

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202  
Business Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2023

**Council Members Present** – Abigail Donovan; Brian J. Fashian; David J. Lang; Daniel Lenz; Michael V. Mary, Kevin Yurkovich

**Council Member Absent** – Paul F. Getz

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

President Yurkovich called the March 8, 2023, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the mayoral appointment was discussed. There was one interested candidate who submitted a letter of interest. MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Mary to appoint Edward A. Miller to the vacant mayoral position. There was no further discussion. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

The Oath of Office was administered by the borough secretary and notary; the Affidavit of Residency was submitted for filing at the borough office and Mr. Miller took his seat at 6:35 p.m.

Pres. Yurkovich called for approval of the February 8, 2023, Minutes.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Mary to approve the February 8, 2023, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joe Day, Municipal Relations Coordinator for ALCOSAN, distributed handouts from ALCOSAN on a variety of programs they sponsor.

**MAYOR'S REPORT – Pres. Kevin Yurkovich**

Public Safety: OTPD: 72 calls; EVFC: 32 calls

**2023 ROAD PAVING BID OPENING**

Borough Engineer Dennis Flynn opened the sealed bids (5) that were dropped off at the borough office for the 2023 Road Paving Program. Bids included bid bond, base bid and add alternates. Bids received from El Grande (\$675,650 plus four add alternates); Mele & Mele (\$598,630 plus four add alternates); Shields (\$670,325 plus four add alternates); T.A. Robinson (\$631,740 plus four add alternates); Youngblood (\$546,150 plus four add alternates). Mr. Flynn will tabulate the bids and make a recommendation.

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

202 Hazelwood – Illegal short-term rental at this property; property owner fined; default judgment \$10,133.50; property is being refinanced and this municipal claim will be included to be satisfied.

Daniel Conlon, Esq. authored an article in the recent Borough News regarding conservatorship and blighted properties.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**BOROUGH PROPERTY – Abigail Donovan/David J. Lang**

Salt Shed – Meeting held with Ms. Donovan, Messrs. Yurkovich, Fashian and Flynn to discuss the salt shed purchase.

Electrical Work – Mr. Mary met an electrician to discuss retro-fit upgrades to the outside and the first floor of the borough building as well as adding outside outlets for holiday decorations and removal of the ceiling fans. MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Donovan to contract with Ride the Lightning Electrical in an amount not to exceed \$8K. Discussion: Mr. Lenz questioned if other companies were contacted. Mr. Mary replied he had contacted several companies but only this company returned his call. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Annual Egg Hunt will be held 10 a.m. at Marmo Park on Saturday, April 8.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE – Paul F. Getz/David J. Lang**

No Report

### **PERSONNEL – Brian Fashian/Michael V. Mary**

No Report

### **PUBLIC WORKS – Abigail Donovan**

Truck #484 had both exhaust manifolds replaced at Shults Ford Dealer in the amount of \$3900.

### **QVCOG – Paul F. Getz/Brian J. Fashian**

No report

### **ZONING – Abigail Donovan/Paul F. Getz**

No report

### **FINANCE – Michael V. Mary/Brian J. Fashian**

Bill List – MOTION by Mr. Mary second by Mr. Fashian, to approve the Bill List as presented with the following additions: Comcast, \$110.42; WB Mason \$216.51; SWIF \$650; Gateway Engineers \$28,494; GT&E \$1213.67. Motion unanimously approved by roll call.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

North Boroughs Fire Meeting – Meeting held February 13, 7 p.m. at the borough hall with representatives from Avalon, Bellevue and Emsworth attending; discussion included the possibility of adding a fire tax to borough invoices. EVFC Chief Kohl added bi-laws are currently being drafted. Quarterly reports are expected.

Vinegar Hollow – Emsworth will reach out again to Ben Avon and Kilbuck for a meeting.

Voting Station – No follow-up from Allegheny County as to using the borough hall or fire station for voting in May.

Sacred Heart Church – Mr. Flynn will have a follow-up report on this run-off issue at a future meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Hershey Conference, June 2-5 \$1012.57/official for full package, registration and lodging. Mr. Fashian spoke with Mr. Getz who was interested to attend this conference. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lenz to send Mr. Getz to the Hershey Conference in the amount of \$1012.57. Motion carried by roll call with Ms. Donovan voting nay.

Sen. Dr. Venkat will have staff members available at the Emsworth Borough Office beginning Monday, March 13 from 9 a.m.– Noon to help his constituents with any issues they may have. The staff is scheduled to continue to be at the office the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays from 9 am – Noon until further notice.

Avonworth Community Park – Pres. Yurkovich questioned if the ACP can close to the public for one month while a movie is filmed on location. Baseball fields as well the pavilion rentals have been suspended during the month of March and it was learned the Park received funds from Netflix. Sol. McTiernan will draft a letter to the Park Board on behalf of council citing their concerns.

### **BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT – Dennis J. Flynn, P.E.**

2023 Pavement Program – Mr. Flynn tabulated the bids received and appears Youngblood is the low bidder for this road paving project. MOTION by Mr. Mary second by Mr. Fashian to award the 2023 Road Paving Program to Youngblood Paving in the amount of \$1,687.45 providing Columbia Gas paves the streets on which new lines were

installed. Engineering fees are estimated to be \$60K. Discussion: Mr. Lenz questioned if Mr. Flynn was familiar with this company. Gateway was familiar with this company and has had good luck working with them. They are common in the South Hills area. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Salt Shed – Mr. Flynn added the proposed salt shed would be 23' x 45' and hold 250 tons of bulk rock salt. Estimated cost is \$150-250K and would include 750 sq. yard of asphalt surface. Gateway is investigating if the paper street needs to be vacated. Gateway will check for available grants for this project. Action tabled.

SHACOG O&M Year 13 – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Mary to participate in the SHACOG Joint O&M Year 13 for sewer cleaning. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Marmo Park Upgrades – DCNR requires a resolution to accompany the grant application. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Ms. Donovan to adopt Res. 2023-03, Marmo Park Upgrades. Motion unanimously carried by roll call. Mr. Flynn added DCNR, Gateway and council reps will meet at the park on Friday, March 10 at 11 a.m.

In addition to the resolution, DCNR requires a certified playground specialist to inspect the existing playground. Gateway estimates \$1200 for the certified inspection. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lenz to authorize Gateway Engineers to provide a certified playground specialist for the certified inspection of Marmo Park in conjunction with the DCNR grant in an amount of \$1200. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pres. Yurkovich called for an executive session for the discussion of personnel at 7:20 p.m. Council reconvened at 7:35 p.m. and Pres. Yurkovich announced the executive session was in compliance with the Sunshine Laws.

#### **ADJOURN**

MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Lenz to Adjourn the March 8, 2023, council meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES  
Borough Secretary