

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Business Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2020 via ZOOM

Council Members Present – Brian J. Fashian; Paul F. Getz; Jason Helfrich; Dan Lenz (6:37 p.m.);

Kevin Yurkovich

Council Member Absent – Jolene Bennett; Michael Mary

Others Present – AmySue Lillie, Mayor; Robert L. McTiernan, Esq., Borough Solicitor; Dennis J. Flynn, P.E., Borough Engineer; Cathy Jones, Borough Secretary

President Yurkovich called the October 14, 2020, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

After Roll Call, the September 9, 2020, Business Meeting Minutes were considered for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Helfrich to approve the September 9, 2020, Meeting Minutes as distributed.

Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

MAYORS REPORT – AmySue Lillie, Mayor

Public Safety: OTPD – 90 calls; EVFC – No Report

Mayor Lillie questioned why she was left off the roll call and added she is feeling disrespected by council. It was noted her name was included in the Roll Call. Sol. McTiernan stated not all municipalities include the mayor in roll call and Mr. Getz added the roll call is to ascertain a quorum for the council meeting, not to slight the mayor. Mayor Lillie declared she works hard for the borough and is struggling to have the Veterans honor banners installed. She and the borough office have received calls wondering why ordered banners have not been installed. Pres. Yurkovich reminded the mayor her duties include tie-breaker for council votes and public safety.

Pres. Yurkovich segued into recent accidents on SR 65 at Walliston and at Hazelwood. In speaking with the fire chief and police chief, the Walliston accident involved young drivers and speed; the second accident was speed related. Chief Hanny stated SR 65 is a main traffic corridor and in the past year, OTPD has issued 432 citations along the 2.6 mile stretch that they patrol; boulevard accidents are mostly rear-end accidents from distracted or texting drivers.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR REPORT – Robert L. McTiernan, Esq., Borough Solicitor

Draft Ord. 1008, Short Term Rentals was duly advertised; Planning Commission met September 23 for discussion and sent comments to Council. Allegheny County Planning Division has not yet submitted their comments to the borough. The legal ad will be readvertised and council will consider this action at their December 9 meeting. Action tabled.

BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT – Dennis J. Flynn, P.E., Gateway Engineer, PE

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Fashian to pay App. #1 to T. A. Robinson in the amount of \$59,403.60 for road work completed to date. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Fashian to pay App. #1 & Final to State Pipe Services in the amount of \$15,163 for the 2019 SHACOG O&M Point Repair contract. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Fashian to pay App. #1 & Final to Tri State Maintenance in the amount of \$6683.30 for the 2019 O&M CCTV contract. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Fashian to pay App. #1 & Final to Tri State Maintenance in the amount of \$11,826.80 for the 2019 O&M Preventive Maintenance contract. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

The 2021 strategic planning meeting between Gateway Engineers and council will be held Wednesday, Oct. 28, 5.p.m. at the borough hall.

GROW Grant – Force main replacement app has been submitted to ALCOSAN; award announcement in November.

Small Water & Sewer Grant – The borough is a recipient of \$140,000 for the force main replacement project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Mr. Helfrich

No Report

COMMUNITY EVENTS – Mr. Fashian

Halloween – Parade: Due to COVID-19 and restrictions on crowds, the Halloween parade and festivities were cancelled for this year. As Trick or Treat is not a borough sponsored event, this will continue to be celebrated 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, October 31. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Getz to set Trick or Treat in the borough for Saturday, October 31 from 6-8 p.m. Discussion: Since Trick or Treat is not a borough-sponsored function, Mr. Getz did not agree a motion was necessary. Mr. Fashian replied this action of council is to post on the borough's web site and social media to inform the community and save numerous calls to the borough office. Pres. Yurkovich added as in the past, if someone does not want to participate, turn off their porch light. For those participating, CDC guidelines for social distancing should be practiced as well as mask wearing. Motion carried by roll call; Mr. Getz voted nay.

Light Up the Borough! – Council tabled the decision to hold festivities until the November 11 meeting. If the weather is very cold, social distancing cannot easily be controlled inside the fire station nor on the horse drawn wagon.

Holiday Ornaments – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lenz to purchase quantity of 50 ornaments through Dept. of Corrections at a cost not to exceed \$130 for the annual ornament. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

DPW – Messrs. Fashian/Lenz

DPW has been refreshing white parking lines as well as yellow curbs throughout the borough.

SR 65 PUMP STATION – Messrs. Getz/Lenz

No Report

QVCOG – Messrs. Getz/Fashian

QVCOG Dinner - Mr. Getz reminded council the QVCOG Virtual Dinner will be held October 21 at 7.p.m. All were encouraged to participate by using a QVCOG restaurant for take-out and joining virtually. Keynote speaker will be Jon Delano, KDKA. Mr. Flynn added Gateway Engineers is a sponsor for this event and will have meals delivered to those council members in virtual attendance; registration is necessary.

ROADS – Messrs. Helfrich/Getz

Maple Avenue Pres. Yurkovich requested estimated legal and engineering fees associated with this proposal before moving forward to vacate a portion of this street.

SEWERS – Messrs. Getz/Fashian

Mr. Getz reported the drain on North Avenue has been addressed by the contractor and problem resolved.

FINANCE – Mr. Fashian

Bill List – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Getz to approve the October 14, 2020, Bill List as presented with the following addition: Burk's Lawn and Saw in the amount of \$260.95. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

2021 Budget – First draft was distributed to council for review; Motion to advertise in November; adopt in December.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Pres. Yurkovich announced the Zoning Hearing Board will meet Oct. 27, 7 p.m. regarding a variance request for a fence at 164 Orchard Avenue and the Planning Commission will meet Oct. 28, 7 p.m. regarding a proposed lot consolidation from Trinity Commercial Development for parcels on Herron Avenue.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Lillie reported several residents regularly email her, the borough office and the Allegheny County Health Dept. regarding odor and noise from Metallico on Neville Island. CMU has placed video cameras in the area to capture video and noise levels. State Rep. Anita Kulik has offered to meet the residents and the mayor regarding this matter. Pres. Yurkovich recommended the residents also use the new ACHD complaint site. This is a key factor in registering the complaints and Neville Island officials need to get on board also. Mr. Getz added State Senator Pam Iovino also could be contacted. Sen. Iovino's Chief of Staff attends the virtual QVCOG meetings; the senator has expressed an interest in what is happening in her communities. Mayor Lillie will follow-up with these suggestions.

ADJOURN

President Yurkovich Adjourned the October 14, 2020, council meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary