

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

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

Council Members Absent – Abigail Donovan, Paul F. Getz

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 8, 2023, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the January Minutes were presented.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Fashian; second by Mr. Mary to approve the January 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

MAYOR’S REPORT - AmySue Lille

Public Safety: OTPD: 93 calls; EVFC: 40 calls

ALOM Legislative Reception – Mayor Lillie would not recommend attending in the future.

ACBA Banquet – Mayor Lillie reported this was a well-attended and informative reception.

State Rep. Venkat – Mayor Lillie plans to reach out to his office for support letters for borough grants.

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

Ord. No. 1015, Dumpsters has been advertised and is ready to consider to adopt. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lang to adopt Ord. No. 1015, regulating dumpsters in the borough. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

New Pittsburgh Courier – Sol. McTiernan submitted an opinion letter vetting NPC as the borough’s newspaper of record. Council had no opposition; Sol. McTiernan will prepare a resolution to this effect for council’s adoption at the March 8 council meeting.

202 Hazelwood – Court hearing cancelled.

8195 Ohio River Blvd. – Sol. Gavin Robb will represent the borough; Sol. McTiernan will reach out to both the former and current zoning officials for their appearance at the downtown hearing scheduled Feb. 21.

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

SHACOG Joint Bid O&M Repairs, Year 12; Joint Bid CCTV Inspections, Year 13; Joint Bid Pipe Lining, Year 17 –

MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Mary to participate in SHACOG Joint Bid O&M Repairs, Year 12; CCTV Inspections, Year 13; Pipe Lining, Year 17 as recommended by the borough engineer. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Duke’s – Mr. Flynn is awaiting a final report before recommending the invoice be paid.

Marmo Park – DCNR grant application for Marmo Park improvements did not make the cut. The project included a poured-in-place rubber surface for the playground area, playground equipment improvements, court lighting and security cameras. The grant application will be resubmitted for the April grant cycle.

2023 Pavement Program – Draft pavement program was distributed in December. Meeting with Infrastructure was held in January to determine roads to be included for the 2023 Paving Program. Contract will be bid in February and opened at the March 8 council meeting for this \$600K project tentatively to include Allison, Charles, Chestnut, Clearview, Gibb, Grant, Lowry, Milton, Cedar, Roosevelt, Memorial with add alternates of Grove and Meadow. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Mary to advertise the 2023 Pavement Program with two alternate add-ons in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and the New Pittsburgh Courier. Mr. Flynn will handle the advertisement. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Columbia Gas – The gas company has replaced their utilities under Hiland Ave., Emsworth Ave, Avon Drive, and Race Street and will pave these streets in 2023.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Abigail Donovan/David J. Lang

Salt Shed – Pres. Yurkovich tabled action on the proposed new salt shed until the March meeting. Discussion followed as to purchasing property across from the current salt shed location to build the new salt shed. The borough secretary will reach out to Sampson-Morris Group (property owners of the parcel in question) to see if they are interested to sell the parcel.

Emergency 911 Telephone – Outside telephone originally installed and went direct to 911 Bellevue Dispatch. Emergency calls are now dispatched through Allegheny County; telephone is no longer in operation and will be removed.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Paul F. Getz/David J. Lang

Vista St. Sinkhole – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lang to approve the proposal by G. Saladino in the amount \$3500 to repair the sinkhole on Vista Street. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PERSONNEL – Brian Fashian/Michael V. Mary

Mr. Fashian discussed the low response for the advertised public works full-time and part-time summer help positions. He will add to Facebook and revisit at the March meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS – Pres. Yurkovich for Abigail Donovan

Bulk Rock Salt - Pres. Yurkovich informed council the minimum bulk rock salt purchase quota will not be reached this year and as a new salt shed is proposed, the borough will pay for salt storage.

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz/Brian J. Fashian

No report this evening.

ZONING – Abigail Donovan/Paul F. Getz

No report this evening.

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: SWIF \$650; WB Mason \$278.36; Tammy's Cleaning \$260; GT&E \$6043.01; Columbia Gas \$86.59. Motion unanimously approved by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS

North Borough Fire Meeting – February 13, 7 p.m. at the borough hall with representatives from Avalon, Bellevue and Emsworth invited to attend.

Vinegar Hollow – Emsworth is awaiting dates from Ben Avon in order to proceed with this meeting.

AGAA Signs – Pres. Yurkovich reminded Council that at the December 2022 council meeting Tim Grey from AGAA addressed council regarding AGAA WPIAL championship signs and requested permission to place them along SR 65, Ohio River Blvd. PennDOT had been contacted and permission was denied; the signs were placed on Huntington going toward Mayernik Field. Ron Lantzy, AGAA Boosters, approached Ohio Twp. to install championship signs within the township, and was denied. He then reached out to Mayor Lillie for permission to place them in Emsworth along SR 65. Pres. Yurkovich reiterated PennDOT's refusal to permit signs along SR 65 and stated if any AGAA signs are placed along this roadway, they will be removed and disposed.

Voting Station – There has been no contact from Allegheny County Dept. of Elections relative to St. James recent decision to no longer be the only polling station in the borough. EVFC offered the fire station as a potential polling station and this was conveyed to Allegheny County Dept. of Elections.

Mayor Lillie questioned the policy to remove a council member if three or more meetings had been missed or they couldn't fulfill their commitment. Mr. Fashian called out the mayor as to her reference to Mr. Getz and was offended she would refer to someone who has served his community for over twenty years as an elected official plus did snow removal for years, getting up in the middle of the night and going out evenings and weekends. Mr. Lenz agreed the mayor was out of line and Pres. Yurkovich reminded the mayor her position as mayor was not a policy maker or bring her opinions to the table but to be a tie-breaker for council votes. Mayor Lillie called the council president a bully, gathered her paperwork and left the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

ALOM 7 Springs Conference, April 13-16 – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Mary to send Pres. Yurkovich to the ALOM Spring Conference. Discussion: As the Borough attained Banner Community Status, Pres. Yurkovich's registration will be covered by ALOM. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Glass Recycling - Pres. Yurkovich announced Waste Management will reinstate curbside glass recycling immediately.

Sacred Heart Church – Mr. Flynn addressed a storm water runoff issue at Sacred Heart Church and recently spoke with a representative from the church. Mr. Flynn recommended the line be cameraed. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lenz authorizing to camera this line and advise council. MOTION unanimously carried by roll call.

Electrical Work – Mr. Mary reported he is awaiting a proposal for electrical work at the borough hall.

Borough Building Sign – A new sign for the building was discussed; action tabled.

Resignation - Mayor Lillie returned to the meeting and submitted her resignation as Mayor. MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lenz to accept the resignation from AmySue Lillie as Mayor of Emsworth Borough. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

ADJOURN

MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lenz to Adjourn the February 8, 2023, council meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary