

EDGEWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 19, 2023

MEETING was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council President Joseph T. Hoepp presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Joseph T. Hoepp, Mr. David T. Aloe, Mr. Ivan T. Hofmann, Mr. Gregory J. Marlovits, Mr. Daniel S. Wilson, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Genter, Mrs. Katie 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 November 21, 2023 were presented to Council. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mrs. Genter to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2023. All present voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Hoepp stated that there would be a change to the order of the agenda, and Council would consider the promotion of Patrolman William Och to the position of Lieutenant, found on the Agenda under New Business.

ACTION CONCERNING PROMOTION OF OFC. WILLIAM OCH TO THE POSITION OF POLICE LIEUTENANT: After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Wilson to approve the promotion of Patrolman William Och to the position of Lieutenant in the Edgeworth Police Department. All present voted in favor of the motion. At this time, Mayor Smith administered the oath of office to Lt. Och, and he was presented with his badge.

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

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

BILLS PAYABLE for the month of December 2023 were presented to Council as follows: General Expenditures, in the amount of \$306,676.01 and Scheduled Expenditures, in the amount of \$203,655.40 were presented to Council as per the following list.

<u>Scheduled Expenditures Account</u>			
149	Garvin Boward Beitko	Engineering Fees	\$1,157.25
150	Lennon Smith Souleret	Engineering Fees	\$4,337.17
151	Motorola Solutions	Police Equipment	\$2,525.02
152	N&N Landscaping	Pine Rd. Culvert	\$165,740.83
153	Penn Landscape and Cement	Sidewalk Repair/Tree Planting	\$19,758.13
154	Pittsburgh Socialights	Tree Lighting	\$3,300.00
155	PlanIt Geo	Tree Inventory	\$3,500.00
156	Robert Crusan	Arborist Fees	\$3,080.00
157	Signs By Tomorrow	PW Dump Truck Logo	\$257.00

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second by Mr. Wilson that a voucher be drawn on the General Account in the amount of \$306,676.01, and a voucher be drawn on the Scheduled Expenditures Account in the amount of \$203,655.40. The motion was unanimously carried by all members in attendance.

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

DISTRICT JUSTICE REPORT for the month of November 2023 was presented to Council. District Justice Robert L. Ford, for District Court No. 05-03-02, reported remitting fines in the amount of \$450.25 to the Borough for the month. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

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

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

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

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

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

QUAKER VALLEY COG REPORT for the month of November 2023 was presented to Council. Mr. Schwend stated that the COG has received a proposal from Mr. Dan Cohen of the Cohen Law Group to review franchise fee agreements and perform an audit within COG municipalities, which will be discussed in future meetings. After discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Minutes from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority meeting were received.
- B. Minutes from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority meeting were received.
- C. The resignation of Mr. Ron Casper from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority was received. Council thanked Mr. Casper for his many years of service on the Authority, and wished him well in his future endeavors. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to accept the resignation of Mr. Ron Casper from the Edgeworth Municipal Authority. All present voted in favor of the motion.

At this time, Mr. Hoepf stated that Council would consider Resolution 2023-17, found on the Agenda under Other Business.

TESTIMONIAL RESOLUTION 2023-17 – RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MR. RON CASPER: Mayor Smith read the Testimonial Resolution 2023-17, in recognition of Mr. Casper's service and dedication to the Borough through his ten-year tenure as a member of the Edgeworth Municipal Authority. Mr. Casper thanked Council for their kind words, and elaborated on the growth and success of the Authority over the years. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Wilson to adopt Testimonial Resolution 2023-17. All present voted in favor of the motion.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Ron Casper – 739 Chestnut Road
Mr. Charles Harris – 526 Irwin Drive
Ms. Darlene Nowak – 526 Irwin Drive
Ofc. Nick Adrian – Edgeworth Police Department
Ofc. William Hanlon – Sewickley Police Department
Ofc. Robert McNatt – Sewickley Police Department
Michele Och Claire Partridge
Madelyn Och Christian Edwards
Dylan Och Tyler Edwards
Ryan Och Terry Vita
Teagan Och Karen Vita
Kerry Och Amanda Brugos
Mary Rose Och Pat Brugos
David Lewis Mike Mason
Margie Anderson

OLD BUSINESS:

STREETS COMMITTEE – BEAVER ROAD BRIDGE: Mr. Schwend stated that after reviewing grout and steel plate options, the Borough Engineer recommends placing both options out to bid. Once bids are received, the Streets Committee can further review costs for each option and recommend the best course of action. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Hofmann to authorize the bidding of the Beaver Road Bridge. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING FINAL 2024 BUDGET: Mr. Hoepf asked whether any members of Council had final questions or comments regarding the 2024 budget. With no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Hofmann for a roll call vote on the 2024 budget. Mr. Schwend called the roll, and all members present voted in favor of adopting the 2024 budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACTION CONCERNING RESOLUTION 2023-15 – FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024: Mr. Schwend stated that there was no proposed property tax rate increase in the 2024 budget, and property tax will remain at 4.15 mills. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson with a second from Mrs. Larsen to adopt Resolution 2023-15 – fixing the tax rate for fiscal year 2024 at 4.15 mills. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING RESOLUTION 2023-16 – ELIMINATING CONTRIBUTIONS BY PARTICIPANTS UNDER THE BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN: Mr. Schwend stated that this resolution eliminates police officer contributions into the pension plan under the provisions of Act 600, which is effective for one year. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Aloe with a second from Mr. Marlovits to approve Resolution 2023-16, eliminating police contributions into the pension plan. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING APPOINTMENT OF THE LEETSDALE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY TO ACT AS THE BOROUGH’S BILLING AND COLLECTION AGENT FOR 2024 SEWER CHARGES: Mr. Schwend presented a letter from the Leetsdale Municipal Authority requesting written consent to act as the billing and collection agent for sewer charges in the Borough in 2024. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to appoint the Leetsdale Municipal

Authority as the Borough's billing and collection agent for 2024 sewer charges. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING APPOINTMENT OF THE BOROUGH ENGINEER FOR 2024: Mr. Schwend presented the Lennon Smith Souleret Engineering Inc. fee schedule for 2024, reflecting no increase in rates or fees. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Aloe to appoint Lennon Smith Souleret Engineering, Inc. as the Borough Engineer for 2024. All present voted in favor of the motion.

ACTION CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2024: Mr. Schwend provided a list of proposed meeting dates for 2024, each occurring on the third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm. After review, a motion was made by Mrs. Larsen with a second from Mr. Marlovits to establish the following meeting dates for 2024, beginning at 7:00 pm. All present voted in favor of the motion.

January 16, 2024	July 16, 2024
February 20, 2024	August 20, 2024
March 19, 2024	September 17, 2024
April 16, 2024	October 15, 2024
May 21, 2024	November 19, 2024
June 18, 2024	December 17, 2024

ACTION CONCERNING RESIDENT APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: Mr. Schwend provided a list of residents that serve on various boards and commissions in the Borough with terms expiring at the end of 2023. Each resident agreed to serve another term, and the Personnel Committee recommended Mr. David Aloe to fulfill the vacancy on the Edgeworth Municipal Authority. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Marlovits with a second from Mr. Hofmann to approve the following list of appointments and their terms. Mr. Hoepp, Mr. Hofmann, Mr. Marlovits, Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Genter, and Mrs. Larsen voted in favor of the motion, while Mr. Aloe abstained.

Building Code Board of Appeals:	Mr. Joseph Meier	Term Ending 12/31/2026
Leetsdale Municipal Authority:	Mr. Rick Gradone	Term Ending 12/31/2028
Zoning Hearing Board:	Mrs. Elizabeth Wilson	Term Ending 12/31/2026
Edgeworth Municipal Authority Vacancy:	Mr. David Aloe	Term Ending 12/31/2024

ACTION CONCERNING PURCHASE OF LICENSE PLATE READER SYSTEM: Chief Burlett presented a proposal for two license plate reader systems to be installed in two of the department's patrol vehicles. He explained that the technology reads each license plate that it passes without requiring the officer to hand type each individual plate. The system is automatically updated with respect to stolen vehicles, invalid registration, wants, and warrants. Chief Burlett highlighted the increased safety and productivity the technology will provide the police department. The fee for two license plate readers including installation, warranty, storage and software updates is \$16,470.00 from Motorola Solutions. Mr. Marlovits asked if there is an additional yearly maintenance fee. Mr. Schwend stated that the maintenance fee of \$2,100.00 will be charged yearly. Mr. Aloe asked how officers are notified of a vehicle with a violation. Chief Burlett explained that the technology produces an audio alert and provides a picture of the vehicle. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mrs. Genter to authorize the purchase of two license plate readers from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$16,470.00. All present voted in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

TESTIMONIAL RESOLUTION 2023-18 – RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT DAVID T. ALOE:

Mayor Smith read the testimonial resolution for Mr. David Aloe, in recognition of his twenty-nine year tenure as a member of Borough Council, in addition to his other positions on various boards, commissions, and other community organizations. Mr. Hoepf thanked Mr. Aloe on behalf of Council for his dedication, passion, and service to the Borough upon his term ending on December 31, 2023. Mr. Aloe thanked Council for their kind words. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hofmann with a second from Mr. Wilson to adopt Testimonial Resolution 2023-18. All present voted in favor of the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council entered Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, and returned to regular session at 8:05 p.m.

Mr. Schwend stated that Mrs. Ellen Politi's roles and responsibilities have grown since originally being hired as Administrative Assistant in January of 2019. In addition, her performance of duties during that time period has exceeded expectations, and she has become a trusted resource for Council and department heads as well as for the Borough Manager. Mr. Schwend requested that Council change her title and to create and promote Mrs. Politi to the position of Assistant Borough Manager. Mr. Schwend presented Council with a job description and copies of her most recent performance review. After discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Genter and seconded by Mr. Wilson to promote Mrs. Ellen E. Politi to the position of Assistant Borough Manager. All present voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

John F. Schwend – Borough Manager