

**ELLWOOD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 P.M. – COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
July 21, 2025**

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**MINUTES**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

President Brad OviaI called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mr. Barry, Mr. Celli, Mr. Cragle, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Lamenza, Ms. Williams, and Mr. OviaI

Also Present: Solicitor Ryan Long and Borough Manager Kevin Swogger

Absent: Mayor Anthony Court

**INVOCATION** – Rev. James Johnson

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**VISITORS**

1. Emily DeNome, 304 Wood Street – RE: Boat/Car parked at Orchard Ave. & Bridge St.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Regular Meeting 6/16/25 & Special Meeting 6/25/25

A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Mr. Celli, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held 6/16/25 and the Special Meeting held 6/25/25, as submitted. Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:**

Pre-Paid Voucher List 7/9/25 and List of Vouchers to be Paid dated 7/18/25

A motion was made by Mr. Celli, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to approve the Pre-Paid Voucher List dated 7/9/25, in the amount of \$758,537.85, and the List of Vouchers to be Paid dated 7/18/25, in the amount of \$492,254.40. Roll call vote. All in favor with Ms. Williams abstaining from Pre-Paid Voucher #25-00866. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

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

**BID OPENINGS**

**ORDINANCES**

1. Police Pension Plan – Length of Service Increments

A motion was made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to adopt an ordinance, as submitted, amending the Police Pension Ordinance establishing a service increment as follows: one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month for each completed year of aggregate service in excess of twenty-five (25) years, up to a maximum of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per month for each completed year of aggregate service in excess of twenty-seven (27) years of service, and shall be paid monthly in addition to the amount of normal retirement benefit calculated. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**

## COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

### **Finance: (Williams, Celli, Lamenza)**

1. Accept the 2024 Audit (Turnley Robertson & Assoc.)  
A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Ms. Williams, to accept the 2024 audit performed by Turnley Robertson & Assoc. Roll call vote; all in favor.  
Motion carried.
2. Payment – Ellwood City Glass Co.  
A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Mr. Barry, to approve the payment in the amount of \$10,750 to Ellwood City Glass Co. for the replacement of six (6) windows in the Municipal Building. This amount will be paid from the General Fund. Reimbursement in the amount of \$5,000 will come from the Façade Improvement Program Grant. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

### **Health/Public Safety: (Cragle, Lamenza, Ovia)**

1. Lawrence Co. Hazard Mitigation Plan  
*This item was pulled from the Agenda.*
2. Approve Quote – Upfitting of 2025 Chevy Tahoe (Police)  
A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Barry, to approve the quote by Jason Daughtry in the amount of \$13,324.74 for the upfitting of the 2025 Chevy Tahoe (Police). This amount will be paid from the General Fund (\$7,973.19) and the Drug Investigation Fund (\$5,351.55). Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.
3. American Legion Post 157 – Flag Retirement Ceremony  
A motion was made by Mr. Celli, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the request by the American Legion Post #157 to suspend the burning ordinance for a flag retirement ceremony September 20, from 9am-1pm at Legion Park. Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

### **Public Works: (Celli, Barry, Williams)**

1. Vactor Lease Payments - \$70,978.53 (5 year annual payments)  
The Borough Council at their Special Meeting held 6/25/25 approved a 5 year lease agreement with FNB for the purchase of a Vactor. The five (5) annual payments are \$70,978.53. Therefore, a motion was made by Mr. Celli, seconded by Mr. Barry, to ratify payment #1 being paid from 50% Sewage Collection Fund (\$35,489.27) and 50% General Fund (\$35,489.27). Payments #2 - #5 shall be split 50/50 between the Sewage Fund and the General Fund. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

### **Utilities: (Williams, Celli, Johnson)**

1. Approve Payment – Bronder Technical Services  
A motion was made by Ms. Lamenza, seconded by Ms. Williams, to approve the payment in the amount of \$5,742.31 to Bronder Technical Services for repairs to the traffic signal at Sims Street/Fountain Avenue. This amount will be paid from the General Fund. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.
2. Payment – Utility Truck Services  
A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Mr. Barry, to approve the payment in the amount of \$7,592.34 to Utility Truck Services for repairs/replacement/testing to the controller in the 2019 Ford F550. This amount will be paid from the Electric Fund. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

**Parks/Recreation: (Cragle, Williams, Ovia)**

1. **Suspend Alcohol Ordinance – Oktoberfest Event**  
A motion was made by Mr. Cragle, seconded by Mr. Celli, to approve suspending Part 10, Chapter 1066, subsection 1066.03 (a) of the Codified Ordinance Book pertaining to the prohibition of alcohol in Ewing Park. This suspension only applies to participants of the “Oktoberfest” event held October 4 from 12-5pm. Event insurance shall be purchased, naming the Borough of Ellwood City as an additional named insured. All necessary State and County permits shall be in place for this event. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

**Administration/Personnel: (Lamenza, Cragle, Ovia)**

1. **Advertise Ordinance – Municipal Employees’ Pension Plan**  
A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Mr. Celli, to advertise an amendment to the Municipal Employees’ Pension Plan clarifying that when an employee is on an “Authorized Leave of Absence”, the requirement to contribute to the Plan is waived. Any other section of the ordinance in conflict shall be amended. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.
2. **Memorandum of Understanding (Clerical Contract) – Vacancy Adm. Asst.**  
A motion was made by Ms. Lamenza, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to ratify the Memorandum of Understanding (Clerical Contract), as submitted, relative to the vacancy in the position of Administrative Assistant being filled by an employee of the Utility Billing Department and establishing a 90 day probationary period. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.
3. **Employment – Laborer III (Public Works)**  
*This item was pulled from the Agenda.*
4. **Agreement – McCarter Coach & Tour – Coach Bus (IRT Program)**  
A motion was made by Mr. Celli, seconded by Mr. Cragle, to approve the agreement with McCarter Coach & Tour to provide coach bus transportation on 7/31/25 for the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) Program at no cost. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.
5. **Agreement – McCarter Coach & Tour – School Bus Shuttle (IRT Program)**  
A motion was made by Mr. Barry, seconded by Mr. Celli, to approve the agreement with McCarter Coach & Tour to provide school bus shuttle transportation from 7/23/25 – 8/1/25 for the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) Program at a cost of \$3600. This amount will be paid from the General Fund. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.
6. **Agreement – Allied Coordinated Transportation Services (ACTS) – Bus Transportation (IRT Program)**  
A motion was made by Mr. Celli, seconded by Ms. Lamenza, to approve the agreement with Allied Coordinated Transportation Services (ACTS) to provide bus transportation from 7/23/25 – 8/1/25 for the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) Program at a maximum cost of \$5.30 (round trip) per person. This amount will be paid from the General Fund. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

**Community Development/Buildings: (Ovia, Cragle, Johnson)**

**Blight: (Johnson, Barry, Ovia)**

**Technology: (Cragle, Williams, Lamenza)**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Wampum Avenue Pump Station Project – Change Order #5 (Pollard Land Services.)

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Barry, to approve Change Order #5 in the amount of \$23,121.80 from Pollard Land Services relative to the Wampum Avenue Pump Station Project. The purpose of this change order is for the purchase/installation of 8 air releases for pumps and for a 45 day time extension. This amount will be paid from the project contingency. Roll call vote; all in favor. Motion carried.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

**VISITORS**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Valley Waste increase in 95gal cart, 35gal cart, & bags (\$18.39, \$15.53, \$26/roll), per Agreement (will reflect on August utility bill)

Wander Ellwood – rescheduled for Wed, July 23 from 5-9pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Linda M. List  
Borough Secretary