

**Borough of Edinboro  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 11, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Aaron Gast at 6:30 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Other officials present were Borough Manager Jason Spangenberg and Solicitor Tim Wachter. Citizens present were Mary Ann Mook, Curtis Hals, Terrie Swanson, Annette Smith, Ray Overholt, Kathy Sibbald, Bill Sibbald, Kenneth Statkun, Ryan J. Parker, Kyle Shoulders, Sherry Chu, Dan Beggs, and Jackie Rhen.

Manager Spangenberg noted that, the night of the previous Council meeting on February 12, Council met in Executive Session from 7:45 PM to 8:05 PM to discuss a real estate matter.

**MINUTES:**

Pat Davis moved to approve the minutes of the February 12 regular meeting and ordinance hearing as presented. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Terri Swanson, 506 Erie Street. Ms. Swanson asked when the ordinances regarding short-term rentals would next be on the agenda for discussion and action. Manager Spangenberg noted that the answer to that question depends on an agenda item later in this meeting, when Council determines the April monthly meeting date.

Ryan Parker, 236 Waterford Street. Mr. Parker thanked Borough Council for their service to the community and thanked Manager Spangenberg for his efforts regarding the new sidewalk to be constructed along Rt. 6N. He requested that consideration be given to pedestrian crossings for Goodell Gardens and the Shelhamer neighborhood to access the sidewalk.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee:**

Pat Davis moved to approve bills paid February 26 totaling \$97,917.80; and March 11 totaling \$129,068.82. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Pat Davis moved to approve payroll paid February 22 totaling \$80,281.38; and March 7 totaling \$82,886.30. Mark Eisert seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

### **Ordinance Review Committee:**

Mary Ann Horne moved to continue to table ordinance 631 until all Council members are present. Amanda Frantz-Mamani seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

At this time Mayor Gast moved the action item regarding the April Council meeting date forward on the agenda. Council discussed briefly the need to pick a new date due to April 8 being the date of the total solar eclipse. Mary Ann Horne moved to set the April meeting date as Tuesday, April 9. Mark Eisert seconded, and the motion passed 6-0. Mayor Gast noted that the ordinance review committee would meet again before that date to discuss the short-term rental ordinances.

### **MANAGEMENT REPORTS:**

Borough Manager Jason Spangenberg presented his report.

Joint Parks Plan: The first meeting with the consultant leading the planning process was held on March 5. Public input will be sought in various methods over the coming months.

Edinboro Lake Plan: We are also working with Washington Township on a grant proposal for a plan to review the lake including natural and recreational aspects. We met with Senator Laughlin on February 26, and he was supportive of the grant application.

PML Northwest District Meeting: The Pennsylvania Municipal League will be hosting their annual Northwest District Meeting in Edinboro at the Lakeside Promenade in the Edinboro Mall on Thursday, April 4. This luncheon will bring municipal leaders from our corner of the state to Edinboro for the day. We are preparing small gifts for the attendees with items from Edinboro. Senator Laughlin, Representative Banta, County Executive Brenton Davis, and Erie Mayor Joe Schember all plan to attend.

PennDOT US-6N/PA-99 Intersection: Installation of stamped concrete crosswalks will be the final aspect of the project. We plan to replace the bricks around the intersection with stamped concrete at the same time to match. We are awaiting word on the timeline for this work.

Sidewalk to Post Office: Final right-of-way plans have been completed by the engineer and approved by PennDOT. We are hopeful that the process can be completed in time for summer 2025 construction.

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 this year, following the success of last year's program on Erie and Meadville Streets. Our office is in contact with the eligible property owners for 2024.

ECGRA Façade Grant: The façade grant program continues through 2024 for 6N, Mill Street, and Rt. 99 downtown businesses. Up to \$10,000 per storefront will be awarded for eligible businesses. We will continue to solicit more applications.

Mural Project: As announced around a year ago, the ECED has received grant funding to make a new mural on the building next to the Crossroads Dinor. The ECED Arts Committee will be working to prepare the project for completion this summer.

April 8 Eclipse: We are anticipating a major influx of visitors on April 8 for the Total Eclipse. The Borough office will be closing at noon that day to allow our employees a chance to get home before the event shortly after 3 PM. He has contacted the business community and advised them of this event and suggested that they consider bringing in additional staffing or closing for the day, depending on their industry. The University will be hosting a free event that day, and Goodell Gardens will be hosting a ticketed event.

**Emergency Management:**

Manager Spangenberg explained that our Emergency Management Coordinator from the West Erie County Emergency Management Agency (WECEMA) recommended that Council pass a Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the total solar eclipse on April 8, further at the recommendation of Erie County Emergency Management. Mr. Spangenberg stated that this is necessary should something go wrong that day with the potential large influx of tourists, this would make us eligible for state or federal emergency management funding, and that Erie County has already passed this declaration for the County level. Amanda Frantz-Mamani moved to approve the Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the total solar eclipse. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

**COMMUNITY LIAISONS:**

**EVFD:**

Mary Ann Horne stated that the fire department will be permanently housing a small pumper truck at the Washington Township facility, as per an agreement between the Township and fire department.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve Resolution 7-2024:

**BOROUGH OF EDINBORO  
RESOLUTION NO. 7-2024**

***A Resolution to Approve an Application  
For a Joint Municipal DCNR Grant***

**WHEREAS**, WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP ("Applicant") desires to undertake the project, "Edinboro Lake Watershed Conservation Plan" ("Project Title"); and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant desires to receive from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources ("Department") a grant for the purpose of carrying out this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the application package includes a document entitled "Terms and Conditions of Grant"; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant understands that the contents of the document entitled "Terms and Conditions of Grant," including appendices referred to therein, will become the terms and conditions of a Grant Agreement between the applicant and the Department if the applicant is awarded a grant.

**NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved that:**

1. The grant application may be electronically signed on behalf of the applicant by "Jason Spangenberg" ("Official") who, at the time of signing, has a TITLE of "Borough of Edinboro Manager" and the email address of "jspangenberg@edinboro.net".

2. If this Official signed the Grant Application Electronic Authorization prior to the passage of this Resolution, this grant of authority applies retroactively to the date of signing.

3. If the applicant is awarded a grant, the Grant Application Electronic Authorization, signed by the above Official, will become the applicant/grantee's executed signature page for the Grant Agreement, and the applicant/grantee will be bound by the Grant Agreement.

4. Any amendment to the Grant Agreement may be signed on behalf of the grantee by the Official who, at the time of signing of the amendment, has the "TITLE" specified in paragraph 1 and the grantee will be bound by the amendment.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Borough of Edinboro Council this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

Pat Davis seconded, and the motion passed by 6-0 roll call vote: George Gast, yes; Amanda Frantz-Mamani, yes; Mark Eisert, yes; Mary Ann Horne, yes; Pat Davis, yes; and Aaron Gast, yes.

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve a \$1,000 donation to the July 3 fireworks event and to allow the event to use Borough insurance. Mark Eisert seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Gast moved for adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Following the meeting, Council met in Executive Session from 7:03 PM to 7:12 PM to discuss a real estate matter.

ATTEST:

  
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Manager Jason Spangenberg

  
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Mayor Aaron Gast