

**Borough of Edinboro
Council Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Aaron Gast at 6:48 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Council members present were Jim Kiley, Amanda Frantz-Mamani, Mark Eisert, Aaron Gast, and Mary Ann Horne. Absent were Pat Davis and Spencer Larson.

Other officials present were Solicitor Tim Wachter and Jason Spangenberg. Citizens present were ML Smith, Kathy Amidon, Rebecca Dickson, Walt Dickson, Curtis Hals, Nancy Crawford, John Boylan, Mary Ann Mook, George Gast, David Mussett, Mike Caro, Gina Mussett, Sharon Larimer, Rick Larimer, Chris Houser, Dan Schaaf, Dawn Schaaf, Linda Moore, Rebecca Westgate, Barry Westgate, Kitty Tarbell, Buck Tarbell, Jim Houser, Carol Johnson, Brian Johnson, Jason Brown, Jessica Brown, Tom Moore, Scott Loop, John Stachowiak, Laurie McKernan, Tim McKernan, MJ Campbell, Ray Overholt, and Mary Schenck.

MINUTES:

Jim Kiley moved to approve the minutes of the August 14 CDBG hearing and regular meeting as presented. Mark Eisert seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Rebecca Dickson, 301 Washington Street. Ms. Dickson followed up on her comments during the preceding ordinance hearing, requesting that the proposed ordinance for short-term rentals be fair and equitable.

George Gast, 210 Elm Street. Mr. Gast followed up on his comments during the preceding ordinance hearing, noting the importance of short-term rentals for tourism.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve bills paid August 28 totaling \$35,341.80; and September 11 totaling \$289,258.65. Mark Eisert seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve payroll paid August 24 totaling \$80,835.84; and paid September 7 totaling \$84,450.08. Amanda Frantz-Mamani seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance Review Committee:

Mark Eisert moved to table ordinances 627 and 628. Jim Kiley seconded, and the motion passed 5-0. Mr. Eisert stated that the ordinance committee would meet to discuss public comments received.

Personnel Committee:

Mary Ann Horne moved to appoint Ray Overholt as an alternate to the Civil Service Commission. Amanda Frantz-Mamani seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

Borough Manager Jason Spangenberg presented his report:

PennDOT US-6N/PA-99 Intersection: Remaining work to be completed includes milling and paving the area, installing new traffic and pedestrian signals, and installing stamped concrete crosswalks. We are not pleased with the slow progress of the project and have continually expressed our displeasure to PennDOT.

Nature’s Outlet Improvements: The sidewalk has been completed, with lamp posts and the railing along the water yet to be installed. Phase 2 will take place next year, installing more sidewalk and a gazebo.

Community Events: The Highland Games & Scottish Festival took place September 8-9 and the event was a great success. We hosted a special Movie Under the Stars as part of the festivities, which we plan to make an annual tradition. The Goodell Gardens Homegrown Harvest Festival is next up on Sunday, September 17. Edinboro Homecoming is also approaching, with the parade scheduled for Saturday, September 30.

Municipal Software: The process of converting our municipal software from Freedom Systems to BS&A is now complete. We are very happy so far with the new software. We will soon be launching a new online payment system as the final part of the project, which will include a much-improved user experience with additional payment options.

Cherry Street: Last year a section of land along Cherry Street collapsed into the below stream. While the land in question is located in Washington Township, we are working together as it impacts our roadway. Washington Township has requested that we pay for half of the cost of materials for the repairs, and that we execute an agreement for border roads such as this.

Joint Parks Plan: Bids were due to Washington Township on September 8 for the Parks Plan Consultant. They received 3 bids, and we anticipate the selected consultant will begin work over the winter. We are very excited to be working with Washington Township on this major project, which will bring major parks and rec improvements to our area.

Sidewalk to Post Office: Initial right-of-way designs have been completed by the engineer. We will begin to reach out to property owners to discuss settlements over the fall and winter. Construction is not likely to occur until 2025.

Town & Gown: The regular Town & Gown meeting with University officials was held September 6. The meeting was positive as usual.

Renaissance Block Grants: We have been awarded an ECGRA Renaissance Block Grant for \$100,000, which provides funding for exterior improvements to residential properties. This will allow us to expand the program to other streets in town next year, following the success of this year's program on Erie and Meadville Streets. Potential eligible roads for this next phase include Waterford Street, Ontario Street, High Street, and Normal Street.

Multimodal Transportation Grant: We have been awarded a \$70,000 grant to help fund \$100,000 in sidewalk improvements. This project will repair sidewalk sections throughout town that are in poor shape.

Finance:

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the 2024 pension Minimum Municipal Obligations. Amanda Frantz-Mamani seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Zoning:

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the request to combine the parcels of 401 and 403 Lakeside Drive, as recommended by the Planning Commission. Amanda Frantz-Mamani seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Water:

Jim Kiley moved to award the Harrison Drive water line bid to McLallen Construction as the only bid received, at a price of \$29,745.00. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

COMMUNITY LIAISONS:

EVFD:

Mary Ann Horne stated that the annual Lighting of the Lights event will take place at the fire hall on Thursday, November 30.

Washington Township:

Jim Kiley moved to approve the request from Washington Township to split costs associated with the Cherry Street land repair, and to approve the Border Road Agreement with Washington Township. Amanda Frantz-Mamani seconded, and the motion passed by 5-0 vote.

Watershed Association:

Mary Ann Horne mentioned that the Watershed Association is planning a cleanup day at Peninsula Park on September 16 at 9 AM.

ECED:

Manager Spangenberg discussed a letter that was received from the ECED. The ECED is taking part in a joint grant application with Albion, Union City, and Corry to receive planning funds for various potential downtown development projects. The potential projects identified in Edinboro are rehabilitation

of the former Pizza Hut property, rehabilitation of the Main Moon property, development along Mill Street, and a 6N streetscape plan.

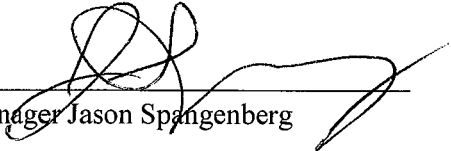
NEW BUSINESS:

Mark Eisert moved to approve the road closing permit for the Edinboro Lakeside Association Witches Paddle event on October 14, approve budget workshop dates at 4 PM on October 18, 25, and November 1, and approve trick-or-treat for 6-8 PM on October 31. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Gast moved for adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM.

ATTEST:



Manager Jason Spangenberg



Mayor Aaron Gast