

**Home Rule Borough of Edinboro
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER:

Monday, September 10, 2018 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, Aaron Gast, Mary Ann Horne, Nathan Latimer, Alyssa Dobson, and Fred Langill. Absent was Pat Davis.

Also present were Solicitor Tim Wachter, Finance Director Jason Spangenberg, Maryann Mook, Mary Ann Schenck, Amber Chisholm, Dave Smith, Mike Feikles, Casey Ponsoll, and John Ponsoll.

MINUTES:

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the August 13, 2018 regular meeting minutes and CDBG hearing minutes as presented. Jim Kiley seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mary Ann Schenck, 116 Sunset Drive. Ms. Schenck suggested that the downtown benches be revamped by having them painted with scenes of Edinboro, perhaps as part of a competition. Council thanked her for the idea.

With no further speakers, Mayor Gast closed public participation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve bills paid August 27, 2018 totaling \$190,270.14; and bills paid September 10, 2018 totaling \$76,109.77. Alyssa Dobson seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve payroll ending August 25 and paid August 31, 2018 totaling \$76,774.43. Alyssa Dobson seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Ordinance Review Committee:

Alyssa Dobson stated that the Committee met and discussed potential changes to the student rental regulations. Solicitor Wachter reviewed changes that would be made in a draft ordinance. The ordinance would allow student rentals to be rented to non-students for up to the three years without losing their student permit, an increase from the current one year. This would sunset in 2021 if not renewed by vote of Council. Other changes were updating the definition of a student to be less restrictive regarding life changes, changing the number of occupants permitted to equal the number of bedrooms in the unit, updating the definition of family to be less restrictive, and add language that landlords would have to verify the student status of renters. Fred Langill stated his opinion on the matter, which is that adults should not be restricted in where they can rent based on student status, nor should property owners be restricted in how they use their property. Ms. Dobson said that the Committee tried to find a balance based on a number of factors, and that they did not think it would go over well if all rental restrictions were removed. She noted that the draft ordinance would also reduce the distance required between student rentals from 20 property widths to 15. Mr. Langill replied that the Borough should only be concerned with public safety and infrastructure; individuals should be responsible for themselves. He said that the restrictions should totally be removed, and new ones drafted for 2018. Jim Kiley said that changes in EU enrollment must be considered. Mr. Langill moved to go into executive session to discuss the topic. Solicitor Wachter explained that executive session can only be used for specific topics, and this was not one of them. The motion was not seconded. Nathan Latimer said that he did not see any reason to further table the ordinance, adding that the process is taking too long to address the issue. Mayor Gast thanked all for their comments and said that the ordinance process would continue with readings and a hearing before final vote.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

Jason Spangenberg presented the Manager’s report in Kevin Opplé’s absence. The new water building opening ceremony was held on August 29 and there was a nice turnout. Some minor changes need to be made to the cabinets in the break room, but otherwise the building should be operational in the coming weeks. The Dundon Road water tower is finished, and it will be prepared for a final inspection from Labor & Industry.

The EU wastewater certification course started last week with six students for the semester.

Manager Opplé is currently attending the PMAA conference in Erie.

The quarterly town and gown meeting with EU officials was held last week. There were no major updates, but the meeting was again very positive. EU’s employee in charge of the committee will be leaving to University, so another person will be appointed.

Manager Opple attended a workshop regarding future ECGRA grants last week. They are looking at having larger grants of \$250,000 over three years, rather than the one year \$15,000 grant we had this year. A plan would need to be created before submitting for this grant, and Manager Opple will work with the business and community leaders to determine our needs. Nathan Latimer suggested that the bench painting request from earlier in the meeting be funded through this grant.

Finance:

Jason Spangenberg stated that a motion would be needed to approve the 2019 pension plan Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMOs). He said that our pension plans are in great shape, so the state aid we receive will cover the entirety of the MMOs. Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the 2019 MMOs, Mayor Gast seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Horne moved to set the dates for the 2019 budget workshops as October 10, 17, 24, and 29 at 4:30 PM. Alyssa Dobson seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Police:

Jason Spangenberg stated that a motion was needed to approve a Memorandum of Agreement. This agreement would allow recently retired Police Chief Jeff Craft to still be affiliated with our police department, so he could continue to work County Task Force hours. Mayor Gast moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement, Mary Ann Horne seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

COMMUNITY LIAISONS:

EVFD:

Mary Ann Horne said that the EVFD Board discussed the potential volunteer firefighter tax rebate, and they are willing to go along with anything we decide.

Washington Township:

Nathan Latimer stated that he and David Anthony are working together to look into funding options for the Boro-Town Trail feasibility study.

Watershed Association:

Fred Langill attended the latest Watershed meeting and he said that they support any efforts for improving the appearance of the eastern shore of the lake along Rt. 99.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was included in Council's packet thanking Borough employee Chris Motter for his work in addressing issues at the Lakeside bathhouse.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mary Ann Horne moved to set trick-or-treat hours as 6-8 PM on October 31. Jim Kiley seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mary Ann Horne moved for adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 PM.

ATTEST:



Manager Kevin Oppe



Mayor Aaron Gast