EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2026

Council Members Present – Abigail Donovan; Paul F. Getz, CBO; Lucas Leighty; Michael V. Mary; John Tadler; Kevin Yurkovich
Absent – Jess Boyd
Others Present – Chaz Bolte, Mayor; Robert L. McTiernan, Esq.; Dennis J. Flynn, P.E.; Cathy Jones, Borough Secretary

President Michael V. Mary called the September 9, 2026, council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the August 12, 2026, Minutes were considered for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL
MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Ms. Donovan to approve the August 12, 2026, Minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MAYOR REPORT – Chaz Bolte
Public Safety: OTPD: 160 calls; EVFC: 44 calls; QRS: 11 calls
Mayor Bolte reported the community mural has been installed on the Comfy House building, corner of North and Center Avenues.
Via FaceTime, Mayor Bolte presented a proclamation to Mike Fincke, on his recent retirement from the NASA space program. Mayor Bolte also presented a proclamation to Ed and Alma Fincke for their community involvement and support of Mike during his tenure at NASA.

SOLICITOR REPORT – Robert L. McTiernan, Esq.
Vape Shop Ordinance - The proposed vape shop ordinance has been tabled in order to consolidate additional information.

Allegheny County Vacant Lot Recovery Program – Several residents are interested in vacant lots adjacent to their properties. Sol. McTiernan recommended the vacant lot recovery program through Allegheny County for council's consideration. A resolution was prepared by the solicitor.
MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Tadler to adopt Res. 2026-09 to participate in the Vacant Lot Recovery Program through Allegheny County Redevelopment Authority. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

ENGINEER REPORT – Dennis J. Flynn, P.E.
2025 SHACOG O&M CCTV - MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Tadler to authorize Payment #1 and Final to State Pipe in the amount of $14,868.07 for corrective action work. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.
Small Water & Sewer Grant –Reimbursement in the amount of $293,899 will be submitted to ALCOSAN.
Mayernik Field Lighting – This is a grant-funded project; Musco received the contract award; a new quote was submitted which was lower than original bid; an asphalt walkway may be eligible to be funded through this reduction.
2026 Road Paving -Youngblood Paving will schedule paving work towards the end of September. Discussion followed as to paving Locust Street or pave temporarily; allow settling, then pave in spring. Mr. Getz reminded council that Locust Street is a state road and the best practice for paving should be followed. Mayor Bolte added waiting is a better idea; but temporary patching would need addressed this season. Mr. Flynn stated WVWA would not be using cold patch; binder would be laid then paved in 2027.

CDBG YR53 - Pre-apps are due this week; Mr. Flynn will coordinate with QVCOG re ADA ramps.
GIS – The GIS program will be updated to include ADA ramps.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Abigail Donovan/JohnTadler
No Report

COMMUNITY EVENTS – Jessica Boyd/Abigail Donovan
Halloween Parade will be held Saturday, October 24 at 10 a.m. Pre-registration for residents ages 12 and under will be held at the borough office during the week of October 19.

GRANTS – Paul F. Getz/Michael V. Mary
Mr. Leighty distributed a press release on the recent WalkWorks grant he submitted.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Paul F. Getz/Lucas Leighty
No Report

PERSONNEL/PUBLIC WORKS – Jessica Boyd/Abigail Donovan
No Report

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz, CBO
Refuse/Recycling Contract – Res. 2026-08 - MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Leighty authorizing participation in the QVCOG 2027-2031 solid waste and recycling contract with Waste Management and electing hauler-direct billing. Discussion: Waste Management bid was lower than other bids received. Notables: Recycling will be weekly; once per month pick up of bulk items and a quarterly pick up for e-waste; 8 bag limit weekly; no automated arm pickups; billing through Waste Management; Contract begins January 1, 2027; informational postcard will be sent to residents; glass will continue to be recycled curbside; Avalon and Sewickley will maintain their drop off dumpsters.. Motion carried by roll call; Mr. Yurkovich voted nay.

Bulk Rock Salt Contract – MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Leighty to rescind the bulk rock salt contract through SHACOG and join with QVCOG for bulk rock salt.. Discussion: Mr. Getz noted no contract had been signed with SHACOG. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.
MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Tadler to authorize council president to accept the lowest salt bid received as handled through QVCOG or SHACOG and execute the contract. Bid opening is in a few weeks. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

PA Resource Council (PRC) in conjunction with QVCOG will hold a recycling event at Buncher Industrial Park, Leetsdale, on October 17; pre-registration is required at PRC.org.

ZONING – Abigail Donovan/JohnTadler
None

FINANCE – Abigail Donovan/Lucas Lieghty
Bill List - MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Getz to approve the bill list as presented with the following additions: Comcast $123.59; Cummins Power $817.73; The Electric Company $2357.50; Gateway Engineers $22,665.75; PA One Call $54.16; Tri State Maintenance $670.00. Motion carried by roll call; Mr. Yurkovich voted nay.

2027 Budget - Committees should submit projects to the finance committee for 2027 budget consideration.

Pres. Mary reported during a recent power outage, the borough generator did not respond. Cummins Power will be contacted to check out the generator as to why this happened, without charging the borough a service call, as the generator was just serviced the past month.

NEW BUSINESS
None

OLD BUSINESS
Mr. Leighty requested an update on the Center Avenue Bridge lights that are out. Mr. Mary reminded council that two of the five lights are out; Duquesne Light proposal was to double the monthly cost for these once changing the lights from Halogen to LED. This is a PRT-owned bridge and PRT has handled outages in the past.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Resident from 281 Meadow Street questioned how the invasive Japanese knotweed that is taking over at the end of Courtney, top of Plummer; on Vista and on Eicher Road can be controlled. Pres. Mary replied applying a poison to control invasive species; i.e., glyphosate, cannot be handled through Emsworth DPW only through a licensed contractor, but he will speak with Mr. Fashian about this. Mr. Tadler informed council that through an invasive species app, one can log invasive species and the state will map for eradication.

ADJOURN
MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Tadler to Adjourn the September 9, 2026, meeting to an executive session of council for discussion of potential litigation at 7:20 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary