

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Business Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2021 via ZOOM

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

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 February 10, 2021, business meeting to order at 6:33 p.m., the January 13, 2021, Business Meeting Minutes were considered for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Helfrich to approve the January 13, 2021, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Wexeler, 78 Courtney, presented a sketch of an intersection at Vista and Courtney where he is requesting a stop sign. Chief Haney confirmed that in the past five years there were no reported accidents at this area and reminded council that in order to enforce a stop sign, a traffic study needs to be done prior to council approval and installation of a stop sign. Council discussed further under New Business.

MAYORS REPORT – AmySue Lillie, Mayor

Public Safety: OTPD – 76 calls; EVFC – 15 calls

Mayor Lillie thanked OTPD for their quick action in saving the life of a motorist on SR 65 who had been shot in a neighboring community.

Mayor Lillie is working with the CEO at UPMC Passavant to get COVID-19 vaccines for the volunteer fire company. Nurses have contacted Mayor Lillie to offer their assistance in administering vaccinations.

Dare to Dream Scholarship – Mayor Lillie’s Dare to Dream Scholarship is open to Emsworth seniors graduating this year. The program is the recipient of an anonymous \$1K donation, the scholarship will be \$2K this year. Essay deadline is March 27. Information is on the borough’s web site and Facebook page.

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

Trinity Commercial Development – The revised lot consolidation plan has been reviewed by the borough’s legal and engineering and subsequently approved by the Emsworth Planning Commission at their January meeting. The plan protects the borough’s right-of-way and allows 24/7 access. MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Ms. Bennett to accept the revised TCD Plan upon the recommendation of the planning commission, the borough solicitor and the borough engineer. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

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

Several joint bid surveys with SHACOG were presented by Mr. Flynn and approved by motion:

CCTV - MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Getz to join SHACOG for the joint bid for O&M CCTV, Year 11. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Open Cut Sewer Repairs - MOTION by Ms. Bennett, second by Mr. Lenz to join SHACOG for the joint bid for Open Cut Sewer Repairs, Year 10. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Pipe Lining - MOTION by Mr. Helfrich, second by Mr. Lenz to joint SHACOG for the joint bid for Pipe Lining, Year 15. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Payment applications were approved:

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to approve pay App #1 & Final to Jet Jack for MH-MH Lining, Year 14 in the amount of \$11,834.50. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

MOTION by Mr. Helfrich, second by Mr. Lenz to approve pay App #3 & Final to T. A. Robinson in the amount of \$211,123.60. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Mr. Flynn will set up meetings with the sewer committee and roads committee for upcoming work.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Ms. Bennett/Mr. Helfrich

No Report

COMMUNITY EVENTS – Brian Fashian/Michael Mary

Easter Egg Hunt - action tabled until the March 10 meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS – Messrs. Fashian/Lenz

No Report

SR 65 PUMP STATION – Messrs. Getz/Lenz

Mr. Getz reported the second impeller at the pump station needed to be replaced plus two friction plates. and Mr. Getz would like Gateway to move forward on the force main replacement project.

Force Main Replacement - MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to authorize Gateway to begin the process for the force main replacement. Mr. Flynn will bid out the specs, to be ready to award at the April 14 meeting; next, secure the bonds and then work can begin in May. Mr. Lenz requested he be notified when work is being done at the pump station. Mr. Getz stated both vendors have keys and he is usually not aware when work is being done at the pump station; but he would inform Mr. Lenz if he had advance notice. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

QVCOG – Messrs. Getz/Fashian

Mr. Getz reminded council if they have any refuse or recycling comments to submit them to the borough office. Avalon is taking the lead and compiling the requests for the upcoming refuse/recycling contract.

ROADS – Messrs. Helfrich/Getz

2021 Road Program – Mr. Getz tabled action on this subject.

Mayor Lillie noted during a recent snowstorm public works did not have the plow down and appeared to be just salting and requested the process for plowing and salting. Mr. Getz said dependent upon the duration of a snowstorm, plowing is done first then salting at the end; but the trucks are usually loaded with salt to add weight to get up the borough's hills.

SEWERS – Messrs. Getz/Fashian

No Report

FINANCE – Ms. Bennett/Mr. Mary

Bill List – MOTION by Ms. Bennett, second by Mr. Helfrich to approve the February 10, 2021, Bill List as presented with additions: DQL 2865.09; Cargill 3391.63; Col. Gas 33.08; Gateway 12,278.25; OTPD 86.14; QVCOG 277.50; TA Robinson 211,123.66; Tri State 1125.00 Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Lenz shared a concern with Chief Haney relative to Allegheny County public works trucks travelling excessively fast on Camp Horne Road and spraying snow and ice onto cars parked in their roadside driveways. Chief Haney suggesting documenting via photos or video and submitting it to the County DPW.

NEW BUSINESS

AGAA – Ms. Bennett reported AGAA has requested a change in the contract with the Borough for Section 7, vegetation. Currently the contract, which expires 12/31/2024, states AGAA is responsible for cutting and trimming, shrubs, weeds, grasses, annual plants and vegetation. AGAA also maintains the hillside, cuts grass next to the walkway; cuts and maintains grass in the parking area and islands. New addendum would make the borough responsible for this cutting, trimming and vegetation control. Mr. Fashian stated Ohio Twp. has cut the hillside in the past and is hopeful they will continue and with the Borough's help, this should be a savings for AGAA. If there is a tournament scheduled, Emsworth is to be notified early enough so that Emsworth DPW can schedule the grass cutting. MOTION by Ms. Bennett, second by Mr. Helfrich to amend the Borough's contract with AGAA; No. 7 for a one-year period and then re-visit. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

West View Authority, PennVest Letter of Support for water line upgrades. MOTION by Mr. Getz; there was no second. Motion failed.

Vista/Courtney Stop Sign – Mr. Getz reminded council there were no reportable accidents in this area. Mr. Helfrich stated if the stop sign is installed, people will continue to cut this corner. Mr. Getz said if the requested stop sign is installed, another stop sign would need installed about 100 ft. back; and added no one wants a stop sign going up a hill. Chief Haney suggested other signs to be considered in this area are: Slow; Caution, in lieu of a stop sign but reiterated a traffic study would be necessary for enforcement. Pres. Yurkovich requested Gateway Engineers provide a traffic study cost estimate for the March meeting.

Executive Session – Pres. Yurkovich called for an executive session of council at 7:15 p.m. for the discussion of potential litigation. Council reconvened at 7:36 p.m. Pres. Yurkovich stated the executive session was in compliance with the Sunshine Laws.

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to authorize the zoning officer to begin enforcement of short-term rentals that are not in the R-3 district, as set by ordinance. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

ADJOURN

President Yurkovich Adjourned the February 10, 2021, council meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary