

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202  
Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2024

Council Members Present – Kathleen Dine, Abigail Donovan, Daniel Lenz, Michael V. Mary, Kevin Wisniewski, Kevin Yurkovich  
Council Members Absent – William B. Bauer  
Others Present – Alexander Nalevanko, Mayor; Robert L. McTiernan, Esq.; Dennis J. Flynn, P.E.; Cathy Jones, Borough Secretary

President Yurkovich called the April 10, 2024, meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the March 13, 2024, Minutes were considered for approval.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

MOTION by Ms. Mary, second by Ms. Donovan to approve the March 13, 2024, Minutes as presented. Motion carried by roll call with Mr. Lenz voting nay.

**RESIGNATION**

MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Donovan to approve the resignation letter from Council as submitted by William B. Bauer. Motion carried by roll call; Mr. Lenz voted nay.

Pres. Yurkovich expressed frustration with the recent games at taxpayer expense for name plates, cards, etc.; either someone wants to be on council, or step away if not wanting to be part of the team.

MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Donovan to announce letters of interest for the council vacancy should be sent to the borough office. Motion carried by roll call; Mr. Lenz voted nay.

Pres. Yurkovich introduced Sister Linda Yankoski, CEO, Holy Family Institute

Holy Family Institute (HFI) Proposed Greenhouse – Sister Linda Yankoski made a proposal for a former portable storage unit, 40 x 8x 9 (school bus size) to be temporarily set on campus for hydroponic education and gardening. After review of the borough ordinances, The Harshman Group determined that land development approval is needed. Sister Linda added the funding grant deadline is soon. The greenhouse will use approximately 5 gallons of water per day and water would be recycled on the grounds. It is anticipated the harvest would be used for meals at the school. Council recommended HFI submit an application to the Zoning Hearing Board if they wished to appeal the Borough's decision.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**MAYOR REPORT – Alexander Nalevanko**

Public Safety: OTPD: 106 calls; EVFC: 29 calls

**SOLICITOR REPORT – Robert L. McTiernan, Esq.**

No Report this Evening.

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

2024 Road Paving Program – Bids were opened and read aloud Tuesday, April 9 at 9:30 a.m., from three bidders: El Grande; Mele & Mele and Youngblood Paving. Gateway performed bid tabulations; Youngblood was low bidder. MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Mary to approve Youngblood Paving in the amount of \$282,300 for the base bid to include Bryson, Walliston, Church and Plumer Avenues for paving. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Ms. Donovan to add Alt. 2, Pittsburgh St. to Center Ave. to the paving program after further financial review in the amount of \$96,512.50. Discussion: Mr. Mary reminded council the 2023 road paving came in at 11% under budget. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **BOROUGH PROPERTY – Abigail Donovan**

Roof Proposal – Action tabled until May meeting; additional proposals are to be submitted.

Folding Chair Purchase – Replacement folding chairs are needed as damaged ones have been disposed. Ms. Donovan would like to purchase 12 chairs from Sam’s Club at a cost of \$24.98 each. No motion as this is part of the borough property committee budget.

FireKing Cabinet - Additional fire proof cabinet is required for borough ordinance and resolution books. MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Mary to approve the purchase of one fire proof cabinet through Co-Stars in the amount of \$2140. Motion unanimously carried by roll.

### **COMMUNITY EVENTS – Abigail Donovan**

Memorial Day Parade – Monday, May 27 at 10 a.m. Field Services at 11 a.m. at Patrick Kenny Memorial Field. MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Lenz to authorize \$100 to Avonworth Post #866 to help defray the cost of the parade expenses.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE – Daniel Lenz**

Payment Applications for CCTV Work – Payment will be made once invoiced from SHACOG. MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Ms. Dine to approve State Pipe Service payment application in the amount of \$9159.25 for 2022 CCTV work upon the recommendation of the borough engineer. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Mary to approve Robinson Pipe Service payment application in the amount of \$14,547.16 for 2023 CCTV work upon the recommendation of the borough engineer. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

### **PERSONNEL – Kevin Wisniewski**

#### Employee Raises

MOTION by Mr. Wisniewski, second by Mr. Mary to approve employee raise for Brian Fashion, DPW, 4% increase from \$25/hour to \$26/hour. Motion unanimously carried by roll call; Mr. Lenz voted nay.

MOTION by Mr. Wisniewski, second by Ms. Donovan to approve employee raise for Cathy Jones, Borough Secretary, 4% increase from \$23.58/hr. to \$24.53/hour. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

MOTION by Mr. Wisniewski, second by Ms. Donovan to approve employee raise for Rebecca McNeil, Borough Treasurer, 4% increase from \$936/mo. to \$975/month. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

### **PUBLIC WORKS – Michael V. Mary**

Cargill Bulk Rock Salt – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Donovan to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Option Year for bulk rock salt through Cargill. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Letter should be received shortly from Cargill as to storage fees for bulk rock salt due to the mild winter.

### **QVCOG – Abigail Donovan**

Hard to Recycle Event will be held July 29, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Buncher Park in Leetsdale; advance registration is required. Information will be on the borough’s web site.

### **FINANCE – Michael V. Mary, Jr.**

Bill List - MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Dine to approve the bill list with the additions of Columbia Gas, \$42.97; Gateway Engineers, \$31,396.15; Mike’s Plumbing, \$160; Tri State Maintenance, \$280. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

**SALT SHED** – Mr. Lenz offered to chair the salt shed replacement project.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Vinegar Hollow – Pres. Yurkovich will schedule a meeting with Ben Avon and Kilbuck Twp. to discuss payments outstanding to Emsworth for work completed in December 2023 by Bauer Excavating for work at this site. During the recent severe rains, the catch basin area was compromised and other repairs are needed, all of which will be part of the discussion.

Veterans Banners – Several honor banners are in need of repair. Mr. Wisniewski will look into these repairs.

PSAB Conference – June 2-5; Hershey - there was no interest to attend.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Avalon Library StoryWalk Project – Avalon Library staff will place story book signs in Marmo Park for families to read and discuss. The story will be swapped out once a month in June, July and August; the library staff is responsible for social media advertising for this innovative community project.

Primary Election Day – April 23; Two Voting Districts: 01 votes at the community room; 02 votes at the Emsworth Fire Station truck room.

Paint Sprayer – MOTION by Mr. Mary second by Ms. Donovan to purchase a replacement paint sprayer for public works for curbs, crosswalks, and directional arrows in the amount of \$2239 through Sherwin-Williams. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joan Porac, 235 Church Avenue – will residents in the affected area for paving be notified in order to move their vehicles. Mr. Flynn replied residents would be notified.

Dave Wexler, 53 Courtney – Concrete and other debris accumulated behind daycare sign on Center Avenue at Pittsburgh Street. Harshman Group will be notified to investigate and send a letter to the property owner. Mr. Wexler also questioned what can be done about dog owners not picking up after their dog; dog poop is more noticeable. Could more trash cans be added along Center Avenue? Pres. Yurkovich replied cans have been removed because the stench from the cans in the summer, or after a rain, is unhealthy. Currently, Public Works empties the few trash cans along the avenue several times a week. Pres. Yurkovich added more cans were requested to be removed than added due to the health risk they pose.

**ADJOURN**

MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Dine to Adjourn the April 10, 2024, meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully, Submitted,

CATHY JONES  
Borough Secretary