

**Borough of Edinboro  
Council Meeting Minutes  
November 9, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Monday, November 9, 2020 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 Jim Kiley, Alyssa Dobson (via phone), Pat Davis, Fred Langill, Mark Eisert, Aaron Gast, and Mary Ann Horne.

Other officials present were Solicitor Tim Wachter, Borough Manager Kevin Oppe, and Finance Director Jason Spangenberg. Citizens present were Curtis Hals and Mark Wickenheiser.

**MINUTES:**

Mayor Gast moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2020 regular meeting and cable franchise hearing as presented. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Mark Wickenheiser, 302 W Plum Street. Mr. Wickenheiser thanked Council for starting the new glass recycling drop-off location for Borough residents, and he suggested that information about it be placed on the next water bills to spread the word. He then discussed the thought of having a marked pedestrian crosswalk on 6N near the pool or Lakeside Drive entrance, stating that it would help connect the neighborhoods and improve safety. He said that he spoke to someone from PennDOT who was willing to help. Council discussed briefly, with Mayor Gast stating his support for the idea. Fred Langill said that a previous PennDOT survey showed that there is not enough evidence of injury or accidents in that area to show a need, but he supported looking into it further.

Curtis Hals, 136 Maple Drive. Mr. Hals discussed an incident recently near the Edinboro Market in town. He described a group of five older women crossing the street outside of a crosswalk when a fast-moving car came around the corner, startling one of the women and causing her to fall over, though nobody was hurt. His concern was regarding speeding in town. Fred Langill mentioned the issue of local police in PA being prohibited from using RADAR, and added that the new concrete crosswalks should help. Mr. Hals suggested getting flashing crosswalk signs. Jason Spangenberg stated that there is a plan to get a permanent speed sign installed in front of the old Pizza Hut in the spring.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Finance Committee:**

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve bills paid October 26 totaling \$87,797.10; and paid November 9 totaling \$115,021.47. Jim Kiley seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve payroll paid October 23 totaling \$80,789.94; and paid November 6 totaling \$79,281.97. Jim Kiley seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

## **MANAGEMENT REPORTS:**

Manager Oppe presented his monthly report. There are three events being planned for Edinboro's "December to Remember". The lighting of holiday decorations by Santa is tentatively scheduled for Friday December 4, but not certain. Since the Fire Hall was not available due to COVID concerns, the plan was to go from the Fire Hall to the mall via Mill Street. A tree decorating event was planned to then kick off at the mall, with local organizations and churches decorating trees. This is now in doubt since a wedding is planned there and will close the Mall from that Friday evening through Sunday. The other event is a living advent calendar which has houses and businesses creating window displays. A new one will be opened each night from December 1st - 24th.

For the ECGRA Mission Main Street Grant, the stamped concrete sidewalk is now completed, and crosswalks are planned for today, finishing tomorrow morning (weather dependent). We are still waiting for the light poles to return, but the conduit is already installed, so the installation should only be a few days once they are complete.

At the Thompson Park Playground, the bid for the electrical work and installation of lighting will now occur in February, expecting to execute in the spring. Manager Oppe closed out the ECGRA parks grant.

The ECED and Alchemy Community Development plan is coming together with the decision to focus on a 4-season destination for tourism. Alchemy is working on a design for a map for businesses and attractions.

The ECED's community-wide gift certificate program is underway. The number of business signed up to accept the gift certificates is now 38 and counting and over \$3,000 have been sold already.

The social needs survey of the community conducted by the Social Work Department of EUP continues to begin to identify what areas could use more support for residents. The survey takes about 5 minutes and is both online and in hardcopy. Printed copies are available at the Edinboro Borough Hall, Washington Township Hall, McKean Borough & Township Halls,

Edinboro Branch Library, and the Edinboro YMCA. All those locations have a drop-box for anonymous responses.

Manager Oppe spoke at the celebration of the Knights of Columbus 50th anniversary of founding the Our Lady of the Lake council on October 24th. Bishop Persico was the honored guest.

The EACOG general assembly met last Wednesday and passed a tentative budget for the coming year including membership fees. The EACOG also heard a proposal for a pilot project to gather glass for recycling at sites across the county. The pilot is dependent upon a grant from the state and would be for 6 months. The hope is that the glass recycled will earn enough revenue in state recycling dollars that it would fund the future of recycling. Although the idea sounds good, we should continue along the route we have already begun. The cost is minimal and is a long-term solution.

There were no issues that came to our attention on election day at the two precincts in the Borough.

Mayor Gast asked about an update regarding the sidewalk to Giant Eagle. Manager Oppe replied that the engineer is awaiting final plans and the property assessor is awaiting PennDOT approval before they can move forward.

**Finance:**

Mayor Gast moved to approve Resolution 19-2020 for the 2021 budget:

***BOROUGH OF EDINBORO  
RESOLUTION 19-2020***

*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 2021.*

***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 2021 the following amounts are hereby appropriated from income for the year 2021 for the purposes set forth on the following page.

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

<i>Total Revenues</i>	<i>\$5,025,654</i>
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<i>\$5,083,563</i>

**BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2020.**

Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote: Mark Eisert, yes; Alyssa Dobson, yes; Jim Kiley, yes; Mary Ann Horne, yes; Pat Davis, yes; Fred Langill, yes; and Aaron Gast, yes.

Mayor Gast moved to approve Ordinance 620 for the 2021 tax levy:

**BOROUGH OF EDINBORO**  
**TAX LEVY ORDINANCE No. 620**

*AN ORDINANCE OF THE Borough of Edinboro, County of Erie, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the tax rate for the year 2021.*

**BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED**, and it is hereby ordained and enacted 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. Also, the Homestead Act enacted by Ordinance 555 shall be in effect for the year 2020 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>	4.50 Mills

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

**ADOPTED THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2020**


Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote: Mark Eisert, yes; Alyssa Dobson, yes; Jim Kiley, yes; Mary Ann Horne, yes; Pat Davis, yes; Fred Langill, yes; and Aaron Gast, yes.


Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the 2021 insurance renewal with Selective Insurance. Jason Spangenberg stated that the renewal was for a slight decrease from the 2020 policy. Mayor Gast seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Gast moved for adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.

ATTEST:

  
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Manager Kevin Opple

  
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Mayor Aaron Gast