

**Borough of Edinboro
Council Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER:

Monday, February 10, 2020 the regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Mayor Aaron Gast at 6:34 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

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

Other officials present were Borough Manager Kevin Oppe, Solicitor Tim Wachter, and Finance Director Jason Spangenberg. Citizens present were Sam Comfort, Rick Chernicky, and MJ Campbell.

MINUTES:

Jim Kiley moved to approve the January 6, 2020 regular meeting, reorganizational meeting, and ordinance hearing minutes as presented. Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

MJ Campbell introduced herself to Borough Council as the Washington Township liaison.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve bills paid January 13 totaling \$233,145.80; paid January 27 totaling \$94,186.95; and paid February 10 totaling \$22,817.39. Alyssa Dobson seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve payroll paid January 17 totaling \$77,189.84; and paid January 31 totaling \$79,086.98. Alyssa Dobson seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

Manager Oppe presented his monthly report. We have received the samples of the invitation letter that will be mailed to every household. We will print them on the backs of

utility bills this month, so our residents know in advance to keep them. It will have the website URL and the code to enter to identify their household. In response to our request, the Census staff are looking into providing census workers at our census events at the library and Borough Hall.

Pat Davis and Manager Oppe attended the ECGRA Parks Grant presentation on the 31st. The focus was on the Humane Society who hosted the event, but it was good coverage of the Borough being awarded another grant. Brenda Cannell also attended as the ECED Chairperson. The ECED helped with the grant documentation.

Manager Oppe had lunch with Edinboro University President Huang and General McLane Superintendent Scaletta last week. They wished Rick congratulations and good luck in his retirement. They also discussed ways to increase international student enrollment at the high school and University.

The annual APMM winter training was in Bedford last week. The focus was on demographic shifts affecting service to residents and commissions.

The Civil Service Commission is set to meet tomorrow for their reorganization meeting. Chief Donahue will discuss his plan to take the lessons learned from the last police officer hiring process and amend the civil service rules, specifically that we need to be more specific in what constitutes law enforcement experience.

Edinboro University will officially inaugurate President Huang at a public ceremony on 20 March. There will be a black-tie dinner that evening. Manager Oppe suggested that the Borough pay \$250 for one ticket in order to be listed as a sponsor for the event and pay the \$100 for any other Council member to attend the dinner. Council members would have to pay for their spouses to attend. Council discussed briefly, and Jim Kiley moved to approve Manager Oppe's suggestion for payments. Mayor Gast seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Manager Oppe has been discussing the future of the Edinboro Branch Library with the Erie County Library Director, Blane Dessy. The county is interested in increasing the footprint of the library and to expand into a broader arena of services. To do this they would like to partner with the Borough. This may lead to a future library/community center that is supported by both entities. County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper has expressed her support for such a project in downtown Edinboro.

Borough finances were audited the week of 27 – 30 January. No deficiencies were noted. Manager Oppe stated that Jason Spangenberg did an outstanding job as we are accustomed.

Dinner between Borough Council and President Huang and his cabinet is still being planned; looking at a date in mid-April now.

The Erie Chamber State of the Community Event will be at the Erie Convention Center on Wednesday, 26 February 11:30 to 2. Council members may attend if desired.

Mayor Gast asked about updates regarding dam safety criteria and the Rt. 99 sidewalk project. Manager Oppe stated that the State was not able to provide any criteria for dam safety initially, and he will need to follow up to get a solid response. Regarding the sidewalk, the next step is to select a company to handle the condemnation of the property along the sidewalk route. Mark Eisert asked about a timeline, since it is using grant funding. Manager Oppe replied that the grant has about 1.5 years remaining for eligibility, and the project is expected to be completed next spring.

Sewer:

Manager Oppe explained the Sewer Service Agreement addendum that was on the table for approval. The addendum would allocate two additional EDUs of the Washington Township sewer agreement to the Edinboro Lake Resort. Mayor Gast moved to approve the addendum, Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 5-0. Jim Kiley expressed a concern about the Resort continuing to build and blocking view of the lake. Council discussed briefly, and Manager Oppe stated that it would be best to express the concern to Washington Township Council.

COMMUNITY LIAISONS:

Washington Township:

Mark Eisert stated that Township Council at their last meeting was discussing the EMTA Edinboro University pass-through funds received each year by the Township, with the mention that the funding would make more sense to pass through the Borough. Council discussed briefly. Manager Oppe noted that the topic had been discussed at a meeting in the recent past, and that the Borough would support assisting with the pass-through funding if ever needed.

PSAB:

Alyssa Dobson moved to approve Mayor Gast's attendance to the annual PSAB conference in Hershey. Jim Kiley seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

EVFD:

Mary Ann Horne noted a few items from the recent EVFD board meeting: they have ordered a new pumper truck; the Engine House club is doing very well, allowing them to make additional payments on their loan principal; and the newer radio communication system will likely be getting an additional antenna in the Borough to improve signal.

Watershed Association:

Mary Ann Horne said that the Watershed Association is looking to replace their signage by the lake with improved signage. Council expressed their support for the idea.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Gast moved to approve the event permit for the Oars on the Shore event in July. Mary Ann Horne seconded. Mark Eisert explained that this will be the third year of the event, which is a fundraiser for Boro Women Services, and features a poker run with kayaks on the lake. The motion passed 5-0.

Manager Oppe mentioned that the Lake City VFD will be performing an emergency rescue drill on Edinboro Lake on February 22, in collaboration with other local VFDs. He also mentioned the Little Free Library opening event that will take place on February 27 at 10 AM outside of the WIC office in the Borough building.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mary Ann Horne moved for adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

ATTEST:



Manager Kevin Oppe



Mayor Aaron Gast