

EAST PITTSBURGH BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 9,2023

The May 9,2023 meeting of the East Pittsburgh Borough Council was called to order by Mary Carol Kennedy at 7:01.

Ms. Hartford took the roll:

Present:

Mary Carol Kennedy, Council President
Chad Nicholson, Council Member
Mark Petri, Council Member
Ed Ruane, Council Member

Absent:

Jonathan Reyes, Council Vice President
Nick Evashavik, Solicitor

Other:

Markus Adams, Mayer
Laura Branthoover, Engineer
Denise Hartford, Secretary
David Miller, Code Enforcement

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Tina Doose, Founder and Board Chair of the Mon Metro Chamber of Commerce and Consultant with EOS.

EOS is applying for a grant from the Department of Energy. 20% of the grant must be used in municipalities that are underinvested. An equity plan must be created, and Braddock, East Pittsburgh, Forest Hills, North Braddock, Rankin, and Turtle Creek are being asked to partner to host forums to create this plan. Elected officials, stakeholders, community residents, and businesses will be invited to these forums.

Chad Fitzgerald, EOS Energy Storage

EOS opened about 3 years ago at the 200 building in RIDC Park and now has the 700 building as well. They produce batteries made with zinc and polymers. 90% of the supplies come from America. These batteries can be recycled and will not catch on fire, no toxicity.

250 people have been hired and trained on the job. EOS is looking to hire 700 more people and possibly thousands more. That is why the company is applying for a loan from the Dept. of Energy. It is a huge economic opportunity, and they are willing to invest back into the community if the company does well.

EOS will be sponsoring a JUNETEENTH Celebration on June 16,2023 at their facility and would like borough elected officials to attend.

Ken Defibaugh, of 309 Bessemer mentioned that the car by his house had been moved to the alley. Mr. Miller informed him that the car has been tagged and is on ten-day notice.

Ken also mentioned that the grass at 307 Bessemer is high, and their two dogs have been defecating all over the yard and it is not being cleaned up. He also wanted to inform us of a streetlight flickering on Poplar Way behind his house. The secretary will inform Duquesne Light.

Ms. Kennedy wanted to thank Mr. Defibaugh for being the only resident to volunteer for the clean-up day.

MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS:

Mr. Ruane made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Mr. Nicholson. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Report is on file.

Waiting to hear back from the DEP Small Water & Sewer Grants and the Act 152 Grant.

Working with PennDOT on the Main St. Paving Project.

Waiting to hear back on the outstanding grants.

A motion is needed to allow Glenn Engineering to apply for a \$250,000 GTPR Grant with a 15% match from the borough.

Mr. Petri made a motion to allow Glenn Engineering to apply for a \$250,000 GTPR Grant with a 15% match from the borough. Seconded by Mr. Ruane. Motion carried.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Ruane made a motion to accept the Engineer's Report. Seconded by Mr. Petri. Motion carried.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

Mr. Miller's report is on file.

Mr. Miller needs a firm date from the Solicitor when the properties at 608 and 610 Main St. can be demoed for the construction company and the Engineer needs to know if an RFP is needed.

Mr. Miller recommended that the vegetation at the following properties be cut by DPW: 536 Grandview, 519 & 540 Franklin, and 509 Ridge. Also, the cones out in the street at the 500 block of Franklin need to be removed.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

Mr. Ruane made a motion to approve the Fire Marshal's report. Second by Mr. Nicholson. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

None-Absent

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Adams had copies of Ordinance 929 pertaining to the parking of mobile homes in the borough. He was questioning the mobile home parked on Bessemer Ave. Mr. Miller informed him that it had been tagged.

Ms. Kennedy asked Mayor Adams if he had heard back from PennDOT concerning cars making illegal turns in to the gas station on Rte. 30. He stated that he had not heard anything from them. Ms. Kennedy suggested comprising a petition for residents to sign at the voting poll concerning this matter.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mr. Petri made a motion to approve the mayor’s report. Seconded by Mr. Nicholson. Motion carried.

DPW REPORT:

The recycle dumpsters have been removed from the gym parking lot and placed in the parking lot on Dynamo Way.

The storage container has been ordered, and Mr. Miller will talk to the Commander of the American Legion (Carmella) to get permission to place the container at the end of the American Legion lot. Otherwise, it will be placed by the guard rails on Cliff St.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE DPW REPORT:

Mr. Petri made a motion to approve the DPW report. Seconded by Mr. Nicholson. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion to approve the April 11,2023-Agenda Meeting Minutes was approved by Mr. Ruane. Seconded by Mr. Nicholson. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the April 18,2023-Council Meeting Minutes was approved by Mr. Nicholson. Seconded by Mr. Petri. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion to approve the cost of \$600 for the Flaggers to control traffic and people, and to block Poplar Alley from 1:30 pm-6:30 pm for Sherry’s Market Celebration. Mr. Nicholson made a motion to approve the cost of \$600 for the Flaggers to control traffic and people, and to block Poplar Alley from 1:30 pm-6:30 pm for Sherry’s Market Celebration. Seconded by Mr. Petri. Motion carried.

Properties for the Landbank to consider were mentioned and 536 Grandview Ave. and 529 Ridge Ave. were chosen.

COMMITTEE ACTIONS/DISCUSSIONS:

- a. A plan will need to be put in place when a crossing guard calls off. (Who will replace them?)
- b. Involvement of East Pittsburgh residents in the life of the community.
Mr. Nicholson will speak to Nathaniel Carter of the Connect Center to see if he may have some ideas.
- c. Discussion of Ordinance 929. (Quality of Life)
This was discussed in the mayor's report.

Ms. Kennedy asked everyone to try to attend Sherry's Market Celebration on Saturday, May 13th.

Ms. Kennedy also mentioned that the Blight Consultants will attend the June 20th council meeting.

Ms. Kennedy questioned the outdoor burning at 404 Ridge.

Mr. Miller stated that controlled outdoor burning is allowed with an approved purchased fire pit.

The TCVCOG street sweeper will be in East Pittsburgh on June 28th & 30th, and October 4th & 5th. Mr. Ruane will talk to our DPW supervisor Russ, to determine which sides of the streets will be done at this time. Flyers will need to be distributed to the residents and "NO PARKING" signs put up.

Mr. Petri made a motion to approve the payment of \$7,575.54 to Forest Hills Borough for our share of the Alcosan Regional Trunk Sewer Takeover Repairs to separate storm water from wastewater. Seconded by Mr. Nicholson. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT TO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Petri moved to adjourn to an executive session at 8:50 pm. Seconded by Mr. Nicholson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Hartford
Denise Hartford,
Borough Secretary