

**EAST PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
MINUTES
January 19, 2021**

The January 19, 2021 meeting of the East Pittsburgh Borough Council was called to order by Mary Carol Kennedy at 7:01 p.m. via video teleconference.

Mr. Abrams took the roll:

Present:

Absent:

Mary Carol Kennedy, Council President
Paul Borkowski, Council Member
Earnest Frazier, Council Member
Jonathan Reyes, Council Member (arrived 7:05 pm)

Stacy Simon, Council Vice-President

Other:

Seth Abrams, Borough Manager
Nick Evashavik, Solicitor
Dave Gilliland, Engineer
David Miller, Code Enforcement Officer
Denise Hartford, Secretary

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION

Christine Mondor and Ashley Cox of evolveEA presented information about the Comprehensive Plan to members of Council. The next public meeting will be held via Zoom on 26 January 2021. The website for the Plan is www.bencompplan.org.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Gilliland's report is on file. For CD 46 -Demolition has not been advertised. Street reconstruction of Grandview Ave from Howard to Maple will be advertised on 1/29/21 with a bid opening scheduled for 2/16/21.

Motion to accept the Engineer's report: Mr. Reyes, seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion carried.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Frazier made a motion to accept the Council meeting minutes from December 15, 2020. Motion was seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

Mr. Frazier made a motion to accept the special council meeting minutes from January 4, 2021. Motion was seconded by Mr. Reyes. Motion carried.

Mr. Borkowski made a motion to accept the agenda meeting minutes from January 12, 2021. Mr. Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Mr. Reyes made the motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 158,8991.84. Seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion carried.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT – the report is on file. While working through the concerns with the bowed wall at 529 Center St., received notice that the family of the owner will be repairing the wall and that the property is being sold to a known landlord in the community. 511 Main is being cleaned up and the residents are all temporarily housed.

Motion to accept report by Mr. Reyes and seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS – No report.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Evashavik received an offer from an estate to donate land on the corner of Cliff & Glosser. Council requested additional time to make a decision. Mr. Abrams will research other options and present any options to council. Mr. Evashavik will request for an additional extension to the trust.

Other topics on a lawsuit and potential law suit will be discussed at executive session.

Motion to accept the solicitor's report by Mr. Reyes and seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

POLICE – No report

Zoning Hearing Board - No meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT – No Report

MANAGER'S REPORT – The activities report is on file.

Motion to accept the Manager's report made by Mr. Borkowski and seconded by Mr. Reyes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Mr. Frazier made a motion to Adopt the 2021 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code as amended. Seconded by Mr. Reyes. Motion carried.
2. Mr. Reyes made a motion to adopt the Tax Collector Ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.
3. Mr. Reyes made a motion to approve the placement of disabled parking in front of 404 Howard St. Seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion carried.
4. Mr. Borkowski made a motion to appoint Markus Adams to the office of Mayor for the term to end January 3, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion carried.
5. Mr. Reyes made motion to approve DeBlasio & DeBlasio as appointed auditors for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion carried.
6. Mr. Reyes made a motion to approve DeBlasio & DeBlasio as appointed auditors for the fiscal years ending December 31st of 2021, 2022 and 2023. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.
7. Mr. Borkowski made a motion to appoint Mary Carol Kennedy and Markus Adams as members to the Regional Police Commission. Seconded by Mr. Reyes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION-

We will plan to invite Megan McDonough from Food & Water Watch to meet with Council in March to discuss fundraising options.

Mr. Reyes volunteered to serve as the alternate to the Turtle Creek Valley COG.


Avi Cohen and Issac Sasoon from Tryko Partners presented their plan for the Linden Apartments with an “internet for all” project. Tryko is seeking HUD funding and is seeking a grant from the borough’s economic development agency as a show of support. The project is expected to provide free internet to all residents and improve safety & accountability through video monitoring.

ADJOURNMENT-

Meeting moved to executive session at 8:28 pm by motion from Mr. Reyes and second by Mr. Frazier. To discuss matters of litigation.

Mr. Reyes made a motion to adjourn at 8:47 pm. Mr. Frazier seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted



Seth Abrams
Borough Manager