

**Borough of Edinboro
Council Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Council members present were Pat Davis, George Gast, Kelly Gheres, Mary Ann Horne, Aaron Gast, and Amanda Frantz-Mamani (via phone). Absent was Mark Eisert.

Other officials present were Solicitor Tim Wachter and Borough Manager Jason Spangenberg. Citizens present were Curtis Hals, Marti Martz, Mary Ann Mook, MJ Campbell, Jackie Rhen, Ray Overholt, Mary Schenck, Nancy Crawford, Jane Crawford, and Matt Tighe.

MINUTES:

Pat Davis moved to approve the minutes of the June 10 ordinance hearing, CDBG hearing, and regular meeting as presented. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Jane Crawford, 310 Elm Street. Ms. Crawford requested that Council consider amending the boat dock policy to allow dock spaces to be transferred to children. She discussed her family's love for the lake and boat dock and that Council should reward loyalty.

MJ Campbell, Washington Township Liaison. Ms. Campbell congratulated Manager Spangenberg on being named to the Erie 40 Under 40 list.

Matt Tighe, 4774 Crane Road, Washington Township. Mr. Tighe discussed a concern regarding runoff from a construction site in Washington Township and the potential impact on Edinboro Lake. He has been in contact with the DEP but has not received a response, and he stated his intent to get in touch with the Edinboro Lake Watershed Association. He provided Council with some files for their review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

Kelly Gheres moved to approve bills paid June 24 totaling \$88,658.92; and July 8 totaling \$224,926.94. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Kelly Gheres moved to approve payroll paid June 13 totaling \$82,621.76; and June 27 totaling \$81,246.93. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Public Safety Committee:

George Gast stated his intent to schedule a meeting with the committee and Police Chief.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

Borough Manager Jason Spangenberg presented his report.

Joint Parks Plan: The parks plan survey remains open until the end of this week. We anticipate additional means of public input as the project progresses.

Renaissance Block Grants: Our ECGRA Renaissance Block Grant program, which provides funding for exterior improvements to residential properties, has been a major success so far. We have now been awarded \$80,000 in new funding to expand the program to homes along Rt. 6N. This brings the total grants received for this program to \$280,000 since 2022.

July 3 Fireworks: After a worrisome weather forecast, the event was held without issue and without rain. Thank you to PennWest Edinboro facilities and police departments and all of our sponsors for helping make the night a success.

Movies Under the Stars: The annual free outdoor movie series begins this Thursday on PennWest Edinboro campus with Cars at 9 PM. This series will continue each Thursday through the third Thursday in August, with the August movies at Goodell Gardens.

Angling & 6N Intersection: Changes to this intersection were to be made today. The intersection will be made similar to the intersection of Rt. 99 and North Main Street in McKean, with one branch of entry one-way onto Angling.

Edinboro Lake Dam: On June 12 we met with representatives from D’Appolonia Engineering to begin their review of our dam. We hope that they can help prepare plans in order to submit for grant funding to provide for necessary repairs for the long-term health of the dam.

University Luncheon: On June 20 he attended a luncheon held by the University for community leaders to gather and discuss current issues. The new University President Jon Anderson has officially started as of July 1.

Corporal Testing: On June 26 we administered written examinations for the open Corporal position in our Police Department. Three of our current officers took the exam. The process will continue with oral examinations on July 29.

Public Works:

George Gast moved to award the sidewalk repair project bid to Lindy Paving as low bidder.

Lindy Paving	1807 Shenango Rd, New Galilee, PA 16141	\$77,770.00
M & B Services, LLC	15303 Rte 322, Clarion, PA 16214	\$79,353.91
Vavala Concrete Construction	2059 W 20 th St, Erie, PA 16502	\$88,874.00

XL Excavating, Inc. 25912 Rt 6 and 19, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403 \$96,120.00

Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 6-0. Manager Spangenberg noted that this project has received \$70,000 in grant funding.

COMMUNITY LIAISONS:

EVFD:

Mary Ann Horne noted that the Borough, Township, and fire department would look to meet in the near future to discuss the EVFD request for a fire and EMS property tax.

Lakeside Association:

Pat Davis mentioned the successful July 4 festivities on Lakeside, and thanked the Crawford family for their work organizing this event.

George Gast thanked the Borough Streets Department for their quick response repairing a damaged speed bump near Billings Park.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the event permit for the Boro Women Services Oars on the Shore event, waiving the fee, and the PennWest Edinboro Homecoming parade event and road closing permit. George Gast seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

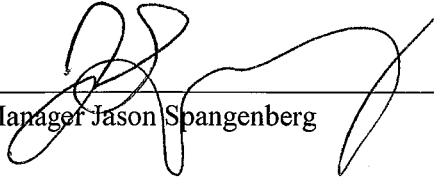
Borough Council discussed the agenda item regarding the Borough's contracted Building Code Official and the potential for moving to a company other than Building Inspection Underwriters (BIU), which has been in this role since 2018. Manager Spangenberg and Zoning Supervisor Jackie Rhen discussed their meeting with Pennsylvania Construction Inspection (PCI), a company out of Cochranon that provides similar services. Both expressed their reservations with PCI due to the likelihood that they would be much more lenient than BIU, but noted they would likely provide fast turnaround. It was noted that other municipalities that work with PCI had positive comments about their experiences with PCI, but that BIU's contract with the Borough states that they must be the sole provider for their services. After brief discussion, Council generally consented to Manager Spangenberg continuing to look into the situation and to discuss with BIU the potential to amend the existing agreement to allow the Borough to provide a second option for property owners. Solicitor Wachter stated that it is common for municipalities to provide multiple options for plan review and inspections, and that other clients of his have been able to negotiate out any "sole provider" parts of agreements.

Borough Council discussed the agenda item regarding the request to amend the boat dock policy to allow dock spaces to be transferred to children upon the death of the dock renter. Manager Spangenberg briefly described the situation as discussed at previous meetings and stated that he would not support such an amendment as described, since the docks are public and not private property to be transferred through generations. George Gast stated his support for the amendment as requested. Pat Davis and Kelly Gheres requested that the matter be researched further. Mary Ann Horne noted that this policy has been in place since 2018 and that others have already complied with it. Mayor Gast moved to send the discussion to the Recreation Committee. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion to send to committee passed 6-0.

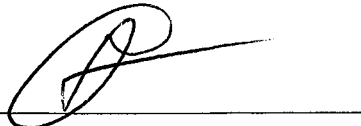
ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Gast moved for adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM.

ATTEST:



Manager Jason Spangenberg



Mayor Aaron Gast