

**Borough of Edinboro
Council Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

Monday, November 8, 2021 the regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Mayor Aaron Gast at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Council members present were Fred Langill, Aaron Gast, Pat Davis, Jim Kiley, and Mary Ann Horne. Absent were Mark Eisert and Alyssa Dobson.

Other officials present were Solicitor Tim Wachter and Borough Manager Jason Spangenberg. Citizens present were Curtis Hals, Stephanie Berger, MJ Campbell, Spencer Larson, Debbie McElroy, and Mary Ann Schenck.

MINUTES:

Pat Davis moved to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2021 regular meeting as presented. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve bills paid October 25 totaling \$50,826.47; and paid November 8 totaling \$163,481.21. Mayor Gast seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve payroll paid October 21 totaling \$82,066.13; and paid November 4 totaling \$74,846.87. Mayor Gast seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Wachter mentioned that he is working on updates to the proposed water agreement with Washington Township, as well as preparing an ordinance to address Act 50 regarding zoning requirements for small wireless facilities.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

Borough Manager Jason Spangenberg presented his report.

On October 14 he presented to the Jefferson Society about the operations of a small municipality, among other topics that came up. The students were very interested to learn. On October 22 he presented to the Edinboro Senior Citizens group and enjoyed their discussions.

At the EACOG meeting on November 3, the results of the 2020 Census were discussed. Our population is being reported as 4,964, which is down significantly from the 2010 Census population of 6,438. He reviewed the data for other municipalities and believes there may be an issue with the numbers reported by PASSHE, as many other PASSHE host municipalities experienced similarly large population decreases. He will continue to explore this topic.

The University's bike share program is now active. We hope to have the program accessible to residents, rather than only students, in time for the spring. The University is working to allow non-students to borrow a bike by inputting a credit card into the app.

Regarding the proposed Washington Township Water Agreement, we are nearing a resolution to this situation that could soon bring water to McLane Church. Washington Township's engineer is reviewing a proposed agreement. We hope to have this ready for formal vote at the December meeting.

The project let date for the sidewalk to Giant Eagle has been pushed back to next spring, with work expected to be completed by the end of next summer, barring further delays. The public comment period ended October 12, with a few expected comments received. On October 25 a meeting was held to discuss the next steps in the process. Residents along the work route will be contacted in the coming weeks to discuss the property acquisition process.

The final application has been submitted for a grant to fund a sidewalk on 6N to the Post Office and main entrance to EU campus. This is the same grant program that is funding the sidewalk to Giant Eagle.

An application has been submitted for an ECGRA matching grant to renovate the Borough building's lower level. This grant would provide up to \$15,000.

The budget for 2022 is on the agenda for approval. Public budget workshops were held on October 13 and 20 to review the budget that has been proposed for approval. No rate or tax increases have been proposed.

Finance/HR:

Mayor Gast moved to approve Resolution 14-2021:

***BOROUGH OF EDINBORO
RESOLUTION NO. 14-2021***

A RESOLUTION, of the Home Rule Borough of Edinboro, Erie County, Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edinboro has previously established a "Capital Projects Fund" in the accounting system to hold money from the General Fund for large projects; and

WHEREAS, due to a lack of use of this Fund and to simplify the accounting process, the Borough intends to close the Capital Projects Fund and move the funds into the General Fund reserve bank account while still using the funds for the same intended purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Borough will still maintain a separate bank account for the Building Improvement Fund as it does currently.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Borough Council, that the Borough of Edinboro hereby approves the consolidation of the Capital Projects Fund into the General Fund reserves.

ADOPTED this 8th day of November, 2021.

Manager Spangenberg discussed the resolution, stating that this is simply a change to the accounting system and will not change how these funds will be spent. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed by 5-0 roll call vote: Jim Kiley, yes; Mary Ann Horne, yes; Pat Davis, yes; Fred Langill, yes; and Aaron Gast, yes.

Mayor Gast moved to approve Resolution 15-2021:

**BOROUGH OF EDINBORO
RESOLUTION NO. 15-2021**

A RESOLUTION, of the Home Rule Borough of Edinboro, Erie County, Pennsylvania, fixing the tax rate for the year 2022.

WHEREAS, PA Act 51 of 2019 authorized the use of a Resolution rather than an Ordinance for setting the annual tax levy if keeping the same tax rate or lowering it; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Edinboro intends to set the same tax levy in 2022 as in 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Edinboro that a tax be and the same is hereby levied on all real property within the Borough as follows: Tax rate for general purposes, the sum of 4.50 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, which equates to \$450 per \$100,000 of assessed value. Also, the Homestead Act enacted by Ordinance 555 shall be in effect for the year 2022 as it has been since 2008.

The same being summarized in tabular form as follows:

	<i>Mills on Each Dollar of Assessed Valuation</i>
<i>Tax Rate for General Purposes</i>	<i>4.50 Mills</i>

That any ordinance/resolution, or part of ordinance/resolution, conflicting with this resolution be and the same is hereby repealed insofar as the same affects this resolution.

ADOPTED this 8th day of November, 2021.

Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed by 5-0 roll call vote: Jim Kiley, yes; Mary Ann Horne, yes; Pat Davis, yes; Fred Langill, yes; and Aaron Gast, yes.

Mayor Gast moved to approve Resolution 16-2021:

BOROUGH OF EDINBORO

RESOLUTION 16-2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE Borough of Edinboro in the County of Erie, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, appropriating sums estimated to be required for the purposes of the municipal government, hereinafter set forth, during the year 2022.

***BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED**, and it is hereby resolved by the Council of the Borough of Edinboro, County of Erie, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:*

***SECTION 1.** That for the expenditures and expenses of the fiscal year 2022 the following amounts are hereby appropriated from income for the year 2022 for the purposes set forth on the following page, with any amount of Expenditures over Revenues being funded by equipment reserves.*

***SECTION 2.** That any Resolution conflicting with this Resolution be and the same is hereby repealed insofar as the same affects this Resolution.*

Total Revenues \$5,025,246

Total Expenditures \$5,273,682

BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED THIS 8th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2021.

Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed by 5-0 roll call vote: Jim Kiley, yes; Mary Ann Horne, yes; Pat Davis, yes; Fred Langill, yes; and Aaron Gast, yes.

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve Resolution 17-2021:

BOROUGH OF EDINBORO

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2021

A RESOLUTION, of the Home Rule Borough of Edinboro, Erie County, Pennsylvania.

***WHEREAS**, the Borough of Edinboro is a member of the Erie Area Council of Governments (EACOG); and*

***WHEREAS**, the EACOG has proposed its Annual Budget for its financial activities for the 2022 calendar year; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Borough of Edinboro Council has reviewed the Proposed Annual Budget for 2022, a copy of which is attached hereto, and finds it to be in good order; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Borough of Edinboro Council acknowledges its proportionate share of the Member Dues.*

***IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Borough of Edinboro Council, Erie County, Pennsylvania that the proposed EACOG Annual Budget for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022 is approved.*

ADOPTED this 8th day of November, 2021.

Jim Kiley seconded, and the motion passed by 5-0 roll call vote: Jim Kiley, yes; Mary Ann Horne, yes; Pat Davis, yes; Fred Langill, yes; and Aaron Gast, yes.

Zoning:

Manager Spangenberg noted that the Zoning Hearing Board recently met and approved a variance for 118 Hickory Street to allow the owners to connect their existing detached garage to the house via an addition, which changes the required setbacks.

COMMUNITY LIAISONS:

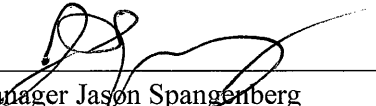
EVFD:

Mary Ann Horne stated that the annual Lighting of the Lights holiday event is scheduled for December 2 at 6 PM, once again ending at the fire hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Gast moved for adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PM.

ATTEST:



Manager Jason Spangenberg



Mayor Aaron Gast