

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Meeting Minutes – July 8, 2026

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

President Michael V. Mary called the July 8, 2026, council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the June 10, 2026, Minutes were considered for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Ms. Donovan to approve the June 10, 2026, Minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote; Messrs. Mary and Tadler abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Josie Ramsey – 240 Greenwood Avenue, is concerned about e-bikes and dirt bikes young children are riding on the street and sidewalks; they do not obey stop signs and at night there are no lights on the bikes. Chief Hanny replied officers are more alert to these riders and education awareness is the key.

MAYOR REPORT – Michael V. Mary for Mayor Bolte

Public Safety: OTPD: 173 calls; EVFC: 42 calls; QRS: 13 calls

In honor of the borough's 130th birthday, Mayor Bolte will sponsor a cake and ice cream social Tuesday, July 14 (the borough's incorporation date) from 5-7 p.m. outside the borough building. Mr. Yurkovich questioned funding for this event and using borough property as council was unaware of the event. Pres. Mary acknowledged the mayor had taken this event on himself and not addressed it with council; Pres. Mary had requested community events be involved, but they were not contacted.

SOLICITOR REPORT – Robert L. McTiernan, Esq.

No Report.

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

Spring Street Storm Sewer – Project is estimated at \$197,150 with an 85% grant; Borough match is 15%. Gateway requested council's confirmation to proceed with design and specs this year or delay until 2027. adding it is a budget item; with a 3-year grant deadline. Pres. Mary Mary stated this was not in the 2026 budget. Action tabled.

2026 Paving Program - Pre-construction meeting with Youngblood will be held July 22 at 1 p.m.; paving to begin in August. CDBG YR50 ADA ramps will be completed prior to the paving program.

Mayernik Field Lighting – Project awarded to Musco Lighting; project closeout date is June 2028.

ADA Ramps – Re-bid revealed two additional contractors, Palmieri and Youngblood, which met Allegheny County's two bidder requirement (previous bid deadline had one contractor responding); Palmeri was low bidder at \$25,280. Following review from QVCOG and Allegheny County, this project is expected to be awarded to Palmieri.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Abigail Donovan

No Report

COMMUNITY EVENTS – Jessica Boyd/ Abigail Donovan

The Union Pacific Railroad “Big Boy” No. 4014 is making its way across the United States and will pass through Emsworth on Saturday, July 11 ETA 5 p.m. then to a stopover in Leetsdale and an overnight at Conway Yards.

North Boroughs Community Day will be held at Avalon Park on New Brighton Road on Saturday, July 11, 6 p.m.; fireworks at dusk.

Avon Club will hold a Community Day at Marmo Park on Sunday, July 12 beginning at 2 p.m.

GRANTS – Paul F. Getz/Michael V. Mary

No Report

INFRASTRUCTURE – Paul F. Getz/Lucas Leighty

Mr. Leighty reported he is applying for a WalkWorks community outreach grant. Sol. McTiernan advised the grant consideration would need a consensus of council and an addition to the Agenda.

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Tadler to add to the Agenda the WalkWorks Grant. Discussion: Mr. Yurkovich requested the amount of the grant; grant is \$3K with no matching borough funds. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Tadler to authorize Mr. Leighty to apply for the pre-planning WalkWorks grant in the amount of \$3K. Motion unanimously carried by roll call,

PERSONNEL/PUBLIC WORKS – Jessica Boyd/Abigail Donovan

Mr. Mary reported a large tree fell from the dead lot at Walliston and Center Avenues, a tree service was called to remove.

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz, CBO

SR 65 Paving Project – COG is requesting Ohio River Boulevard communities pass a resolution requesting PennDOT to perform a traffic safety study before beginning the paving project along Ohio River Boulevard, which is scheduled to begin in two years.

Refuse/Recycling Contract – Refuse/Recycling contract with Waste Management terminates at the end of 2026. QVCOG brought a consultant on board to spec and then the contract will be bid in August. Mr. Yurkovich reported on information he received from Sharpsburg relative to the refuse contract and added although he reached out to be part of the refuse discussion, he was never contacted for any meeting. Mr. Yurkovich added Ross Twp. and West View have both gone with County Hauling in lieu of Waste Management and stated QVCOG has been zero help to the borough any time there is an issue. Mr. Getz stated he will request the QVCOG Director to add Mr. Yurkovich to future zoom refuse meetings.

ZONING – Abigail Donovan

Pres. Mary reported he has been in contact with The Harshman Group re zoning restrictions for AirBnBs that continue to operate in the borough. Mr. Yurkovich added a short term rental can operate in an R-3 district only and questioned why Harshman Group would not send a violation letter immediately and then file with the magistrate.

FINANCE – Abigail Donovan

Bill List - MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Getz to approve the bill list as presented with the following additions: Comcast \$122.87; PA DEP \$500; WB Mason \$126.74; Gateway Engineers \$23,864.25; ALCOSAN \$176,175.59; Traffic Systems \$7846. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS

Res. No. 2026-05 – Shade Tree Committee. MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Tadler to adopt Res. No. 2026-05 to authorize the formation of a Shade Tree Committee. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Res. No. 2026-06 – TreeVitalize Grant. MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Tadler to adopt Res. No. 2026-06 to authorize the grant submission for the TreeVitalize program. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

NEW BUSINESS

Vape Shop Ordinance - Update to the borough's zoning ordinance to include vape shops/dispensary. Sample ordinance was distributed for council's consideration; comments should be sent to Pres. Mary and Sol. McTiernan for the final draft before advertising for a public hearing. Action tabled.

West View Water Authority Meters – Mr. Yurkovich reported West View Water Authority did not inform Greenwood Avenue residents before changing indoor meters to outdoor meters; no letters, no door hang tags, no communication. This will be communicated to the West View Water Authority project manager.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ellen Conrad Winslow, 40 Kilbuck Street, thanked council for their consideration and ultimate approval for initiating a Shade Tree Committee and for authorizing application to TreeVitalize. Ms. Conrad-Winslow volunteered to be part of this committee.

Mr. Yurkovich noticed a worker for NPL (Columbia Gas contractor for line upgrade work) urinate into a jug and then dump the contents onto his yard. Mr. Yurkovich reported this to a crew leader. Further, Mr. Yurkovich reported the line in his basement was going to be left for him to saw cut and close. After discussion with the crew leader, this work was completed; Mr. Yurkovich was sympathetic to residents who may be targeted for unfinished work.

ADJOURN

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Tadler to Adjourn the July 8, 2026, meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary