

EMSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
171 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Meeting Minutes – March 12, 2025

Council Members Present – Abigail Donovan; Paul F. Getz; Daniel Lenz; Michael V. Mary; Kevin Wisniewski; Kevin Yurkovich
Council Member Absent: Kathleen Dine
Others Present – Jessica Boyd, Mayor; Robert L. McTiernan, Esq.; Dennis J. Flynn, P.E.; Cathy Jones, Borough Secretary

President Kevin Yurkovich called the March 12, 2025, meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, the February 12, 2025, Minutes were considered for approval.

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Mr. Mary to approve the February 12, 2025, Minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote; Mr. Lenz voted nay.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MAYOR REPORT – Jessica Boyd

Public Safety: OTPD: 120 calls; EVFC: 42 calls; QRS: 15 calls

SOLICITOR REPORT – Robert L. McTiernan, Esq.

Sisters of the Holy Family Nazaeth, USA, Inc. – Appeal has been filed before Judge McGinley.

Prevailing Wage – Following up from last month's meeting, the solicitor discussed the Prevailing Wage Act which covers projects in excess of \$25K, usually resulting in higher costs due to prevailing wages being paid as calculated by the Dept. of Labor & Industry. Sol. McTiernan discussed the exception for "maintenance" work but cautioned the courts have interpreted this narrowly and that "reconstruction", "alternation" and "repair" projects are all covered.

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

2025 Road Paving Program – Bid Opening held 3/10/2025; three bids were received. MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Ms. Donovan on the recommendation of Gateway Engineers to award the 2025 Road Paving Program to El Grande Industries in the amount of \$236,665, Base Bid \$201,440 (Huntington) and plus Add Alternate 1 in the amount of \$22,225 (DPW and Salt Shed parking lot, Western Avenue). Discussion: Mr. Mary noted manhole inlet replacements were much lower on two other bids; Mr. Flynn noted the two other bids had higher results in other areas than El Grande. Ms. Donovan questioned if Gateway had experience working with El Grande. Mr. Flynn replied Gateway Engineers has worked with El Grande in several other communities and were satisfied with their work. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

Spring Street - Zim Contracting will be working on the sinkhole on Spring Street which will repair the erosion at the Duquesne Light pole. A Small Water & Sewer Grant can be applied for the additional end wall and pipe replacement work that is estimated to cost \$220K. MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Wisniewski, to approve Gateway Engineers to apply for a Small Water & Sewer Grant for the end wall and pipe replacement. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

SHACOG Joint Bid for Pipe Lining, Year 19 – MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Ms. Donovan to participate in the SHACOG Year 19 Joint Bid for Pipe Lining Survey. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

SHACOG Joint Bid for Pipe Lining, Year 15 – MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Mary to participate in the SHACOG Year 15, O&M Preventive Maintenance Survey. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOROUGH PROPERTY – Abigail Donovan

Mr. Flynn distributed a printout of Marmo Park Improvements Phase 2. The borough was the recipient of a \$99,800 grant through Rep. Venkat for park improvements. It is estimated this amount would only cover the new soft surface. Discussion followed as to keeping this grant or return it and then apply for a \$450K grant (estimate increase from \$365K two years ago) which is the estimate to replace the entire playground. This grant carries a 50/50 match stipulation. DCNR requires a certified soft surface for grant consideration. Another grant deadline for \$225K is due by the end of March for consideration; and, if successful, the borough would keep the \$99,800. It was decided to apply for both grants. MOTION by Ms. Donovan, second by Mr. Wisniewski to authorize Gateway Engineers to apply for a DCNR grant in the amount of \$450K, 50-50 match for Marmo Park Improvements Phase 2 and a DCNR grant for \$225K. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
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COMMUNITY EVENTS – Abigail Donovan

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 19, at 10 a.m. at Marmo Park. Pre-registration will be held at the Borough Office beginning April 14 for residents 10 years of age and under.

Spring Shred Event will be held Saturday, March 22, 10-11:30 a.m. at the Franklin Park Municipal Building and is sponsored through State Rep. Venkat.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Paul F. Getz

RCC will begin the sanitary sewer work on Walliston Avenue and the catch basin replacement on Allegheny Avenue shortly. Zim Excavating will begin the work on Spring Street addressing the erosion and adding a catch basin at the light pole.

PERSONNEL – Kevin Wisniewski

No Report

PUBLIC WORKS – Michael V. Mary

The snowplows have been removed from the DPW trucks in anticipation of spring.

QVCOG – Paul F. Getz

In conjunction with Tree Pittsburgh, one hundred young trees (2-gallon pots) will be given away on Saturday, April 12 at Avalon Pool parking lot from Noon-2 p.m. Additional information and registration is on the borough web site and QVCOG web site.

FINANCE – Michael V. Mary, Jr.

Bill List - MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Getz, to approve the bill list with the following additions: Columbia Gas \$93.18; OTPD \$579.26; Tri State Maintenance \$540. Motion unanimously carried by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Municipal Risk Management – MRM Trust is seeking a Delegate from participating municipalities. Mr. Getz was interested in the position. MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Wisniewski to appoint Paul F. Getz to as the Delegate to the MRM Trust. Motion carried by voice vote; Mr. Getz abstained.

COUNCIL RESIGNATION

Kathleen Dine submitted a letter of resignation effective March 10, 2025. Pres. Yurkovich stated he appreciates when new residents want to get involved but reiterated the fiasco from 2024: Ben Nalevanko resigned 1/31/2024; William Bauer resigned 4/10/24; Alex Nalevanko resigned 11/24; and Kathy Dine resigns 3/25. Pres. Yurkovich recognizes the time and effort put forth by some current council members and lauded Mr. Getz's on-going service to his community and added the borough secretary is a wealth of knowledge; but, when someone gets elected to a council position and taxpayer money is spent on a name plate, business cards, training, etc. and then the person abruptly resigns, it is a total waste of revenue.

MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Wisniewski, to accept the resignation of Kathleen Dine from Emsworth Council. Motion unanimously carried by roll call. Mr. Mary stated a letter of interest was received from a resident. MOTION by Mr. Mary, second by Mr. Wisniewski to appoint John Tadler to the vacancy. Sol. McTiernan noted with the 30-day window there is sufficient time to advertise for this vacancy and added this term ends December 2025. The motion, seconded, was withdrawn; Ms. Donovan will post on the borough's social media platforms; also the borough's web site and bulletin board will be posted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

MOTION by Mr. Getz, second by Ms. Donovan to Adjourn the March 12, 2025, meeting at 7 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY JONES
Borough Secretary