

**Home Rule Borough of Edinboro  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
February 26, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Monday, February 26, 2018 the regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Mayor Aaron Gast at 6:30 P.M.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**ROLL CALL:**

Council members present were Jim Kiley (via phone), Aaron Gast, Alyssa Dobson, Mary Ann Horne, Nathan Latimer, and Fred Langill. Absent was Pat Davis.

Also present were Solicitor Chris Sennett, Manager Kevin Oppe, Finance Director Jason Spangenberg, Maryann Mook, Jeff Richards, and Christopher Rosato, Jr.

**MINUTES:**

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the January 2, 2018 regular meeting and reorganizational meeting minutes as presented. Alyssa Dobson seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

No speakers were present.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee:**

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve bills for 2017 paid in 2018 totaling \$66,983.43; bills paid January 8, 2018 totaling \$38,164.12; bills paid January 22, 2018 totaling \$42,409.33; bills paid February 12, 2018 totaling \$114,052.78; and bills paid February 26, 2018 totaling \$53,161.10. Fred Langill seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve payroll ending December 30, 2017 and paid January 5, 2018 totaling \$95,802.30; payroll ending January 13 and paid January 19, 2018 totaling

\$82,944.91; payroll ending January 27 and paid February 2, 2018 totaling \$95,902.07; and payroll ending February 10 and paid February 16, 2018 totaling \$82,614.33. Nathan Latimer seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

## **MANAGEMENT REPORTS:**

Manager Oppe presented his report to Council. The interior of the new water building is in its final stages. No issues have arisen and we are projecting the project to finish in mid-summer, but could be sooner depending on the weather. Nathan Latimer asked about the plan for the exterior appearance of the building. Manager Oppe replied that bricks would be installed in the spring to try to make the new building match the Borough building in appearance.

Work on the last major sewage lift station upgrade, Adams Street, is progressing. The contractor ran into some problems installing the cylinder, which have been corrected. The project should be completed in the next few weeks.

The vacant Perkins property has been sold as part of a bankruptcy sale to two brothers from south of Buffalo. They have purchased all 28 properties from Unique Ventures. They intend to reopen our restaurant as a Perkins in the spring, and they have been proactively engaging with us.

The design committee for the ECGRA façade grant program has met three times and has come up with a process and criteria for the application. A meeting will be held on March 5 to explain the process to business and building owners.

A conference call was held with the PA Director of Dam Safety regarding working together to come up with a procedure for drawing down the lake in advance of a major storm. They agree that such a procedure is needed, but we have to include the procedure in our Dam Emergency Action Plan. PA Dam Safety will next reach out to the PA Fish and Boat Commission for their input.

The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) has granted us \$4,000 to help defray the legal costs from the *Huston v. Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB)* case. The PSAB Board agreed with the importance of the case and the need to further defend the ZHB decision.

Contract negotiations with the non-uniform employees have concluded, and the employees have unanimously approved the contract proposal. The main changes are to reduce the maximum comp time that can be accrued, from 240 hours down to 120, add family bonding leave, and increased the rate at which new employees earn vacation time. This will be up for Council approval later in the meeting.

An EU student has been hired as a parks intern for the remainder of the semester. He will create a parks inventory and plan for improvements, including cost estimates and surveying residents for opinions. Mary Ann Horne asked if he will meet with the Parks Committee. Manager Oppe replied that he would once he has prepared some ideas.

Fred Langill asked about what was mentioned about drawing down the lake, stating that it used to happen every year. Manager Oppe said that the drawdowns were for the purpose of preventing zebra mussels from inhabiting the lake, but the mussels never did appear, so the process was stopped. He added that part of the current discussion is to lower the lake in the fall to prevent high water levels from melting snow over the winter. We can currently do this but the permit application process takes about two months; a permit is pending to have the lake lowered a foot or two in advance of the installation of the new docks. Mr. Langill stated his approval of the new docks. Manager Oppe and Mr. Langill briefly discussed the procedure for a lake drawdown.

Manager Oppe discussed the road management survey that was on the agenda for approval. A third-party contractor would evaluate the current condition of the streets, rating them on a scale, and provide a long-term plan for improvements. Our main engineer Greenman-Pedersen provided a quote and we received a quote from another contractor, CT Consultants, whose quote was cheaper than the engineer. We checked the references for CT, and plan to go with them for the project. The quoted price of \$7,500 is below the bidding threshold. Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the project, Aaron Gast seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

**Finance:**

Mary Ann Horne moved to approve the 2018-2021 non-uniform employee agreement. Aaron Gast seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

**OTHER OLD BUSINESS:**

Mayor Gast stated that discussion of Resolution 7-2018 regarding rules of Board procedure would be postponed to the next meeting, in the absence of Solicitor Wachter.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Nathan Latimer asked about getting the Ordinance Review Committee together to discuss the student rental ordinance. Manager Oppe, Mayor Gast, and Solicitor Sennett briefly discussed the procedure for proposing ordinance changes. Mayor Gast said that he would look into scheduling the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mary Ann Horne moved for adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Manager Kevin Opple

  
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Mayor Aaron Gast