

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

Council Members Present – Abigail Donovan; Brian J. Fashian; Jason Helfrich (6:35 p.m.); Daniel Lenz; Michael V. Mary; Kevin Yurkovich

Council Member Absent – 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 9, 2022, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the January 12, 2022, Minutes were presented for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Fashian; second by Ms. Donovan to approve the January 12, 2022, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MAYORS REPORT – AmySue Lillie, Mayor

Public Safety: OTPD – 102 calls; EVFC – 27 calls

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

Discussion to approve settlement of Emsworth Borough v. West View Water Authority GD 16-02500, Allegheny County Common Pleas Court for \$125K payment to Emsworth Borough and authorization of a borough official to sign the appropriate release.

MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Lenz to approve the settlement and authorize Pres. Yurkovich to sign the paperwork. Motion unanimously approved by roll call.

Sol. McTiernan reported he spoke with Avonworth School District re bond coverage for the tax collector. The school bond is \$648k; \$150k for the borough tax coverage.

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

SHACOG Survey for Year 16 Pipe Lining needs submitted. Gateway Engineer's recommendation is to be part of this non-binding survey. MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Ms. Donovan to participate in SHACOG Joint Bid Pipe Lining, Year 16 survey. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Jason Helfrich/Abigail Donovan

Possible grant opportunity through QVCOG for a salt shed. Mayor Lillie will reach out to QVCOG Director Connors once the grant funding opens.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Jason Helfrich/Brian J. Fashian

Mr. Watkins from the A/C Health Dept. met with Mr. Getz today for an inspection of the pump station. The pump station passed this inspection.

PERSONNEL – Brian J. Fashian/Michael V. Mary

MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second by Mr. Mary to authorize the hire of Ron Thomson for snow removal at a rate of \$16.67/hour. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PUBLIC WORKS – Dan Lenz/Abigail Donovan

Skid Steer - Mr. Lenz investigated skid steer tire replacement through several sources and recommended going with Laurel Gardens, who the borough has used in the past.

MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Helfrich to buy tires for the skid steer; saving the best tire and having it rim-mounted as a spare, through Laurel Gardens in an amount not to exceed \$1250. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Tire Chains – Wrong size chains were purchased, DPW will exchange for correct size. Mr. Lenz reported a broken tire chain resulted in a broken tail light and wondered what happened. Mr. Fashian stated while out salting in the recent ice storm, the rusted chain snapped and broke the tail light. Mr. Fashian clarified Truck #484 salts/plows the lower route; Truck #485 salts/plows the upper route; each truck uses a different blade. Mr. Fashian reported #485 was overdue for an oil change.

Smart Phone – Ms. Donovan will look into an additional smart phone for DPW.

COG – Brian J. Fashian

QVCOG is looking for a location for a 24/7 dumpster for glass recycling. Pres. Yurkovich cautioned council that although it is a good civic idea, in practice this site will need monitored for illegal dumping and continual clean-up of broken glass around the site. Ben Avon Borough has reached out to Emsworth for a meeting to discuss a joint venture. Action tabled.

ZONING – Abigail Donovan

No report the evening.

FINANCE – Michael V. Mary

PA Municipal Service Company – PAMS does not offer a payment plan for delinquent sewer accounts. Discussion followed if the borough would continue offering and collecting delinquent payment plans. It was decided to adopt PAMS policy, payments are due in full; the borough would no longer collect any payment plans in-house.

MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Lenz to adopt PAMS policy of no payment plans; sewer payments are due in full to PAMS. Motion carried by roll with Ms. Donovan voting nay.

Bill List – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Fashian, to approve the Bill List as presented with the following additions: Cargill Salt \$9128.09; HiTouch \$141.89; SWIF \$622; Columbia Gas \$43.58; Mike's Refinishing \$475; Tri State \$540; Adams Petroleum \$5315.52; Gateway Engineers \$7586.75. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS

202 Hazelwood – Mayor Lillie is concerned about the broken glass and debris over the sidewalk on Center Avenue at Hazelwood as this is a school bus stop. The new owner has a dumpster in place as the house is being cleaned out. OTPD Chief Hanny will check into this and contact the new owner to clean up and keep this area clear of debris.

NEW BUSINESS

Veterans Plaque – Avonworth Post #866 will be adding the name Lance Catterall to the War on Terror plaque at the borough's Veterans Memorial. Pres. Yurkovich requested the borough cover the expense for having the plaque removed; name added; refinished and reinstalled through Mike's Refinishing; estimate is \$475.

MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Lenz to authorize Mike's Refinishing to remove, add the name Lance Catterall; refinish the plaque and rehang, estimate is \$475. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

OTPD Chief Hanny reported all Ohio Twp. officers have been trained and are wearing body cameras. Cameras will be engaged whenever there is interaction with the public.

Chief Hanny reported on construction changes on I-79; cross overs will be in place during the upcoming next two years. The Neville Island Bridge will have rolling ramp closures through 2025 as the bridge undergoes rehabilitation.

235-237 Center Avenue – Mr. Lenz reported the Planning Commission met January 26 regarding this 10-unit proposed apartment building which will require 20 parking spaces. The property owner, Dominic Mantella, has contacted adjacent property owner, Galante Brothers, regarding an agreement to allow parking at their property. Pres. Yurkovich and Chief Hanny reported they have already been approached regarding enforcement of the one-hour parking along this business stretch of Center Avenue.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Pres. Yurkovich called for an executive session of council at 7:15p.m. for the discussion of personnel. Council reconvened at 7:29 p.m. Pres. Yurkovich stated the executive session was in compliance with the Sunshine Laws.

ADJOURN

MOTION by Mr. Helfrich, second by Mr. Mary to Adjourn the February 9, 2022, council meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary