

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Business Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2023

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

Council Members Absent – Abigail Donovan

Others Present – Edward A. Miller, Mayor; Robert L. McTiernan, Esq., Borough Solicitor; Dennis J. Flynn, P.E., Borough Engineer; Cathy Jones, Borough Secretary

President Yurkovich called the December 13, 2023, business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, President Yurkovich called for approval of the November 8, 2023, Minutes.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Fashian, second Mr. Getz to approve the November 8, 2023, Meeting Minutes as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MAYOR'S REPORT – Edward A. Miller, Mayor

Public Safety: OTPD: 87 calls; EVFC: 42 calls

BOROUGH SOLICITOR REPORT – Robert L. McTiernan, Esq.

No Report

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

2024 Road Paving – Meeting will be held Monday, December 18, 3:30 p.m. at the borough hall for discussion of the 2024 paving program. Mr. Flynn would like to advertise early for a paving contractor.

Vinegar Hollow – MOTION by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Fashian to approve payment Invoice No. 1 and Final for the Vinegar Run Storm Sewer Maintenance work performed by Bauer Excavating in the amount of \$21,525.

Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Abigail Donovan/David J. Lang

No Report

COMMUNITY EVENTS – Abigail Donovan/Michael Mary/Brian Fashian

Mr. Fashian announced the December 3 Light Up was well attended and a success.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Paul F. Getz/David J. Lang

No Report

MS4 – Brian J. Fashian

MS4 information continues to be added to the borough's social media for MS4 compliance as well as lobby postings.

PERSONNEL/PUBLIC WORKS – Abigail Donovan/Michael V. Mary

No Report

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz/Brian J. Fashian

Mr. Getz reported 2024 COG meetings will be divided between Sewickley Library and Leetsdale Borough Building.

FINANCE – Michael V. Mary/Brian J. Fashian

PA Municipal Service Company – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Fashian to approve PAMS Appendix A, 2024 rate structure. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Holly Ridge Web Design – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Fashian to approve Holly Ridge Web Design as the borough’s website administrator. Motion unanimously carried by roll call

Ord. 1016, Tax Millage – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Fashian to adopt Ord, 1016, raising the borough millage by one mil to 5.955. Mr. Mary added this was the borough’s first tax increase in four years and was the result of rising prices for doing business and the Ohio Twp, Police contract but the borough is still in the 1/3 lowest group in the county for taxes. Motion carried by roll call with Messrs. Lenz and Getz voting nay.

2024 Budget – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Fashian to adopt the 2024 budget in the amount of \$2,357,690. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Bill List – MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Fashian to approve the bill list with the following additions: Bauer Excavating in the amount of \$21,525 for Vinegar Hollow. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

ZONING – Abigail Donovan/Paul F. Getz

18 Hiland Avenue – Variance application submitted by property owner requesting this residential property be permitted to be a part-time short-term rental. Mr. Getz stated the Zoning Hearing Board unanimously denied the request; Borough Ord. No, 1008 allows short term rentals in an R-3 district only. Pres. Yurkovich added this would be considered “spot zoning”.

OLD BUSINESS

Allegheny Avenue – Pres. Yurkovich has been in recent contact with West View Authority and has been informed WVA still plans to repave Allegheny Avenue this season from the summer water main break.

NEW BUSINESS

2024 Banner Community – Pres. Yurkovich announced the borough has again reached Banner Community status.

Reappointments

Planning Commission – MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to reappoint William Rumpf to the Planning Commission Board to a term that expires 12/31/2027. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Vacancy Board – MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Lenz to reappoint Don Cahill to the Vacancy Board to a term that expires 12/31/2024. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Avonworth Community Park Advisory Board – MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Fashian to reappoint Melissa Donovan, Brian Geisler, Samantha Gray, Tamara Serafini to the ACP Advisory Board to a term that expires 1/31/25. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pres. Yurkovich took this opportunity to thank Mr. Lang for serving on council to fill the vacancy when Mr. Helfrich left due to work schedule; he thanked Mr. Fashian for continuing to serve several terms and thanked Mr. Getz for his “unmatched expertise” and knowledge of the workings of the borough.

ADJOURN

MOTION by Mr. Lenz, second by Mr. Lang to Adjourn the December 13, 2023, council meeting at 6:40 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary