

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Business Meeting Minutes – July 8, 2020

Council Members Present – Jolene Bennett; Brian J. Fashian; Paul F. Getz; Jason Helfrich; Michael V. Mary, Jr.; Kevin Yurkovich

Council Members Absent – Dan Lenz

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

President Yurkovich called the July 8, 2020, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Pres. Yurkovich reported if the COVID-19 numbers stay in range and there is no further spike, an in-person council meeting for August 12 is a possibility. Marmo Park is open, no restrooms; no pavilion rentals. Roll Call and June 10, 2020, Business Meeting Minutes approval followed.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Ms. Bennett, second by Mr. Getz to approve the June 10, 2020, Minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

MAYORS REPORT – AmySue Lillie

Public Safety: OTPD – 129 calls; EVFC – 11 calls Mayor Lillie thanked both departments for their service in answering calls.

Honor Banners – Five more banners have been ordered.

Avon Club – Avon Club is sponsoring a Virtual Outdoor Oasis Porch Crawl Fundraiser to benefit those most affected by COVID-19. Interested property owners take photos of their outdoor space - patio, pool, porch, or yard; themes are optional - August 1 or 2 and post to social media; voting for best outdoor space is \$10/vote; virtual only, no hosting people in your outdoor oasis; voting closes August 28 and winner will be announced August 29.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR REPORT – Christopher L. Voltz, Esq., Borough Solicitor

Commercial Occupancy Ordinance MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Fashian to adopt the commercial occupancy ordinance No. 1007. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

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

- 2020 Road Program awarded to T.A Robinson including the Base Bid, Add Alt. 1 and add Alt. 2. Pre-construction meeting will be scheduled.
- Proposed GetGo; after review, comments will be sent to PennDOT and copy to council
- Tri-State Maintenance has completed 2019 CCTV and Preventative Maintenance work
- Force main replacement GROW app Cycle 5 prepared for July 31 deadline.
- SR 65 pump station overflowed June 10; report submitted to ACHD

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Mr. Helfrich/Ms. Bennett

Marmo Park/Pavilion Rental/Mayernik Field – Marmo Park and Mayernik Field are open; practice social distancing; no pavilion rentals; no restrooms.

1 Kingsland – Ms. Bennett reported she met with property owners who informed her three trees have caused damage to their deck and property. Property owners contacted PennDOT and they were told as the trees were outside of PennDOT's curb line, the responsibility falls to the borough. Ms. Bennett secured two proposals for council's consideration and was concerned about public safety if the tree(s) fell onto SR 65. Mr. Getz responded if a tree fell onto SR 65, PennDOT would immediately send a crew to open the boulevard and added the property owners could trim back the trees that were over-hanging their property; it is a similar to a neighbor issue, it is not the borough's responsibility to cut back these trees.

Pres. Yurkovich added not only does this set a precedent for other overhanging trees but there is no money in the budget to remove three large trees. The property owners could trim back the overhanging trees and damage from the incident could be turned into their insurance company. MOTION by Ms. Bennett to award the tree cutting at 1 Kingsland to Pusateri Brothers in the amount not to exceed \$5K. There was no second; motion died. Ms. Bennett will contact the property owner and the companies who submitted a proposal.

COMMUNITY EVENTS – Messrs. Fashion/Mary

North Boroughs Fireworks Donation – No word as to if fireworks will be set off this year. Action tabled.

DEPT. of PUBLIC WORKS – Messrs. Fashion/Lenz

Mr. Fashion reported DPW has begun pot hole patching and will continue week of July 20.

Crosswalk Painting - Casmac Line Striping will be contacted to submit a proposal for Center Avenue crosswalks and stop bars; no centerline painting on Center Avenue or Memorial Drive and no directional arrows on Hazelwood Avenue to be painted this year.

SR 65 PUMP STATION – Messrs. Getz/Lenz

No Report

QVCOG – Messrs. Getz/Fashion

No Report

ROADS – Messrs. Helfrich/Getz

Mr. Getz will address under New Business.

SEWERS – Messrs. Getz/Fashion

No Report

FINANCE – Ms. Bennett

Bill List – MOTION by Ms. Bennett, second by Mr. Getz to approve the July 8, 2020, Bill List as presented with the following additions: Bruce & Merrilees \$900; Comm. of PA \$65; Duq. Light \$2907.95; Duq. Lt. \$14.69; Duq. Lt. \$29.40; Emsworth Tire \$85.60; Gateway Engineers \$10,855.25; PA One Call 416.10; John P. Place \$1295; Tammy's Cleaning \$160; Tri State Maintenance \$225. Motion carried by roll call.

Pres. Yurkovich reported the borough treasurer is keeping the Finance Committee updated with respect to collections during COVID-19; tax collections are ahead of last year but EIT may be off next quarter.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Road Work - MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Helfrich to accept three proposals from Carmel Construction for a total of \$5350 to include curb on Allegheny to Greenwood; asphalt patch on Hiland; asphalt patch on Gibb Street. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Short Term Rentals - MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Ms. Bennett to authorize the borough solicitor to amend zoning ordinance No. 925 to add a definition for “short term rentals” and they shall be permitted only in R-3 Mixed Use Residential; further to set-up 24-hour contact information registration for first responders. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

8306 Ohio River Blvd. – Letter received from property owner requesting No Parking signs on lower Walliston and prohibiting use of heavy trucks on alley from Walliston to Greenwood. Property owner continues to have damage to corner of property from garbage trucks, UPS, etc. as trucks are using the alley in lieu of going on to SR 65, Ohio River Boulevard to go from Walliston to Greenwood. Discussion followed; DPW will freshen the yellow line; check to see if additional signs are needed and request OTPD to enforce the no parking on lower Walliston. Ofc. Hartzell will share this information with Chief Hanny.

DQL LED Project – Mr. Fashian discussed a grant program through Duquesne Light for LED upgrade lighting. Mr. Getz stated the LED lights are good just under the light, but not as a wash to illuminate more of an area; and added Tarentum recently made the switch and are dissatisfied with the upgraded lighting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

ADJOURN

President Yurkovich Adjourned the July 8, 2020, council meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary