

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Business Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2022

Council Members Present – Abigail Donovan; Brian J. Fashian; Paul F. Getz; Jason Helfrich; Daniel Lenz; Michael V. Mary; 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 March 9, 2022, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the February 9, 2022, Minutes were presented for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Fashian; second by Mr. Helfrich to approve the February 9, 2022, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote; Mr. Getz abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MAYORS REPORT – AmySue Lillie, Mayor

Public Safety: OTPD – 98 calls; EVFC – 30 calls

Dare to Dream – Mayor Lillie announced her \$1K Dare to Dream Scholarship 2022 applications are available for any Emsworth graduating senior. Deadline is March 31.

Senior Projects – Mayor Lillie has reached out to Avonworth Guidance Dept. for students who may need volunteer hours for graduation. Several community projects are being considered, Marmo Park: paint benches and trail update; create a holiday back drop for Light-Up Night; help with the hometown hero banners. Mayor Lillie will coordinate and work the seniors to bring the projects to fruition.

ALOM 7 Springs Conference April 7-10; \$350 registration; \$693/official (Free Registration for Banner Community Designation). Mayor Lillie was interested to attend. MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to send Mayor Lillie to the ALOM 7 Springs Conference, \$693/officials. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

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

Sol. McTiernan presented council a check in the amount of \$125K as a final payout from West View Authority for the water line claim on Allegheny Avenue.

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

SR 65 Pump Station – There was one overflow on February 25 at the pump station.

2021 Road Paving Project – This 2021-22 project has not yet been bid. Columbia Gas plans to complete utility work by the end of March and then Gateway will prepare bid specs.

Road Paving Management Program – Gateway will assess the streets borough-wide and update the 5 Year Road Management Plan at a future council meeting.

7600 Brighton Road Storm Sewer/Vinegar Hollow Area – On-going water run off from this property emanating from Kilbuck, Ben Avon, Ben Avon Heights and Emsworth through a private property in Ben Avon recently flooded the street on Memorial Drive due to a clogged Pittsburgh-Style inlet grate. Mr. Flynn recommended a survey to determine property lines of the municipalities and homeowner plus coordination with neighboring communities for cost sharing options for inlet replacement. Gateway will also research grant funding for this project.

MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Helfrich to authorize Gateway Engineer to schedule a survey of this property, recommend action for repair and research grant funding. Discussion: Pres. Yurkovich questioned the abandoned cars on this property and if the survey indicates it is on Emsworth property can they be removed. Chief Hanny replied the property owner would be notified. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

SHACOG O&M Year 12 – Gateway recommends joining this non-binding survey for O&M Maintenance. MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to participate in the SHACOG non-binding survey for O&M Maintenance, Year 12. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Jason Helfrich/Abigail Donovan

No report this evening.

COMMUNITY EVENTS – Messrs. Fashian/Mary

Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 16 at 10 a.m. at Marmo Park. Registration at the borough office week of April 11.

North Boroughs Community Days Fireworks – MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Lenz to donate \$500 to the North Boroughs Fireworks Committee; Community Event is scheduled for Sat. July 2, Avalon Park. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Jason Helfrich/Brian J. Fashian

Mr. Lenz reported two Center Avenue catch basins need replaced, one in front of Chev’s Diner and the other in front of Donovan Cleaners. Mr. Lenz will meet Gerry Sadler for a proposal; Mr. Getz will meet Garrett Salandro for a proposal. Once the proposals are received, Infrastructure will contact Finance for approval to move forward.

During a recent rain event, water runoff impacted the paper street near 224 Greenwood causing a 6 ft. geyser to spout. Natural springs at the top of every hill feed water runoff in rain events causing runoff issues. Infrastructure will look into a solution and advise council.

PERSONNEL – Brian J. Fashian/Michael V. Mary

No report this evening.

PUBLIC WORKS – Dan Lenz/Abigail Donovan

No report this evening.

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz/Brian J. Fashian

Glass Recycling – 3-month pilot program for 24/7 glass recycling will take place in Sewickley at the Riverfront Park on Chadwick Street beginning March 12. Pilot program will be paid for through a QVCOG 502 recycling grant.

City Grows – Two points were discussed: Adding the capability for an on-line codes violation reporting system and adding on-line payments for zoning technical assistance applications. At this time, Council opted not to have on-line code violations added but did agree to the on-line payment option for zoning permits through City Grows.

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 \$622; QVCOG, Codes \$532.50; Wright Express \$393.17; Columbia Gas \$43.28. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS

192 Superior – House was demoed October 2021; property is still a mess and the site is not secured which is a safety concern. Contractor/owner has changed plans from a Superior Avenue driveway access to a Center Avenue driveway access. Zoning has been satisfied; Building Inspection Underwriters will review plans and issue the building permit. Sol. McTiernan was requested to send a letter to the owner citing safety concerns.

NEW BUSINESS

Emsworth Borough recently received notification of attaining Allegheny County Banner Community status. Emsworth has been a Banner Community since 2018.

Holy Family Institute – HFI sent an email to request a letter of support from council relative to grant funding they are seeking. After discussion, it was decided not to send this request until HFI attends a council meeting to discuss particulars regarding the project.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pres. Yurkovich called for an executive session of council for discussion of personnel at 7:25 p.m. Council reconvened at 7:45 p.m.; the executive session was in compliance with the Sunshine Laws.

ADJOURN

MOTION by Mr. Helfrich, second by Mr. Mary to Adjourn the March 9, 2022, council meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary