

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Business Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2022

Council Members Present – Abigail Donovan; Brian J. Fashian; Paul F. Getz; Daniel Lenz; Michael V. Mary; Kevin Yurkovich

Council Member Absent – Jason Helfrich

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 June 8, 2022, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the May 11, 2022, Minutes were presented for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Lenz; second by Ms. Donovan to approve the May 11, 2022, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote; Messrs. Getz and Mary abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MAYORS REPORT – AmySue Lillie, Mayor

Public Safety Reports: OTPD: 135 calls EVFC: 40 calls Mayor Lillie thanked the EVFC and the residents who recently came together to hang the Veteran honor banners before Memorial Day. Mayor Lillie has additional orders and had looked into another supplier for better pricing but will be staying with Rileigh's for the banners.

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

No report

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

2021-2022 Road Program - Columbia Gas is doing replacement line work on Hiland, Avon and Race Street; with a projected completion date of end of July. These streets will be added to the paving list along with Courtney and Walliston. Field work for roadway rating throughout the borough has been completed and will be provided in July.

GROW Grant – MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to adopt Res. No. 2022-02 to authorize Gateway Engineers to apply for a Grow Grant to cover Consent Order work. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Jason Helfrich/Abigail Donovan

Ms. Donovan reported Cszasz Plumbing is still awaiting the part for the basement boiler.

Marmo Park - The cap on the fountain valve was missing, creating a leak; it has since been repaired.

COMMUNITY EVENTS – Brian Fashian/Michael Mary/Abigail Donovan

Mayor Lillie thanked everyone who attended the Memorial Day Parade and field services to honor the veterans.

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

No report

PERSONNEL – Brian Fashian/Michael Mary

DPW Hire – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Fashian to hire Jerry Kaelin for the public works position, 40 hours at \$18/hour, 45-day probation then increase to \$20/hour, retro to the first work day. Discussion: Ms. Donovan attested to Mr. Kaelin's work ethic and requested his rate to be \$20/hour. Pres. Yurkovich and Mr. Fashian acknowledged Mr. Kaelin would ultimately be making \$20/hour after the probation period. MOTION to amend hourly rate from \$18 to \$20/hour. Motion carried; Messrs. Getz and Yurkovich voted nay.

MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Lenz to hire Jerry Kaelin for public works at a rate of \$20/hour pending background check and pre-employment tests; start date was set at Monday, June 27. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PUBLIC WORKS – Dan Lenz/Abigail Donovan

Salt Shed - Mr. Lenz reported the salt storage shed needs replaced, the condition is dangerous.

Pres. Yurkovich reported he has continued to do grass cutting and collection of garbage. Kip Kroen has recently begun to cut the grass at Marmo Park. Park; restrooms will only be open during pavilion rentals and OTPD will handle.

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz/Brian J. Fashian

No report

ZONING – Abigail Donovan/Paul F. Getz

No report this evening.

FINANCE – Michael Mary/Brian J. Fashian

Avonworth Band Boosters Association – MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Getz to approve \$250, Drum Major level, to ABBA. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Bill List – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Donovan, to approve the Bill List as presented with following additions: HiTouch \$110.38; Tri State Maintenance \$410; Wright Express \$6; QVCOG \$830; SWIF \$622. Discussion: Mr. Mary questioned Tri State Maintenance invoice for check valves. Mr. Getz clarified the check valve parts are always kept in inventory as is a spare impeller. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS

Memorial Drive/Vinegar Hollow – Meeting with Ben Avon officials to discuss run-off at this area and feasible solutions is planned. Letter will be sent to Ben Avon officials offering July 6, 7, or 12 meeting dates at Noon at the Emsworth Borough Building. Pres. Yurkovich, Messrs. Getz and Lenz will represent Emsworth at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Marmo Park/Force Main Replacement - Pres. Yurkovich reported he met with the borough engineer at Marmo Park regarding a marshy area near the restrooms. Mr. Flynn will contact the contractor to see if the ditch can be made deeper and check restoration of this area. Area is very wet; borough vehicle cannot get to the area to control vegetation.

DPW – Insurance will be checked to see if Michael Kohl, DPW, can be added to our insurance as a driver of the dump trucks at age 19. MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Donovan to contact the borough's insurance carrier to get an update if a driver can be age 19 and not 21 as previously reported. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PRESIDENT REPORT – Kevin Yurkovich

Pres. Yurkovich addressed several concerns:

1. Heavy machinery, including a milling machine, doing work in other communities but using Emsworth streets for overnight parking must stop. Future infractions will be deferred to OTPD.
2. Code Enforcement of properties in violation: 192 Superior – basement walls installed two days prior to court date and due nature of citation, citation was pulled; site is still not – and has not been - properly cordoned off since demolition last fall; neither codes nor building inspector will cite the owner. 8110 Ohio River Blvd – no plans have been submitted; neither codes nor building inspector will cite the owner. 137 Center – sidewalk is in disrepair and has sunk from plumbing work; neither codes nor building inspector will cite the owner; commercial occupancies at Emsworth Commercial Development site are still outstanding. 8294 Ohio River Blvd - no work done since pre-Covid on this property; neither codes nor building inspector will cite the owner. Sol. McTiernan recommended putting everyone of notice. Pres. Yurkovich requested council consider alternate options and discuss at the July 13 meeting.

3. Waste Management – Marmo Park dumpster had not been picked up for several weeks even though there were multiple emails from the borough office requesting a pick up. Pres. Yurkovich questioned the account created through the updated QVCOG refuse contract for reimbursement for WM missing pick-ups. Mr. Getz will check into this with the COG director.
4. QVCOG – Working on code enforcement and refuse problems with no resolution, Pres. Yurkovich questioned Emsworth’s membership. QVCOG sent a draft resolution to the membership re financial obligation to the QVCOG for 24/7 glass recycling. Pres. Yurkovich reminded council thar Emsworth currently gets bulk rock salt through the SHACOG. Pres. Yurkovich requested council consider maintaining membership in the QVCOG and discuss at the July 13 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJOURN

MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Lenz to Adjourn the June 8, 2022, council meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary