

**EAST PITTSBURGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
August 18, 2020**

The August 18, 2020 meeting of the East Pittsburgh Borough Council was called to order by Mary Carol Kennedy at 7:02 p.m. via video teleconference.

Mr. Abrams 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 Manager  
Nick Evashavik, Solicitor  
Dave Gilliland, Engineer  
Denise Hartford, Secretary  
David Miller, Code Enforcement Officer  
Lou Payne, Mayor

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**ENGINEERS REPORT**

Mr. Gilliland's report is on file. Glenn Engineering will be applying through the PA Small Water & Sewer System grant fund to seek financing for the Linden Mall greening project. Additional business is the release of the CD-47 grant pre-application. Council was asked to consider what projects might be applied for. The application must be submitted by September 11, 2020.

Mayor Payne asked if public works could patch the concrete steps in the interim. Mr. Abrams stated that he would check on DPW's capacity/ability to handle the work.

Mr. Abrams reported that the manhole cover near 515 Ridge is not seated correctly. Mr. Gilliland will have it looked at.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Simon made the motion to approve the July 15, 2020 Council Minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Reyes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Borkowski made the motion to approve the July 21, 2020 Council Minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Reyes. Motion passed with 4 yes and 1 abstention by Ms. Simon.

**MOTION TO PAY BILLS**

Mr. Reyes made the motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 56,427.57  
Seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion passed unanimously.

**FIRE MARSHAL REPORT** – the report is on file. Motion to accept report by Mr. Reyes, and seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion passed unanimously

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Mr. Borkowski reported that the borough is in need of more animal traps. Ms. Kennedy asked if the borough is using humane/live traps. Mr. Abrams reported that the borough is using humane/live traps, but that we are applying for a permit to euthanize groundhogs and skunks since they cannot be relocated.

Ms. Kennedy announced that a new public works laborer had been hired. Mr. Abrams explained the hiring process. Ms. Kennedy also praised the work that OVR did during this shortened summer work season.

Mr. Reyes made a motion to ratify the hiring of Clarence Nesbit at a rate of \$15. Mr. Borkowski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**POLICE** – no report

**Zoning Hearing Board -** No meeting.

**SOLICITOR REPORT**

Mr. Evashavik reported that he and Mr. Abrams worked on an ordinance to amend the current parks ordinance to include the rental of facilities. Mr. Evashavik also discussed a request by Mr. Gumphre to have the Borough consider granting the land next to 99 Center St to Mr. Gumphre or that the Borough maintain/replace the wall. It was determined that the property in question is unincorporated land and the Borough does not have any rights to this land. Mr. Abrams will draft a letter communicating this information and send it to Mr. Evashavik for review.

Motion to accept the Solicitor's report made by Mr. Reyes and seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion passed unanimously.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Payne reported that the American Legion will be holding an event with an outdoor DJ on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a fish fry on Friday the 28<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor thanked Mr. Abrams for the work accomplished over the past year.

Motion to accept the Mayor's report made by Mr. Borkowski and seconded by Ms. Simon. Motion passed unanimously.

**MANAGER'S REPORT** – The activities report is on file. The Borough will have a master's student as an intern to assist with our GIS mapping/inventory projects.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Finances remain in a stable position. Details are in the report. There are approximately \$150,000 in short term liabilities that are not reported. Income continues to be above the prior year by approximately \$200,000.

Mr. Abrams explained that some ordinances are being updated, but to expect more significant changes once the legal review is completed so that entire chapters can be amended as a whole instead of piecemeal.

COMMUNICATIONS – on file

Motion to accept the Manager's report made by Mr. Reyes and seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Mr. Reyes made a motion to ratify the contract with Allegheny County to reimburse the Borough for allowable COVID related expenses. Mr. Borkowski seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Mr. Borkowski made a motion to approve application to the USDA Community Facilities grant program for a project cost of \$48,208. Ms. Simon seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Council was notified that the proposed codification and ordinance will be voted on in September.
4. Mr. Abrams presented a request to purchase a radar display to monitor speed from Traffic Logix in the amount of \$3,209. Mr. Reyes made the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Simon. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion-

1. Reminder that the elected officials have a ben comprehensive plan meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm.
2. Discussion of ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE PLACEMENT OF OBJECTS ON PUBLIC STREETS TO HOLD OR RESERVE PARKING SPACES ON PUBLIC ROADS  
It was agreed that the ordinance would not be enforced during snow emergencies and that the borough would give notice by soft enforcement/tags alerting individuals of enforcement 2 weeks prior to effective date.
3. Discussion of proposed ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 273 OF THE BOROUGH CODE – PARKS AND RECREATION  
The Mayor voiced concern that parking across the street from Quarry field, as there is no barrier to stop people from driving over a cliff edge. It was agreed to strike the rental of a

parking area from the ordinance. Ms. Simon requested a definition of a season. Mr. Abrams responded that other municipalities use the generally accepted definitions of seasons based on traditional sports. A waiver will also be added to the finalized version.

Mr. Frazier noted concerns that there is a basketball net that is placed on Glosser Ave. Mr. Abrams stated that he is developing a plan to turn Glosser into a legal one-way street, as it is technically 2 way even though it is too narrow for 2 lanes of traffic.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Reyes made a motion to adjourn at 8:48 pm. Mr. Borkowski seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seth Abrams', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Seth Abrams  
Borough Manager