'Candidate A' from the certified civil service eligibility list as a full time police officer conditioned upon a successful background, physical and psychological screening consistent with the employment terms defined in the department's collective bargaining agreement and as clarified by the solicitor in Executive Session. Second by Dr. Blasiolo.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-14** Dr. Blasiolo moved to hire the amended recommendation for 'Candidate B' from the certified civil service eligibility list as a full time police officer conditioned upon a successful background, physical and

psychological screening consistent with the employment terms defined in the department's collective bargaining agreement and as clarified by the solicitor in Executive Session. Second by Mr. Sherman.

DISCUSSION: None.

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

- M-15** It was moved by Dr. Blasiolo and seconded by Mr. Sherman to adjourn the meeting at 8:54pm. The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. **Motion carried.**



Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager