

5:45pm – Executive Session – Personnel (Josh Lamancusa, Lawrence Co. District Attorney)

**ELLWOOD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 P.M. – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
December 18, 2023**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

President George Celli called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Barry, Mr. Cragle, Ms. Lamenza, Mr. O'vial, Ms. Williams (via phone), and Mr. Celli

Also Present: Borough Manager Kevin Swogger, Mayor Anthony Court and Solicitor Ed Leymarie

Absent: Ms. Dici

INVOCATION – Tom O'Brien, First Christian Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

VISITORS

1. Patty Colao, 214 Wood Street – RE: School District Proposed Ballfield

COMMUNICATIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting 11/20/23

A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held 11/20/23, as submitted. Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Pre-Paid Voucher List 12/14/23 and List of Vouchers to be Paid dated 12/13/23

A motion was made by Mr. O'vial, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to approve the Pre-Paid Voucher List dated 12/14/23, in the amount of \$412,607.70, and the List of Vouchers to be Paid dated 12/13/23, in the amount of \$123,122.03. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Mr. Barry, to approve the Departmental Reports, as submitted. Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

BID OPENINGS

ORDINANCES

1. 2024 Tax Rate (8.75 mills)

A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to adopt an ordinance, as submitted, establishing the real property tax rate at 8.75 mills for the year 2024. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

2. Code Book Updates

A motion was made by Ms. Lamenza, seconded by Mr. Barry, to adopt an ordinance, as submitted, approving the editing and inclusion of certain ordinances and resolutions as parts of the various component codes of the codified ordinances. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution - 2024 Budget
A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Mr. Ovial, to adopt a resolution, as submitted, adopting a 2024 Budget. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.
2. Purchase Power Adjustment (PPA) Stabilization
A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Mr. Ovial, to adopt a Resolution, as submitted, establishing a stabilized Purchase Power Adjustment (PPA) for the 2024 electric usage as \$0.018/kwh. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

1. Appointments – Zoning Hearing Board Alternate, Economic Development Authority, Board of Health, Recreation Board
A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Mr. Barry, to make the following appointments:

ZONING HEARING BOARD ALTERNATE – Three Year Term – 1 vacancy, 1 applicant
David Parker, 323 Franklin Ave, 724-674-0893

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY - Five Year Term – 1 vacancy, 1 applicant
Jim Barry, 739 Smiley Street, 724-752-9239

BOARD OF HEALTH – Five Year Term – 1 vacancy, 1 applicant
Brad Ovial, 866 Constitution Ave, 724-674-1841

RECREATION BOARD - Five Year Term – 1 vacancy, 1 applicant
Earla Marshall, 319 Mt. Vernon Drive, 724-333-4650

Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

2. Appointments – Zoning Hearing Board
A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Mr. Barry, to appoint _____ to the Zoning Hearing Board.

ZONING HEARING BOARD – Three Year Term - 1 vacancy, 2 applicants
(vote for 1)
Emily Denome, 304 Wood St, 724-758-4803
Joseph Lamenza, 506 Wood St, 724-650-7811

Roll call vote. All voted for Mr. Lamenza. Motion carried.

3. Appointments – Civil Service Commission
A motion was made by Mr. Ovial, seconded by Mr. Cragle, to appoint Sherri Greco to the Civil Service Commission. Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Finance: (Williams, Lamenza, Dici)

Health/Public Safety: (Ovial, Lamenza, Cragle)

1. EC Police – Policy Manual
A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to approve the Ellwood City Police Policy Manual (revised 12/1/23). Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.
2. Approve Quote – Purchase 2024 Ranger UTV
A motion would be in order to approve the quote from Snow's Polaris in the amount of \$23,830.46 (Costar pricing) for the purchase of a 2024 Ranger XP 1000 Premium UTV. This amount will be paid from the General Fund.

After asking three (3) times for a motion. This item died for the lack of a motion.

Public Works: (Barry, Williams, Ovia)

Utilities: (Dici, Barry, Williams)

Parks/Recreation: (Cragle, Lamenza, Barry)

Administration/Personnel: (Lamenza, Ovia, Cragle)

1. Employment - Bookkeeper

This item was pulled from the Agenda.

2. Worker’s Compensation Insurance – Firefighters

A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to approve the Workers Compensation Insurance with the State Workers Insurance Fund (SWIF) for the volunteer firefighters for the period 1/1/24 – 1/1/25. The estimated annual premium is \$15,743 (final premium is subject to adjustment by audit). This amount will be paid from the General Fund. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

3. 2024 Wages – Part-Time Employees’

A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to establish salaries/wages for the following part-time employees effective with the first pay in January, 2024 as follows:

Classification	1/1/2024 Hourly Rate/Salary
Solicitor	\$28,000
Animal Control Officer	\$5,000
Health Officer	\$5,000
Tax Collector	\$8,292
Code Enforcement Officer	\$17.86
Playground Coordinator	\$3,000.00
Firefighters	\$18.00
Paramedics	\$20.50
Secretary to Mayor/Police/Planning & Zoning	\$15.00
School Crossing Guards	\$15.00
Parking Meter Enforcement Officer	\$15.00
Parks Manager (PT Year Round)	\$16.00
Park Employees (Labor & Playgrounds)	\$13.00
Public Works Laborers	\$15.00

Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

4. 2024 Wages – Non-Union Full-Time Employees'
A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Mr. Ovial, to establish wages for the following Non-Union full-time employees effective with the first pay in January, 2024 as follows:

Classification	1/1/2024 Hourly Rate	2024 Annual Base
Borough Manager	\$38.462	\$80,000
Borough Secretary	\$26.460	\$55,037
Fire Chief	\$39.298	\$81,740
Paramedic Captain	\$20.500	\$42,640
Public Works Director	\$40.930	\$85,134
Electric Department Superintendent	\$40.137	\$83,485
Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager	\$36.050	\$74,984
Wastewater Treatment Lab Technician	\$26.120	\$54,330

Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

5. Employment – Full Time Patrolman
This item was pulled from the Agenda.

Community Development/Buildings: (Ovial, Barry, Cragle)

Blight: (Dici, Ovial, Barry)

Technology: (Cragle, Williams, Dici)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Employment – Justin Magnifico (Part-time Firefighter)
A motion was made by Mr. Ovial, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to approve the employment of Justin Magnifico as a part-time firefighter at the rate of \$16.83/hour. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

MANAGER'S REPORT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reorganizational Meeting – Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 4pm

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Ms. Lamenza, seconded by Mr. Cragle. Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

Linda M. List
Borough Secretary