

**EAST PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
MINUTES
January 21, 2020**

The January 21, 2020 meeting of the East Pittsburgh Borough Council was called to order by Mary Carol Kennedy at 7:02 p.m. at the Senior Citizen Center located on Grandview Avenue.

Ms. Hartford took the roll:

Present:

Absent:

Mary Carol Kennedy, Council President
Stacy Simon, Council Vice-President
Paul Borkowski, Council Member
Earnest Frazier, Council Member
Jonathan Reyes, Council Member

None

Other:

Seth Abrams, Borough Administrator
Nick Evashavick, Solicitor
Dave Gilliland, Engineer
Denise Hartford, Secretary
David J. Miller, Fire Marshal
Lou Payne, Mayor

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION

Evolve EA, the consulting firm for the BEN Comprehensive plan presented a brief overview of progress to date.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Debra Clark, a resident of East Pittsburgh gave congratulations to the current and new council members. Ms. Clark voiced concerns about the apartments next door to her residence and the neighborhood in general. Council thanked Ms. Clark for raising her concerns.

Ms. Megan McDonough, of Food and Water Watch proposed that Council make 2 motions this evening. First that they make the Ordinance amendments recommended by North Braddock Residents for our Future in August of 2019. The second request is that Council enforce section 806 of the Zoning Ordinance which allows for revocation of a conditional use permit after 2 years of non-action. The Conditional Use Permit for Merrion Oil and Gas was granted in December of 2017.

ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Gilliland reported that the CITF funded projects for paving and demolition bid opening will occur at the TCV COG on 1/7/20. The low bid for the Demolition went to Eveready Contracting in the amount of \$21,200. The low bid for paving was Lutterman Excavating at \$95,371,50.

Mr. Borkowski asked if bids could be separated so that two different companies each performed a portion of the paving or demolition. Mr. Gilliland explained that the bids were set as a package and that individual pieces could not be awarded separately. The total cost of the bids will require a local match in excess of the CITF grant in the amount of \$20,071.50. Mr. Abrams explained that there is funding in the Highway Aid fund to pay the local share for the paving project. The bid opening for the emergency demolition of 530 ½ and 532 Grandview occurred on 23 Jan 2019. The low bid was submitted by Eveready Contracting in the amount of \$18,400.

Ms. Simon made a motion to approve the awarding of the bid for paving of Wood and Christina Alleys and Franklin Ave to Lutterman Excavating in the amount of \$95,371.50. Mr. Reyes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Borkowski made a motion to approve the awarding of the bid for the demolition of 409 Grandview Ave and 527 Bessemer Ave. to Eveready Contracting in the amount of \$21,200. Ms. Simon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Borkowski made a motion to approve the awarding of the bid for the emergency demolition of 530 ½ and 532 Grandview Ave to Eveready Contracting in the amount of \$18,400. Mr. Reyes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gilliland also reported that the manhole repair work will commence on 22 January 2020. Work should take approximately 2 weeks and will result in continued closure of the right hand lane of westbound Rt. 130.

Mr. Gilliland made Council aware of additional grant resources for the building of a playground – the GTRP program through the State DCED. Finally, it was noted that GOLON construction, who is overseeing the Union RR viaduct rehab has been observed to have damaged the catch basins and possibly the sewer system under Electric Ave. Mr. Gilliland will inspect these infrastructure items before Golon finishes the project.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Simon made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2019 meeting as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Frazier made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2020 meeting with corrections. Seconded by Mr. Reyes. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Mr. Reyes made the motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$53,921.50. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion passed unanimously.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT – the report is on file. Ms. Kennedy inquired about the fines levied on the report. Mr. Miller explained that the Magistrate determines the fine based on the compliance history of the defendant and the type of offense.

PUBLIC WORKS – The Borough continues to be pleased with the work of the current crew. Mr. Abrams noted that the stairs going from Grandview Avenue, under Rt. 30 to Linden Ave have missing steps and will need significant work once the weather allows for concrete work. It was also noted that the stairs leading to Prospect Terrace need to be inspected for safety and upkeep.

- c. Setting of committees of Council and chairpersons. The following committee assignments were made:
 - i. Borough Building/Capital Expenses: Ms. Kennedy, chair; Mr. Borkowski
 - ii. Community Development: Mr. Reyes, chair; Ms. Kennedy
 - iii. Finance: Ms. Kennedy, chair; Ms. Simon
 - iv. Parks & Recreation: Mr. Frazier, chair; Mr. Reyes
 - v. Personnel: Ms. Simon, chair; Mr. Borkowski
 - vi. Public Safety: Ms. Simon, chair; Mr. Frazier
 - vii. Public Works: Mr. Borkowski, chair; Mr. Reyes

- d. Motion to put forth recommendations from Food & Water Watch to the Allegheny County Department of Economic Development and to provide for subsequent public hearing and action.
 - i. Motion: Ms. Simon Second: Mr. Reyes. Motion passed unanimously.

- e. Motion to revoke conditional use Merion Oil for failure to take action within 2 years, consistent with section 806 of the Borough Zoning Ordinance.
 - i. Motion: Ms. Simon Second: Mr. Reyes. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE ACTIONS - None

Motion to Adjourn to executive session

Mr. Frazier made a motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:35 pm

The executive session met from 8:40 until 8:50 to discuss litigation issues.

Mr. Frazier made a motion to adjourn at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted


Seth Abrams
Borough Manager