

**EAST PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
MINUTES
August 17, 2021**

The August 17,2021 meeting of the East Pittsburgh Borough Council was called to order by Mary Carol Kennedy at 7:02 p.m.

Ms. Hartford took the roll:

Present:

Mary Carol Kennedy, Council President
Paul Borkowski, Council Member
Earnest Frazier, Council Member
Jonathan Reyes, Council Member (via teleconference)

Absent:

Stacy Simon, Council Vice-President

Other:

Markus Adams, Mayor
Seth Abrams, Borough Manager
Dave Gilliland, Engineer
Denise Hartford, Secretary
David Miller, Code Officer (via teleconference)

Absent:

Nick Evashavik, Solicitor

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dennis Simon, Collins Ave, WPJWA Board Chair. Mr. Simon provided an update to Council regarding the Wilkesburg-Penn Joint Water Authority's plan to replace the lead supply lines to its service area. Mr. Simon expressed gratitude for the continued paving and demolitions.

Ms. Deborah Grysiak, member of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, Cable Ave. Ms. Grysiak requested that Council consider pouring new curbs on Sycamore St. Ms. Kennedy stated that curb's are the responsibility of the property owner, but that council would take the request under advisement for further discussion.

Ms. Tamara Boyd, From Manna on High Church announced that the basketball clinic was a success, including events involving both the Pennsylvania State Police and a clean up day. Council expressed gratitude for the work that was done for the youth.

ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Gilliland's report is on file.

Mr. Gilliland expects to be able to apply for the CDBG year 48 for the Linden Mall Green project. CDBG funds 65%. GEDTF is also a potential option, but there is no application date at this time.

CD 47 demolitions are under way. 210 Bessemer and 315 Glosser are done, 534 Center has had a basement inspection.

The demolition contractor has placed a bid of \$3,100 to demolish the garage behind 536 Ridge Ave. Mr. Gilliland requested a motion to approve.

Mr. Frazier made a motion to approve the bid of \$3,100 to demolish the garage located at 536 Ridge Ave. Mr. Borkowski seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Gilliland stated that the Trax Alley playground is currently waiting for a final grant award from US Steel to allow us to finalize a budget. Mr. Abrams is working with GameTime for an additional grant award.

The Falls Run Interceptor memorandum of understanding is in circulation. 5 of the 7 municipalities have signed on. East Pittsburgh is one of the 5.

The CD 47 paving, pending bid opening and final cost is slated to be: Prospect Ave, Grandview Ave from Howard to Ridge. Mr. Gilliland recommended changing the area of Prospect Ave. to be paved. Mr. Abrams and Mr. Gilliland will make the determination regarding the reduced area to be paved.

Sealed bids were opened for the construction of a salt storage unit. Mr. Gilliland recommended that the bid be awarded to Creative Enterprises, as the lowest bidder with a bid of \$31,390. Mr. Borkowski made a motion to accept the bid. Mr. Frazier seconded Motion carried.

Mr. Gilliland requested a motion to approve the following projects to be placed on the CD 48 pre-application: Linden Mall Green Space, demolitions of the side building at 537 Linden, paving of Bluff St/Park Ave, 300 block of Grandview, 200-300 blocks of Cliff St., 700-800 blocks of Western Ave, and the 100 block of Arc, the upgrade of 100 streetlights to LEDs, and recreational improvements to the Quarry Field. Motion was made by Mr. Frazier and seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion Carried.

Mr. Gilliland explained a land swap referred to as the Ross/Giles plan. There is no change in zoning. Mr. Frazier made the motion to approve the Ross/Giles plan. Mr. Reyes seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Borkowski made a motion to accept the engineers report. Mr. Frazier seconded. Motion carried.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Frazier made a motion to accept the July 20, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

Ms. Kennedy requested corrections to the August 10, 2021 agenda meeting minutes to reflect the concerns raised by Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Frazier about the lack of funding for the Trax playground project, and the explanation why the playground was not being considered for the CD 48 funding. Ms. Kennedy also requested that the announcement of the Allegheny Together community meetings be added. Mr. Borkowski made a motion to accept the Agenda meeting minutes from August 10, 2021, with corrections. Seconded by Mr. Frazier. Motion carried.

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Mr. Frazier made the motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 157,785.85. Seconded by Mr. Reyes. Motion carried.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT – Mr. Miller’s report is on file. Ms. Kennedy asked about the plan for the apartment units at 811-817 Madison Ave. Mr. Miller explained that an official notice was sent and that he is in contact with the property manager.

Mr. Miller noted that there was a fire at 617 Sagua Alley in early August. It was a relatively small fire, and the owner has relocated the tenant and is working on the repairs.

The plans for the new municipal building are in for review.

Motion to accept report by Mr. Borkowski and seconded by Ms. Reyes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS – No report.

SOLICITOR REPORT – No report.

ZONING HEARING BOARD - No meeting.

MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Adams received a resident concern that the traffic lanes from Beech towards Braddock are confusing and potentially dangerous. The area in question is controlled by PennDOT.

Mayor Adams is reaching out to the youth football team that is using Quarry Field to formalize the use agreement and strengthen the relationship.

Motion to accept the Mayor’s report made by Mr. Frazier and seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

MANAGER’S REPORT – The report is on file and was discussed at the agenda meeting on the July 13th.

Additional information from the last meeting – Mr. Abrams received a resident complaint that the disabled parking space in front of 405 Franklin St, that Council approved in May, 2021, has not been used and is taking up a valuable parking area. Mr. Abrams offered to send an updated parking application to the property requesting the stated need for reserved on street parking. The response will be discussed at the September 14, 2021 agenda meeting.

Motion to approve the Manager’s report made by Mr. Frazier and seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mr. Abrams opened the floor for public hearing for the ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST PITTSBURGH, CHAPTER 283; ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS AND PERMITTING FOR YARD SALES AND FOOD TRUCKS; ESTABLISHING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; EFFECTIVE DATE. No comments were made.

a. Mr. Frazier made a motion to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST PITTSBURGH, CHAPTER 283; ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS AND PERMITTING FOR YARD SALES AND FOOD TRUCKS; ESTABLISHING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; EFFECTIVE DATE. Mr. Reyes seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Abrams opened the floor for a public hearing for the ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 328 OF THE EAST PITTSBURGH BOROUGH CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE VII, COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO BOROUGH RIGHTS- OF-WAY MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE LOCATION, PLACEMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF TOWER -BASED AND NON -TOWER BASED WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES AND SIMILAR INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENTS AND IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; EFFECTIVE DATE; PENALTY. No comments were made.

b. Mr. Borkowski made a motion to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 328 OF THE EAST PITTSBURGH BOROUGH CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE VII, COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO BOROUGH RIGHTS- OF-WAY MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE LOCATION, PLACEMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF TOWER -BASED AND NON -TOWER BASED WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES AND SIMILAR INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENTS AND IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; EFFECTIVE DATE; PENALTY. Mr. Frazier seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Abrams opened the floor for a public hearing for the ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST PITTSBURGH, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, RESCINDING ORDINANCES 735, 801, 801-a 815, 816, 826, 836, 876, 881 AND 915, ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM FOR COLLECTION, STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION, PROCESSING AND DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL WASTE AND RECYCLING; PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION AND REGISTRATION OF COLLECTORS AND HAULERS; PROHIBITING THE DISPOSAL OF DESIGNATED RECYCLABLE MATERIALS WITH MUNICIPAL WASTE; EMPOWERING THE BOROUGH TO ADOPT AND PROMULGATE REASONABLE REGULATIONS AND THE AMENDMENT OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS BY RESOLUTION OF BOROUGH COUNCIL; FIXING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE; SEVERABILITY; EFFECTIVE DATE.

c. Mr. Frazier made a motion to approve The Borough of East Pittsburgh Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

d. Mr. Frazier made a motion to approve RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST PITTSBURGH, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA APPROVING THE PUBLICATION OF DELINQUENT BOROUGH OF EAST PITTSBURGH PROPERTY TAXPAYERS. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

e. Mr. Borkowski made a motion to approve advertisement of the Solid Waste contract to take effect 01/01/2022. Seconded by Mr. Reyes.

f. Mr. Frazier made a motion to approve the RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF THE STEEL VALLEY AUTHORITY'S CHANGE TO THE MAKEUP OF ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Seconded by Mr. Reyes.

g. Mr. Reyes made a motion to authorize Mr. Abrams to sign the Winter Maintenance Contract with PennDOT for 2021-2022, and for 5 subsequent years. Mr. Frazier seconded. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION- Mr. Frazier handed out information about KABOOM! Which provides play equipment grants.

Mr. Reyes noted a conversation with Mr. Carter of the Connect Center. The Center is requesting donations from the Borough. Mr. Abrams and Ms. Kennedy noted that the Community Day is not sponsored by East Pittsburgh, and that the Borough is unable to make a financial donation..

Mr. Frazier made a motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:27 pm to discuss a legal matter. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT-

Mr. Frazier moved to adjourn the executive session and the council meeting at 8:32 pm. Motion was seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Abrams
Borough Manager