

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Business Meeting Minutes – August 9, 2023

Council Members Present – Brian J. Fashian; Abigail Donovan; Paul F. Getz; Daniel Lenz; Michael V. Mary (via telephone); Kevin Yurkovich

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

Council Member Absent - David J. Lang

President Yurkovich called the August 9, 2023, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, Pres. Yurkovich called for approval of the July 12, 2023, Minutes.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Getz to approve the July 12, 2023, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote.

Legislative HB 86, Session 1983 – David J. Mayernik presented to council his first piece of legislation, framed House Bill 86, covering the purchase of land that was conveyed to Emsworth and is now Mayernik Field and Marmo Park.

Avonworth Community Park – Kristin Bennet, Emsworth rep on the Executive Board at ACP, presented the current audit for the park and highlighted past projects and upgrades as well as 2024 plans for the park.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MAYOR’S REPORT – Edward A. Miller, Mayor

Public Safety: OTPD: 122 calls; EVFC: 48 calls

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

Interest from John Boyd to purchase vacant property on Walliston Avenue. Paperwork in the works to bring this to Sheriff Sale with a \$10K deposit from Mr. Boyd.

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

2022 P.M. Year 12 – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Ms. Donovan to approve Pay App No. 1 and Final for preventive maintenance to Robinson Pipe in the amount of \$8719.54. Payment is to held until invoiced from SHACOG. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

2023 Road Program – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Ms. Mary to approve Pay App No. 2 and Final for the 2023 Road Program to Youngblood Paving in the amount of \$48,808.12. Motion unanimously carried by roll call. Mr. Flynn added the project was bid at \$1.13M but came in at \$822,976.22, leaving a reserve for 2024 paving.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY –Abigail Donovan/David J. Lang

Ms. Donovan requested an update on the recent water main break on Allegheny Avenue. Mr. Fashian reported WVA has plans to replace this line in 2024 but WVA will mill the roadway shortly for ease of travel.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Paul F. Getz/David J. Lang

8150 Ohio River Blvd. – Mr. Getz reported the line in question has been cameraed and is not a borough issue. The results have been conveyed to the property owner.

MS4 – Brian J. Fashian

MS4 information is in the lobby and outside bulletin board, plus posted to the borough’s social media platforms.

PERSONNEL – Abigail Donovan/Michael V. Mary

No report

PUBLIC WORKS – Abigail Donovan/Michael V. Mary

No Report

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz/Brian J. Fashian

Mr. Getz reported upcoming recycle events: Household Chemical, Boyce Park on August 19; Hard to Recycle, Monroeville on August 26. Details and registration are handled through the PA Resource Council. An additional recycle event will be held in October at Settlers Ridge. Mr. Getz also reported the annual recycling grant through the QVCOG realized a high return this year. Mr. Getz concluded his report by announcing the Neville Island recycling location will be closing and a new plant built at a location to be determined.

ZONING – Abigail Donovan/Paul F. Getz

No report

FINANCE – Michael V. Mary/Brian J. Fashian

Annual Audit – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Getz to approve the 2022 audit as prepared by Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Bill List – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Getz to approve the bill list with the following additions: Columbia Gas \$42.03; Penn Global Signs \$157.43; Tri State Maintenance \$410. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

2024 Budget - Pres. Yurkovich requested council submit their 2024 budget items to the finance committee as preliminary budget proceedings will be underway.

OLD BUSINESS

Vinegar Hollow – Mr. Flynn informed council Gateway has held a meeting with the three contractors regarding the work required at the Vinegar Hollow catch basin and are reviewing proposals. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Ms. Donovan to approve headwall construction at Vinegar Hollow not to exceed \$225K. Emsworth will continue to work with Ben Avon on this project; it is hoped Kilbuck Twp. supervisors will be on board for this project as well. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Salt Shed – Mr. Fynn reported Gateway Engineering has prepared salt shed specs and will advertise for a bid opening in time to open and award at the September 13 meeting. Discussion: estimated cost is \$125K. Award in September with the approved contractor to begin work after the winter season. Payment will be through liquid fuels and will include new asphalt. Advertisement will be in the New Pittsburgh Courier, PennBid and other bidding sites. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Ms. Donovan to advertise the specifications for the proposed salt shed as prepared by Gateway Engineers. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Park Cameras – Mr. Fashian contacted Comcast regarding upgraded cameras at Marmo Park and Mayernik Field; \$165/month; three-year contract includes the static I.P.; \$140/month without the static I.P.; \$100 estimate for installation. Mr. Mary requested to get the proposal in writing and to include a trench for WiFi for concession stand, parking lot, dumpster area at Mayernik Field. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Ms. Donovan to adopt proposal from Comcast for a three-year contract, \$165/month; \$100 (est.) installation. Discussion: Mr. Getz suggested to check with Verizon for a proposal. Mr. Fashian stated as the borough is already a Comcast customer, turnaround time should be quicker. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

NEW BUSINESS

73 Hiland – The borough had been contacted by owner Kelly Monteverde regarding abandoning the paper street on this property so the area can be used for parking and a dumpster. Mr. Getz informed council this was a utility right-of-way, Hiland Ave to Emsworth Avenue. Sol. McTiernan will contact the property owner and research if the borough had accepted and vacated this street. Action tabled.

Res. No. 2023-04 – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Getz to adopt Res. No. 2023-04, Allegheny County Opt-In for the Three Year CDBG Program. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Res. No. 2023-05 – MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Fashian to adopt Res. No. 2023-05, PennDOT Winter Maintenance Agreement for a five-year period with five automatic renewals of one year; the yearly increase will be 2% each year after the initial year of the agreement. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Notary Reappointment for Borough Secretary – MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Fashian to approve a four-year notary reappointment for the borough secretary through PAN at a cost not to exceed \$500. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sol. Mayernik spoke on Res. No. 2001-05 establishing a \$50K dedicated fund for Mayernik Ballfield and Marmo Park maintenance, utilizing only the interest earned in any year for capital improvements. Mr. Mayernik stated the law is stable but not stagnant and council can reconsider to amend or vacate this resolution in order to help AGAA with field improvements. Mr. Mayernik gave an example of donating \$5K per year over a 10-year period to AGAA. Mr. Lenz noted at the end of 10 years, nothing would be left in the account. Pres. Yurkovich noted the borough has spent money on Marmo Park and Mayernik Field annually on needed upgrades with plans to install new surveillance systems at both facilities. At this time the resolution stands and the account remains as is with Council supporting and helping AGAA with field improvements from the borough's general account budget.

ADJOURN

MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Getz to Adjourn the August 9, 2023, council meeting at 7:40 p.m.
Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary