

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Business Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2022

Council Members Present – Abigail Donovan; Brian J. Fashian; Paul F. Getz; Daniel Lenz; Kevin Yurkovich
Council Members Absent – Jason Helfrich; Michael V. Mary
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 August 10, 2022, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the July 13, 2022, Minutes were presented for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Fashian; second by Ms. Donovan to approve the July 13, 2022, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote; Mr. Getz abstained.

AVONWORTH GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL – Pres. Yurkovich presented a proclamation to the Avonworth Girls Varsity Softball Team and coaches in attendance congratulating the team on their undefeated season and WPIAL State Championship.

AVALON PUBLIC LIBRARY – Heather Weleski, Director, gave council a brief history of the library, how the library has expanded to include other events; how state libraries are funded and her future plans. A handout was distributed to council outlining Ms. Weleski's presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

8131 Ohio River Blvd. – Property owner, Joseph Hanny, updated council on his plans to renovate the Snowy White Laundromat and Car Wash and plans to attend the August 24 planning commission meeting to present his plan.

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

192 Superior – Property owner has acknowledged receipt of Sol. McTiernan's letter which stated driveway access must be from Center Avenue not Superior Avenue.

Holy Family Parking Lot – Sol. Conlin has been in talks with HFI regarding a proposed parking lot. HFI cannot meet certain zoning and walkway safety requirements. Pres. Yurkovich invited Sol. Conlin to attend the September 14 council meeting as HFI will be in attendance to present their plan.

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

-Invoice No. 1 from Duke's received for the 2022 Flow Isolation tracker study in the amount of \$6480.

-O&M - Pre-construction meeting held for O&M contract through SHACOG; early September start date.

-Emsworth Avenue & Hiland Avenue Sinkhole – West View Authority will remediate this issue week of August 15.

-2021-2022 Paving – Bid opening held today (August 10); no bids were submitted. Mr. Flynn suggested rebidding just Walliston & Courtney since these streets were held over from last year; then bid in the spring for other streets.

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to advertise for paving on Walliston (Center Avenue to SR 65) and Courtney Street. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Jason Helfrich/Abigail Donovan

Csarczar Plumbing completed the basement boiler repairs today; unit is ready for colder temperatures.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Dan Lenz/Paul F. Getz/Jason Helfrich

Mr. Getz reported he will be meeting Garret Salandro Friday, August 11 to review sinkholes throughout the borough that are in need of repair. Mr. Lenz expressed interest to be part of this meeting.

PERSONNEL – Brian Fashion/Michael Mary

Mr. Fashion reported one application has been received for the public works position. Due to vacation scheduling, the interview will take place next week,

PUBLIC WORKS – Dan Lenz/Abigail Donovan

Truck #484 & #485 will be inspected through Mike Adams. Mr. Lenz questioned the battery charge on the Advance Auto invoice. Pres. Yurkovich replied it was for a battery purchased in April, but just now being billed to the borough. Mr. Lenz was unaware of this purchase and did not know which truck it was in and said he should have been notified.

Pres. Yurkovich questioned hours on DPW Michael Kohl's time sheet for time spent at Avonworth Community Park with Mr. Lenz and requested reimbursement from Mr. Lenz or Avonworth Community Park. Mr. Lenz needed a pump to pump out water at the pool and contacted Chief Kohl, who had permitted use of the fire company's pump. Mr. Lenz contacted Michael Kohl to pick up the pump and bring it to the park to assist him. Pres. Yurkovich aligned this with misappropriation of borough funds and requested reimbursement. Mr. Lenz will talk with Avonworth Community Park staff about this issue.

Pres. Yurkovich noted the trash can at Marmo Park was overflowing and had not been emptied on Monday. Mr. Lenz will address this with Mr. Kohl who is working Mondays and Fridays; he is to empty all trash cans on Center Avenue, at the park as well as clearing catch basins borough-wide.

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz/Brian J. Fashion

No Report.

ZONING – Abigail Donovan/Paul F. Getz

No report.

FINANCE – Michael Mary/Brian J. Fashion

Bill List – MOTION by Mr. Fashion second by Mr. Getz, to approve the Bill List as presented with following additions: Advance Auto \$221.99; Gateway Engineering \$16,367.11; Albert Slack \$630; Tri State Maintenance \$280; Verizon \$99.22; Wright Express \$564.59; Columbia Gas \$50.21 Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

2023 Budget – Pres. Yurkovich requested council to consider their 2023 budget needs and get the list to the finance committee in time for their preliminary meeting late September.

OLD BUSINESS

Pot Hole Patching – Mr. Lenz is waiting to hear back from OTDPW re their schedule to do road patching.

Salt Shed – Mayor Lillie offered to check on grants for a salt shed if she could be provided with specs for the building. Mr. Flynn added former DCNR rep, Kathy Frankel, is now with Gateway writing grants and he will check to see if anything is available.

NEW BUSINESS

OTPD Chief Joe Hanny reported on August 19 & 20 I79S will be shut down for this weekend as the work on the Neville Island bridge continues.

EVFC Chief Koh addressed council to consider the fire company's request to enlarge their back room into the current financial office area by ten (10') feet. The fire company has increased membership and is need of more space. Renovation would be done by the fire company at no cost to the borough. MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Ms. Donovan to approve EVFC taking 10 ft from the financial office to increase the room size at the fire station. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PRESIDENT REPORT – Kevin Yurkovich

Harshman CE Group has informed the borough of permits issued that were outstanding from BIU. Meeting with Waste Management (WM) and P. Conners, QVCOG, regarding service. Refuse contract indicates once WM is notified of a missed address, they have 24 hours in which to recover the refuse/recycling, which negates any penalty to WM and reimbursement to the borough. WM rep offered Emsworth to opt out of contract but that was declined. Pres. Yurkovich reminded residents garbage must be curbside early and not rely on when WM had been on their street in the past. Crews are changed to cover call offs of personnel and garbage and recycling must be placed out early. WM offered to look into a robocall system or email to alert residents of any delays or changes in service. Geo-code automated system was offered also but 90% of the borough would need to fit the requirements to this automated arm pick up of cans.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

ADJOURN

MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Lenz to Adjourn the August 10, 2022, council meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary