

**Borough of East Pittsburgh  
Council Meeting Minutes  
December 19, 2017**

The December 19, 2017 meeting of the East Pittsburgh Borough was called to order by Mr. Simon at 7:00 at the Citizens Center on Grandview Avenue. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Navish took roll call.

**Council Members Present:**

Dennis Simon, Council President  
Mary Carol Kennedy, Vice President  
Paul Borkowski, Council Member  
Joe Esposito, Council Member  
Renee Pekarck, Council Member

**Others Present:**

Greg Evashavik, Solicitor  
Lori Frunceck, Police Chief  
Dave Gilliland, Engineer  
Denise Hartford  
Eileen Navish, Office Manager and Tax Collector  
Kimberly Weschler

**Absent:**

Margaret Huffman, Borough Secretary  
Louis Payne, Mayor

**Public:**

Donna Cantania, Resident  
Wayne Gregg, Resident  
Jonathan Teacoach, MPF Manager  
Jake Polochak, Attorney

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

### **1. Alcosan Green Project**

This project has been completed.

Two trees were destroyed because of a car accident that still need replaced.

### **2. 511-513 Western Ave Demolition**

We have submitted an application for emergency CD funding to demolish these buildings but have not received a response yet. The asbestos inspections have been completed. Liz at TCVCOG has been pestering the county for a response to no avail so she is sending them a letter stressing the urgency of this project. I have contributed some information for her letter detailing the dangers present.

Mr. Gilliland stated that the county has given a verbal approval for grant to demolish property. We are waiting for the grant to come in.

### **3. CD 43 Wood Street Paving**

This project has been completed.

### **4. Union Railroad Viaduct Repair**

I have requested quotes from both Duquesne Light and Traffic Control Equipment and Supplies Inc., but have not received any quotes yet although Traffic Control did call to say they are working on a quote.

Mr. Gilliland said that the job wasn't going to be started till 2018 and that it was a large job. There are a lot of wires connected to the Viaduct. Mr. Gilliland will be following up on getting the quotes.

### **5. Resolution on Unified Source of Reduction Efforts**

Alcosan is requesting Council pass a resolution approving the Source Flow Reduction Plan prepared last month and encouraging a unified approach to the Source Reduction matter. We recommend Council adopt the resolution.

## **Motion to Pass a Resolution Approving the Source Flow Reduction Plan**

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to pass a resolution approving the Source Flow Reduction Plan.

Seconded by Mr. Esposto

Motion Carried

## **Sink Holes at 507 and 509 Ridge Avenue**

Ms. Kennedy asked Mr. Gilliland if he had any information on the sink holes and the curbs at 507 and 509 Ridge Avenue. Mr. Gilliland said he contacted the gas company and they are sending someone out from Lindy Paving who is their subcontractor. They were to get back to

Mr. Gilliland. Mr. Gilliland read a letter from Mr. Fitzgerald from Peoples Gas that he received November 22, 2017. It stated he was looking in to it and will check the pictures that they took before. The borough had just resurfaced Ridge Avenue less than a year before all this and it was beautiful. Since Lindy Asphalt is a sub-contractor of the gas company, they should be responsible. The Council understands that with the weather it will not be able to be done until the weather warms up. They would like it in writing that it will be fixed as well as it was before the work was done by Lindy Paving.

### **SOLICITORS REPORT**

#### **Sable Kennel Contract with an Addendum**

Mr. Evashavik suggested that council add an addendum to the contract with Sable Kennel before signing.

#### **Motion to Add an Addendum to the Contract with Sable Kennel Before Signing**

Mrs. Pekarck made a motion to have an addendum added to the contract with Sable Kennel before signing. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy.

Motion Carried

### **POLICE REPORT**

Chief Frunceck passed out the report for November.

#### **Motion to Accept the Resignation of Officer James Johe**

Mrs. Pekarck made a motion to accept the resignation of Officer James Johe. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski

Motion Carried

#### **Motion to Ratify the Phone Vote to Hire Officer Benjamin Azzarello**

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to ratify the phone vote to hire Officer Benjamin Azzarello at a rate of \$12.00 an hour for a probationary period of up to ninety days. Seconded by Mrs. Pekarck

Motion Carried

#### **Motion to Ratify the Phone Vote to Hire Officer Christopher Thompson**

Mr. Esposito made a motion to ratify the phone vote to hire Officer Christopher Thompson at a rate of \$12.00 an hour for a probationary period of up to ninety days. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski

Motion Carried

#### **Swearing in of Officers Benjamin Azzarello and Christopher Thompson**

The Solicitor swore in Officers Benjamin Azzarello and Christopher Thompson because Mayor Payne was absent.

**Parking Complaint from Donna Cantania of 813 Main Street and Wayne Gregg**

Donna Cantania and Wayne Gregg were there wondering when she can start parking in front of her home. She had been towed because of a yellow line in front of her home nine months ago. Chief Frunceck is going to look into this to see if the yellow line still needs to be there. A concern was raised about children darting out behind parked vehicles.

**COMMUNICATION'S REPORT**

**Resolution of the Borough Recognizing Eileen Navish as the Elected Tax Collector**

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to accept the Resolution of the Borough recognizing Eileen Navish as the Elected Tax Collector and accepting the certified results from the Board of Elections in Allegheny County, which is required by the School District. Seconded by Mr. Esposto

Motion Carried

**Ordinance of the Borough Setting the Millage Rate at 13.45**

Mr. Esposto made a motion to accept the Ordinance of the Borough to set the millage at a rate of 13.45. Seconded by Mrs. Pekarcik

Motion Carried

**Motion to Accept the Resolution of the Borough Approving the Acquisition of Parcel 375-9-39**

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to accept the resolution of the borough approving the acquisition of the empty lot at 107 Center Street. In accordance with the comprehensive plan, conflict of interest and code violation forms must be signed. Seconded by Mr. Esposto  
Motion Carried

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion to Pay December Bills**

Mrs. Pekarcik made a motion to pay December bills. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy

Motion Carried

**SWIF AUDIT- Safety Inspection for the Community Center, Borough Garage, Police Station, Tax Office, and Senior Center**

SWIF came to Audit the Community Center, Borough Garage, Police Station, Tax office, Borough Office and Senior Center. The garage door at the Community Center is not closing and needs repaired. It is a safety issue. Council will look in to calling around to find a contractor to fix the

door. The SWIF Auditor, Jim Hutchison, told us that if we formed a safety committee and had monthly meetings we would be eligible for a 5% discount on our State Worker's Insurance Fund.

**Motion to Start a Safety Committee**

Mrs. Pekarcik made a motion to start a safety committee and have safety meetings once a month. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy Motion Carried

**Motion to Approve November 21, 2017 Minutes with Corrections**

Mr. Esposto made a motion to accept the November 21, 2017 minutes with corrections. Seconded by Mrs. Pekarcik Motion Carried

**Motion to Pass the Budget Meeting Minutes with Corrections**

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to accept the Budget Meeting Minutes with corrections. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski. Mr. Esposto abstained because he was not at the budget meeting. Motion Carried

**Motion to Approve the Condemnation Hearing Minutes from the November 21, 2017 Council Meeting**

Mrs. Pekarcik made a motion to approve the Condemnation Hearing Minutes for 543 Sunnyside Avenue, 523 Center Street, and 517 Bessemer Avenue. Seconded by Mr. Esposto Motion Carried

**Motion to Approve the 2018 Budget**

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to pass the budget for 2018 for \$1,731,104 Seconded by Mr. Esposto. Motion Carried

**Motion to Accept Kimberly Weschler as a Temporary Borough Secretary at a Rate of \$11.50 an Hour for a Probationary Period of up to 90 Days.**

Mrs. Pekarcik made a motion to accept Kimberly Weschler as a temporary borough secretary at a rate of \$11.50 an hour for a probationary period of up to 90 days. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy Motion Carried

**Motion to Hire Adam McVeigh for the Department of Public Works at \$14.50 an Hour**

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to hire Adam McVeigh for the Department of Public Works at \$14.50 an hour. Seconded by Mrs. Pekarcik Motion Carried

**Motion to Hire Jacob Borkowski for the Department of Public Works and Snow Removal until January 19, 2018 at a Rate of \$13.50 an Hour**

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to hire Jacob Borkowski for the Department of Public Works and snow removal until January 19, 2018 at a rate of \$13.50 an hour. Seconded by Mrs. Pekarcik  
Mr. Borkowski abstained. Motion Carried

Ms. Kennedy asked how many DPW employees were even needed. Mr. Simon said that Jake would be used for snow removal after training until he goes back to school. Jayante will continue part-time at \$9.75 an hour. Chief Frunceck said that she has an officer with plowing experience and he can help in an emergency.

**Motion to Accept the Resolution to Ban the Location of Category Four License Facilities in the Borough**

Mrs. Pekarcik made a motion to accept the resolution to ban the location of category four license facilities in the borough. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy Motion Carried  
A letter needs to be sent to the Gaming Commission by December 31, 2017.

**Results of the Planning and Zoning Meeting**

Mr. Simon stated that the results of the Planning and Zoning meeting were both passed 5-0. Mr. Evashavik stated that the Council can approve, deny, or approve with condition, anything that the Planning Commission passes. The Zoning Board is independent. If council doesn't agree with their decision, they can appeal with the Court of Common Pleas.

**Motion to Accept the Conditional Use Application Presented by Merrion Oil & Gas**

Mr. Esposto made a motion to accept the Conditional Use Application presented by Merrion Oil & Gas. Seconded by Mr. Borkowski Ms. Kennedy voted nay. Motion Carried

**Discussion with Mr. Teacoach MPF Manager and Mr. Polochak of Merrion Oil & Gas as to next step in the negotiation process.**

Mr. Simon asked Mr. Teacoach and Mr. Polochak what the next step was. Mr Teacoach stated that they provided a draft copy years ago. Mr. Esposto asked if the offer was still the same. Mr. Teacoach said that all offers are up for negotiation. Solicitor fees are also negotiable. We will get a small amount for impact fees when wells are drilled. Their Solicitor is more than willing to work with our Solicitor to draw up a letter for the state to possibly increase the amount of impact fees because the holes are drilled so close to East Pittsburgh. It was decided that there would be another meeting before Council would sign a lease.

**Motion to Pass the Budget for 2018**

Mrs. Pekarcik made a motion to pass the budget for 2018 for \$1,731,104. Seconded by Mr. Esposito  
Motion Carried

Broken Window on Old Pick Up Truck

Mr. Borkowski told council that the back window on the old pick up truck was accidentally broken picking up trash. A board that was in the back of the truck bounced up and broke the window while throwing trash in. Mr. Simon will check out the options to getting it fixed.

Motion to Adjourn

Mrs. Pekarcik made a motion to adjourn at 8:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

*Denise Hartford*  
*Kimberly Weschler*  
Denise Hartford

Kimberly Weschler  
Borough Secretaries

