

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 18, 2023

MEETING was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council President Joseph T. Hoeppe presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Joseph T. Hoeppe, Mr. David T. Aloe, Mr. Ivan T. Hofmann, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Genter, Mrs. Katherine D. Larsen, Mayor Gary L. Smith, Borough Manager John F. Schwend, and Mr. Brendan Lucas representing the Borough Solicitor.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on March 21, 2023 were presented to Council. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second by Mr. Hofmann to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from March 21, 2023. All present voted in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. After brief discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORT for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. Mrs. Larsen asked about budgeting for street tree maintenance. Mr. Schwend explained that the Beaver Road pruning program occurred in early spring. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of April 2023 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$200,935.92 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$29,536.00 were presented to Council as per the following list.

Scheduled Expenditures Account

90	Davey Tree Experts	Shade Tree Pruning	\$5,500.00
91	Garvin Boward Beitko	Engineering Fees	\$2,316.25
92	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineering Fees	\$3,576.44
93	Pittsburgh Public Safety	Police Bulletproof Vests	\$1,255.00
94	Robert Crusan	Arborist Fees	\$12,607.24
95	Suburban Insulation	Salt Shed Insulation	\$2,038.00
96	TransAssociates Engineering	Engineering Fees	\$2,243.07

Mr. Schwend noted that invoices for Mr. Robert Crusan, Borough Arborist included reimbursements for work performed for the Woodland Road Master Planting Plan, which has been approved by the Shade Tree Commission. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mrs. Genter that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$200,935.92, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$29,536.00. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$1,220.88 to the Borough for the month. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

POLICE REPORT for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

FIRE REPORT for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. After review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

BUILDING PERMIT AND ZONING PERMIT REPORTS for the month of March 2023 were presented to Council. After discussion, the reports were ordered received and filed.

MS4 UPDATE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. After discussion, the report was ordered received and filed.

QUAKER VALLEY COG REPORT for the month of March 2023 was presented to Council. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

At this time, Mr. Hoeppe announced that there would be a change to the order of the Agenda, and Council would recognize Mr. David Genter with Testimonial Resolution 2023-01.

TESTIMONIAL RESOLUTION 2023-01 – RECOGNIZING MR. DAVID GENTER: Mayor Smith read the Testimonial Resolution 2023-01, in recognition of Mr. David Genter’s retirement from the Zoning Hearing Board, and his commitment to the Borough of Edgeworth. Mr. Genter thanked Mayor Smith and Council for their kind words, and expressed gratitude for being able to serve the community. A motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Hofmann to adopt Testimonial Resolution 2023-01. All present voted in favor of the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Minutes from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority meeting were received.
- B. Minutes from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority meeting were received.
- C. Correspondence was received from Mr. Kevin Brett, Borough Engineer, related to the Church Lane Sewer Lining project. Mr. Brett outlined the error in calculating proper pipe size, and stated that a full refund of engineering fees accrued for the project to date would be refunded. Mr. Schwend stated that grant funding was not impacted by the error, and Mr. Brett has agreed to apply for grant funding for the remainder of the sewer line at no cost to the Borough. After discussion, Council thanked Mr. Schwend for the update.
- D. Correspondence was received from the Leetsdale Borough Fourth of July Committee regarding fundraising requests to assist with their event. Mr. Schwend stated that the Borough provides firework access, as well as police assistance during the event. Mayor Smith suggested that information detailing how to donate be placed on the Borough website for residents to contribute if they wish.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Hugh St. Martin - 609 Maple Lane
Mr. Charles Harris – 526 Irwin Drive
Mr. Jim Miller – Sewickley Academy
Mr. Glen Sovich – Leet Township

Mr. William Lang – 617 Maple Lane
Ms. Darlene Nowak – 526 Irwin Drive
Mr. Joseph Galbraith – Gateway Engineers

OLD BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING HIRING OF PENSION FUND MANAGER: Mr. Hofmann stated that the Finance Committee and Mr. Chris Englebert, the Borough's pension consultant, met to review supplemental information requested from the three final pension fund managers respondents. After full consideration and discussion, the Committee recommends hiring AndCo as the Borough's pension fund manager. Mr. Hofmann noted that AndCo's fee structure, experience with municipal pension, and diverse portfolio would be a great asset to the Borough. He also thanked Mr. Englebert for his expertise and guidance throughout the process. Mrs. Genter agreed, and expressed support for AndCo's hiring. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to hire AndCo to be the Borough's pension fund manager. All present voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION OF LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION – SEWICKLEY ACADEMY NICHOLS FIELD, 624 BEAVER ROAD: Mr. Jim Miller came before Council to present the preliminary and final land development for Sewickley Academy's (the Academy) Nichols Field, located at 624 Beaver Road. Mr. Miller outlined proposed changes, including reorienting the baseball field, installing turf in the infield, paving the existing gravel parking lot and walkway to remain in its current footprint, installing new fencing, goalposts, and scoreboards, replacing existing dugouts, replacing bleachers to comply with safety regulations, repairing the existing concession stand, and completing additional aesthetic improvements to the site. No lighting, sound, or additional structures are proposed, and existing soccer, lacrosse, and tennis facilities would remain in their present location. Mr. Miller discussed the parking lot, and stated that after discussions with Allegheny County Conservation District, it was determined that paving the existing gravel lot is not considered earth disturbance, and therefore the Academy's plan is beneath one acre of earth disturbance and does not require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. As part of the application, the Academy is requesting two waivers from provisions of the Borough Code related to curbing and sidewalk requirements. Mr. Miller addressed the waiver requests with Council, and stated that the stormwater management plan developed for the parking lot is designed for water to flow into a rain garden, whereas concrete vertical curbs would prevent the water from entering the system. Wedge curbs are proposed instead. Additionally, sidewalk installation along Beaver Road and Little Sewickley Creek Road would result in a sidewalk with no connectivity to other walk ways, which could result in a dangerous situation. Mr. Miller stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the application, and recommended approval conditioned upon the Academy satisfying all outstanding items contained in the Borough Engineer's review letter.

Mr. Hoepp asked whether paving the existing gravel will result in water runoff issues. Mr. Joseph Galbraith from Gateway Engineers explained that the stormwater management plan designed for the site will catch runoff and slowly release it, resulting in an overall improvement to the site. Mrs. Larsen asked why the soccer and lacrosse fields are not included in the turf plan. Mr. Miller explained that turf installation is considered earth disturbance, and in order to comply with all regulations related to NPDES permitting, installing turf on all fields results in requirements that the Academy is unable to meet. Mrs. Larsen also asked if overflow parking is included on the plan. Mr. Miller stated that while the parking lot footprint is not changing, painted lines would be included on the pavement to maximize parking spaces. After further discussion regarding the waiver requests, a motion was made by Mr. Hoepp with a second from Mr. Hofmann that waivers be granted from Section 113-24.A.1 related to curbing requirements, and from Section 113-24.B.1 related to sidewalk requirements. All present voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Schwend stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the application, and recommended approval conditioned upon the Academy satisfying all outstanding items contained in the Borough Engineer's review letter, and that the Academy receive the necessary waiver requests from Borough Council.

Outstanding items from the Borough Engineer's review letter include accurately depicting property lines and contour lines on the drawings, pricing and quantity estimates that must be submitted for review, clarifications regarding stormwater management runoff calculations and data, and the preparation of an Operations and Maintenance Agreement. Mr. Miller and Mr. Galbraith expressed confidence that all outstanding items will be met or clarified in a timely manner. Additionally, the Traffic Engineer recommended that a previously installed crosswalk across Beaver Road be replaced. Mr. Miller stated that the crosswalk will be replaced, and current signs depicting a crosswalk would remain. Mr. Hofmann expressed concern over traffic along Beaver Road, and stressed that motorists should be prepared for the crosswalk. Mr. Miller stated that the Academy would look into installing a flashing sign. Chief Burlett stated that flashing signs may be appropriate for the area, and will review the current traffic situation. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Larsen to approve the Sewickley Academy land development application for Nichols Field, located at 624 Beaver Road. A roll call vote was taken, and all members voted unanimously in favor.

ACTION CONCERNING TREE INVENTORY UPDATE: Mr. Schwend stated that completing a shade tree inventory update was included in the 2023 Scheduled Expenditures budget, and will update and expand upon the inventory created by a Borough intern in 2017. PlanIt Geo has worked with the Borough Arborist in the past, and provided a reasonable quote for the update. The Shade Tree Commission has recommended completing the update in order to have accurate information regarding the health and species of each shade tree in the Borough. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mrs. Larsen to approve the tree inventory update, to be completed by PlanIt Geo at a cost of \$5,700.00. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING ROCK SALT CONTRACT – EXERCISING FIRST OPTION YEAR: Schwend stated that the first option year is to extend the contract with Cargill Inc. for rock salt for another year, until June 30, 2024. The price per ton is expected to increase from \$88.96 per ton to \$90.15 per ton, dependent upon fuel price adjustments. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Hofmann to exercise the first option year in the rock salt contract with Cargill, Inc. All present voted in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION: Mayor Smith read a proclamation celebrating the importance of planting and maintaining trees in our community, and declared April 28, 2023 as Arbor Day in the Borough of Edgeworth. Mr. Schwend stated that recognizing Arbor Day is a key component of being recognized a Tree City USA, and showcases the Borough's commitment to sustainable tree planting practices. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Aloe to formally recognize April 28, 2023 as Arbor Day. All present voted in favor of the motion.

LGA INTERNSHIP UPDATE: Administrative Assistant Ellen Politi stated that after completing interviews for the Local Government Academy's municipal internship program, the sidewalk inventory intern position was offered to and accepted by Alex Clifford. Mr. Clifford, a Leetsdale resident, is a current sophomore studying environmental science and sustainability at Allegheny College. Mr. Clifford has experience with GIS mapping and an interest in local government, and will begin the internship on May 23rd. After brief discussion, Council thanked Mrs. Politi for the update.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager