

ETNA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

TUESDAY, June 18th, 2024, at 7:30 P.M

The regular meeting of the Etna Borough Council was held on June 18th, 2024. President Becki presided and called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Roll was called, and members present were Mr. Iannuzzi, Ms. Semler, Mrs. Schaefer, Mrs. Tuñón, Mr. Burke, Mr. Trader, Mrs. Gabriel, and Chairman Becki. Mrs. Daniele Rothmeyer-McElhaney was absent. Also present were Mayor Tuñón, Manager Ramage, Police Chief Rodman, Assistant Manager Mary Beth Birks, Public Works Director Joe Balistrieri, Assistant Fire Chief Todd Lunn, Shaler Hampton EMS Executive Director Eric Schmidt, Junior Council Member Yarnot and Solicitor Rushford.

Mayor Tuñón led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Onto the June Treasures report. I have a motion to accept and file the Treasury's report, a motion was made by Councilwoman Gabriel and second by Councilman Trader, all in favor, Ya the accounts are reported as follows:

Fund 01 General Account	\$	1,073,275.43
Fund 05 Education Account	\$	272.34
Fund 03 Payroll Account	\$	807.65
Fund 04 Police Fund	\$	12,795.31
Fund 21 Hockey	\$	1,468.21
Fund 30 Capital Improvement	\$	-----
Fund 33 Christmas	\$	6,631.13
Fund 34 Etna Senior Center Fund	\$	743.30
Fund 35 Liquid Fuels Account	\$	81,835.14
Fund 36 War Memorial Fund	\$	5,110.42
Fund 38 Sanitary Trunk Line Account	\$	161,711.18
Fund 39 Middle Street Escrow Account	\$	6,574.64
Fund 42 Capital Reserve	\$	332,322.92
Fund 44 Sewer Account	\$	87,171.80
Fund 45 Project Escrow Account	\$	CLOSED
Fund 46 Riverfront Park & Trail	\$	480.87
Fund 48 Etna Green Streetscape	\$	21.76
Fund 50 GI Account	\$	1,184.57
Fund 51 Fire Escrow Account	\$	28,287.62
Fund 52 Infrastructure Account	\$	96.81
Fund 53 Youth & Recreation Fund	\$	4,445.92
Fund 54 American Rescue	\$	378,597.27

A check register by fund (bills already paid) as well as outstanding accounts payable (bills due) were given to each member of Council.

Total Owed	\$	368,255.95
Total Bills Paid	\$	274,312.32
Total Balance Due	\$	93,943.63

A motion was made by Mr. Trader and second by Ms. Schaefer to pay all bills. The Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Police Chief's Report

Police Chief Rodman provided a report regarding Police Stats; Police Committee Meeting, 7/2/24; Fire at 86 Vilsack St.; Damage at Riverfront Park (vandalism) arrest made; Sgt. Winschel off duty injury; update Officer Glock; Dementia training.

Chief Rodman extended his thanks to the Fire Dept., EMS, Public Works, and the borough office staff for their assistance with the fire on Vilsack St. He added that while the fire was a loss to the community,

everyone pitched in and did everything from providing safety on the roads, to answering the phones, to fireman fighting the fire, to our neighboring communities fighting the fire. He reported that there was only one injury to a firemen. He said that just last night Public Works Dept. came out and hooked up some generators for the traffic lights. This has been a good team effort in the last couple of weeks and Chief Rodman appreciated everybody responding together, by helping with the pool and all the other areas of the borough. He also wanted to thank everybody for working together and that most issues start with the borough office with the phone calls from residents. Unfortunately, there was one arrest made at the fire that put several personnel in danger. EMS had been set up and they were able to circulate our fireman that got exhausted to ensure they were given fluids, so they could get back into the fighting the fire. The EMS did a phenomenal job.

Engineer's Report

The Engineer had provided a report regarding: Source Flow Reduction Consent Order Compliance; CDBG Year 49 & year 50 Grant; Dewey Street and Spring Street Sewer Separation Project; Etna Streetscape Phase 4; Etna Streetscape Phase 5.1; Etna 2023 MS4 Program.

Public Works Director's Report

Public Works Director Joe Balistrieri submitted a report regarding: work completed at the pool and playground including pump replacement, boiler repair, restroom repairs on soap dispensers, commodes, swing repair; grass cutting ballfields and other areas, assisted a vendor with graffiti removal from vandalism at the Riverfront Park – insurance claim submitted by Manager; did some line painting, pothole patching, etc. general maintenance; cut tree branches at the Nature Trail with the assistance of Sharpsburg borough public works bucket truck; and responded to complaint about weeds at the School Street parking lot and then general work for 811 calls, cut the vacant lot on Vista Street, assisted with cleanup at playground equipment after hours for the incident with the feces stuffed into the playground equipment and several other callouts after hours; got the riverfront park ready for the first season concert. Present Becki said to Joe thank you for completing everything at the pool that was slippery due to the new paint job. He rode by and saw the guys working late at night and thanked them for their efforts.

Fire Departments Report

Etna Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) provided their monthly report which included: breakdown by major Incident Types 5/1 – 5/31; breakdown of Incident Type: Events per Event Type 5/1 – 5/31. He stated that Chief Porter asked him to mention the new AEDs that were recently purchased. There are eight in front of the council and there were twelve in total. The AEDs are the latest and greatest in the AED. EMS Director Eric Schmidt also stated he wanted to thank Council, Manager Ramage and the Fire Dept as without everyone working on this together this would not have been possible. These AED's, he added, will be distributed with five to fire department, three to the police department and four to borough properties (borough building, pool, and public works). Chief Porter is going to take the old AEDs from the borough, police and fire and see if the EMS can make more functioning AED covering throughout the borough. Eric added that these AED saves lives and everyone should be proud of this effort.

Hampton / Shaler EMS Report

Hampton / Shaler EMS Director Eric Schmidt provided their monthly report, and it included: 75 calls for the month of June, and for the year to date 268. Eric added that that looking at the last five years of data the 75 calls in Etna in May was the most calls ever, it increased by ten calls since last May and the total for the months for the 3 communities was 524. He stated that there has been no problem with response time. He stated that they were about to issue their second request for the annual subscriptions. He reminded everyone that if someone is transported that is also a service they provide at a modest cost. He added that the EMS attended a great training two weeks ago on dementia training and that staff was so impressed that they will doing it again. He continued that the EMS attends a lot of training in public safety, and this was a great presentation. He also that that they received a grant with assistance from Representative Powell and Senator Williams for an inflatable tent. This tent is airconditioned / heated and is run by a generator, which was great in these extreme temperatures Pennsylvania has had. In the winter the EMS will be able to do assessments in a controlled environment. The AED is fundamental undertaking. The EMS works in three police departments, all officers are CPR trained and all the cars have AED devices.

Agenda

1. Vision Outdoor Media Agreement

President Becki stated that another extension would be needed for the installation of the final billboard out of Route 8. This location could be in Hunts Tavern Parking lot. The extension was needed due to delays with the ownership issue of the lot and PENNDOT approvals.

President Becki asked for a motion to receive the Vision Outdoor Media Agreement, and a motion was made by Mrs. Gabriel and seconded by Mr. Burke. Motion carried.

2. Morton Salt 4/17/24 Letter (Price Increase)

President Becki stated that the annual contract with Morton Salt, which was negotiated through the North Hills Council of Governments for multiple municipalities, was before Council. The annual increase was roughly 3% higher.

A motion to authorize the Morton Salt (Price Increase) contract was made by Mrs. Tuñón and seconded by Mr. Burke. Motion was carried.

3. Draft Paper Street Ordinance (Upper Maplewood St.)

President Becki stated that a Public Hearing had been held that last month for a request for the Borough to vacate a portion of a paper street between Maplewood and Hickory Streets. There are only four properties that this request had affected. Two property owners had signed and submitted the petition, one property was vacant property, and the fourth property owner had never responded. The law requires the borough to advertise for a public hearing, which had been done and the hearing held. He added that the borough did vote at the regular meeting to vacate the portion of Paper Street and now Council had the ordinance before them to allow for this vacation. Solicitor Rushford said that property owners should first a survey taken to get the meets the bounds of their deeds and then add this portion to their deed so it is properly taxed as they will now own their portion of the vacation.

President Becki asked for a motion that the Ordinance for Vacating Upper Garrick Street, which reads in part as follows and a motion was made by Mrs. Gabriel and seconded by Councilman Trader.

“An ordinance of the borough of Etna, vacating a portion of the paper street between Maplewood and Hickory Streets, opposite Garrick Street”

Roll call was done by Manager Ramage as follows: Mr. Iannuzzi, Aye; Ms. Semler - Aye, Ms. Schaefer, - Aye, Mrs. Tuñón - Aye, Mr. Burke - Aye, Mr. Trader - Aye, Mrs. Gabriel - Aye, President Becki – Aye. Mrs. McElhanev was absent. Motion Carried.

4. Sewer Planning Module / Locust Street Housing

President Becki stated the borough has several empty lots on Locust street that are now deeded to the City of Bridges Land Trust and that after a community engagement meeting, the plan for the property was to put two duplexes on the two lots which required several procedures required to have this happen.

Manager Ramage gave a description of what needs to be done in order for this property to have two houses built for affordable housing and said that the first step for City of Bridges Land Trust was to submit their information to the borough engineers regarding estimated sewage usage at these properties. Gateway Engineers has confirmed to the borough that DEP needs to review the plans and approve them. A resolution was before council for the revision plan for the development of these properties.

President Becki asked for a motion to approve the sewer planning module for Locust Street Housing, a motion was made by Councilwoman Tuñón and second by Councilman Burke, all in favor Ya, all opposed. Motion carried

Manager Ramage, indicated in her managers' report, step one of this process is to hold a Zoning Hearing Board meeting, and that meeting is scheduled for tomorrow June 19th at the Borough Building at 7:00 p.m.

BOROUGH OF ETNA RESOLUTION FOR PLAN REVISION FOR NEW LAND DEVELOPMENT

RESOLUTION OF THE (SUPERVISORS) (COMMISSIONERS) (COUNCILMEN) of Borough of Etna
(TOWNSHIP) (BOROUGH) (CITY), Allegheny COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA (hereinafter "the municipality").

WHEREAS Section 5 of the Act of January 24, 1966, P.L. 1535, No. 537, known as the *Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act*, as Amended, and the rules and Regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) adopted thereunder, Chapter 71 of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania Code, require the municipality to adopt an Official Sewage Facilities Plan providing for sewage services adequate to prevent contamination of waters of the Commonwealth and/or environmental health hazards from sewage wastes, and to revise said plan whenever it is necessary to determine whether a proposed method of sewage disposal for a new land development conforms to a comprehensive program of pollution control and water quality management, and

WHEREAS City of Bridges Community Land Trust has proposed the development of a parcel of land identified as
land developer

Locust St Housing Development, and described in the attached Sewage Facilities Planning Module, and
name of subdivision

proposes that such subdivision be served by: (check all that apply), sewer tap-ins, sewer extension, new treatment facility, individual onlot systems, community onlot systems, spray irrigation, retaining tanks, other, (please specify). _____

WHEREAS, Borough of Etna finds that the subdivision described in the attached
municipality

Sewage Facilities Planning Module conforms to applicable sewage related zoning and other sewage related municipal ordinances and plans, and to a comprehensive program of pollution control and water quality management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the (Supervisors) (Commissioners) (Councilmen) of the (Township) (Borough) (City) of Etna hereby adopt and submit to DEP for its approval as a revision to the "Official Sewage Facilities Plan" of the municipality the above referenced Sewage Facilities Planning Module which is attached hereto.

Mary Ellen Ramage Secretary, Borough of Etna
(Signature)

Township Board of Supervisors (Borough Council) (City Councilmen), hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Township (Borough) (City) Resolution # 1396 B, adopted, June 18, 2024.

Municipal Address:

437 Butler Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15223

Seal of
Governing Body

Telephone 412-781-0569

5. Police Officer Hiring Date

President Becki indicated that the current structure for new hires in the Police Contract details that it would take four years for a new hire to receive a full policeman salary. He had checked with the solicitor about changing this process, as only one applicant was eligible for the current position and that candidate had concerns with the current starting salary. Council had discussed and agreed to amend the current contract to change the starting salary. As per the solicitor, the Borough would have to advertise the position with the new rate and begin the process all over. He stated that Council would need to get an Agreement with the current bargaining unit and is they would agree to change one section of an existing contract the borough has with the police that dealt with the starting salary of a new hire. Mr. Becki talked with the solicitor who had advised that certain procedures be followed to reopen an open contract. He stated that what was needed was a motion to reject the current application and begin the process over advertising the new starting rate for a new hire.

President Becki asked for a motion to reject the current application and begin the process over and a motion was made by Mr. Burke and seconded by Mrs. Gabriel. All were in favor with the exception of Councilman Iannuzzi, who opposed the motion. Motion carried.

6. Street Scape IV

President Becki stated that the bids for the COG C. D.B.G project, Streetscape IV had come in well over the engineers estimate and the grant project estimate. Manager Ramage had met with the COG and Allegheny County DCED and it was advised to ask for an extension on the current grant, while agreeing to seek additional funding for the project. The current bid has to be rejected.

7. C.R.S. Rating

President Becki provided a brief synopsis of the Borough's Community Rating System project which detailed how extensive and involved this process was annually and that Manager Ramage spearheads. This includes annual notifications to all residents and businesses owners of our flood warning system and other critical flood preparation, response, and other great information, and updated projects that help address flooding. Through these efforts, points are scored and level of Class rating are assigned which affect flood insurance costs. Through Etna's efforts, our residents received a 15% discount on their flood insurance premiums for this program. We had received our notifications that we have once again, completed all tasks and our Class rating will remain at a 7, which provides the discount.

President Becki thanked Manager Ramage for all the work she has put into the C.R.S. program.

8. Update Fee Resolution

President Becki stated that the borough looks at so many resolutions and when we increased fees back in January the borough did not increase the rate for the Tax Certification the new fee is \$35.00. The Resolution 1395K needs to be amended to include this change. A motion was made by Mr. Trader, seconded by Mrs. Tuñón that the following resolution be adopted:

OFFICIAL
BOROUGH OF ETNA
RESOLUTION NO. 1396 A

AGENDA

A Resolution repealing in entirety Resolution 1395K, dated January 16, 2024, and adopting certain fees/charges assessed to the public for services rendered by the Borough of Etna:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IN RESOLVED:

That the following list of fees/charges will become effective immediately:

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>
Zoning Permit	\$ 50.00
Rental Registration	\$ 90.00 every 3 years
Sign Permit* *except when building permit required.	\$ 60.00
Zoning Ordinance/Map	\$ 10.00
Borough Map	\$ 10.00
No Lien Letter	\$ 30.00
Occupancy Registration	\$ 50.00
NSF Check	\$ 30.00
Police Report	\$ 15.00
Police Video	\$ 25.00
Fingerprinting, Resident	\$ 10.00
Fingerprinting, Non-Resident	\$ 20.00
Zoning Hearing Fee, Resident	\$ 400.00
Zoning Hearing Fee, Non-Resident	\$ 650.00

Time of Sale Inspections:

Single-Family	\$ 30.00
Duplex through 4 Units	\$ 50.00
Above 4 Units	\$ 75.00
Commercial	\$ 75.00
Combination – Commercial/Residential	\$100.00
Industrial	\$125.00
Tax Certificate	\$ 35.00

Resolved by the Council of the Borough of Etna this 18 day of June, 2024.



David J. Becki, Chairman


ATTEST:

Mary Ellen Ramage, Secretary-Manager

EXAMINED AND APPROVED by me this 18 day of June, 2024.


Robert Tuñón, Mayor

I certify that this is a true and correct copy of the official proceedings of the Council of the Borough of Etna.


Mary Ellen Ramage,
Secretary-Manager

Motion carried.

Council/Mayor and Manager Reports:

Manager Ramage provided a report regarding – Code / Zoning Updates; Heart and Soul; A68 Sewer Transfer, Alcosan; Swimming Pool / Recreation Updates; Little Pine Creek Connector Trail Grant; Record/Retention/Destruction; Army Corps of Engineers; Concert in the Park; Flood Resilience in Appalachia; Report; Community Day; TriCog Code Enforcement Software; Cornelius Signs purchase of materials; Playground Grant; Fair Housing project; Demolition of 151 Dewey St.; City of Bridges Land Trust/Locust Street lots; COG Cable Franchise Agreement update; LERTA/Union Hotel; Freeport Street One Way study/PENNDOT and Federal Community Funding Grant Notice.

Manager Ramage also added that there was one update today for the housing project grant with CONNECT which was looking at putting in a significant grant. It is a federal grant which is looking for two things for fair housing including funding that would/could go toward whole home repairs for people with reduced income. The federal budget just added another 10 to 15 million from what they gave out last year. The City of Pittsburgh got the grant last year, so half of it would be used for that and the other half is being discussed to be used throughout the County. Manager Ramage has another meeting for the borough's community vision process, for what the borough may be able to include in the zoning ordinance that would deal with fair housing, such as handicap accessibility, including parking. Manager Ramage said that she and Chief Rodman were on a call to share how the council currently issues on-street handicap parking spaces. The borough was provided with an ordinance from another community (West View Borough) on suggestions on the process of approving handicap spaces in the borough without having to go before Council... Currently a letter from the resident comes to council and council approves the handicap spot. The woman from the fair housing project said taking the practice out of the hands of the public meeting process and standardizing it was something they are considering. This protected the person's privacy who was requesting the space. And should Borough consider this ordinance, the spots would be approved administratively in the office. This was just one aspect of the potential grant that would show funders that communities were committed to instituting fair housing practices. Manager Ramage stated there will be additional meetings prior to the grant application being submitted. The other aspect was primarily to include a disability clause into the zoning ordinance, so residents have the proper clearance when installing a handicap wheelchair ramp into their house. She added that when and if Etna participates in the application, it will be a deal with the money for the whole home repairs and they would divide the money among the communities that apply and they would receive X amount of dollars to use to make home improvement, like weatherization, lead services lines for water lines and things like that.

Councilman Iannuzzi passed in Council Reports.

Councilwoman Semler mentioned that tomorrow is HRC quarterly meeting followed by the monthly Queer Game Night. HRC will also be celebrating pride month and Juneteenth a couple of things that are going to be discussed on the agenda is where HRC will be having their meetings moving forward once the library is under construction. They will also be discussing advertising and safety. She did not know if folks saw the Family and Friends social media post regarding if Etna was doing anything for Pride month. She continued that while Etna does not have a parade because other folks have parades, they just want a have a monthly thing that HRC has for folks to hang out, which was the Queer Game Night. There are some really horrible comments on the page questioning people actual right to exist and so the safety of the

committee is a concern. HRC might be checking in with the borough, but HRC would like to talk as a group first. It is really exciting to have a community event where people get together monthly and play games and get pizzas from one of our fabulous pizza joints, it would be nice to get more people to attend. The property tax rebate program which she has mentioned before a few times for seniors who make under \$45,000 was currently open and stated that if the seniors receive social security that number is halved for the application. The deadline to apply has been extended to December 31, 2024 and she said that if anyone needs any help with the application process, please contact Councilwoman Semler, she would love to help.

Councilwoman Schaefer said, she is grateful for the efforts of our first responders and office staff and stated that it was nice to see everyone come together in such a tragedy like the fire. She was also grateful for the work done on the CRS recertification and thanked Manager Ramage for that work.

Councilwoman Tuñón added; much appreciation to the first responders in the effort towards the fire. Congratulations to Manager Ramage for the CRS under her belt for another year, it's so much work for the borough. She added that Etna was very fortunate to have her around. The last thing she wanted to thank Joe and the public works crew for all the work they did to help out with the Heart & Soul Program. She added that all may have noticed the public works has installed three really cute and adorable little mailboxes around the community, one on Butler Street, one at the Borough building, and one at ECO Park. In the last Etna Borough newsletter, a postcard went out to everyone, and she is encouraging everyone to respond using the postcard telling "What makes Etna unique." The postcards can be dropped off at any of those mailboxes in the community or it can also be mailed to the borough building, there is space to put the address on the postcard. Heart & Soul is going to be adding some more postcards near the mailboxes in case you need another one. The postcards will be collected for about a month then we can even extend it to get as many responding back. The group will be trying to do interviews with as many residents as possible to find out a little bit about Etna and share their stories about Etna, so the group can create a community vision for the future. She continued that if anyone had their postcard, please fill it out and drop it off at one of the locations.

President Becki said, Thank you.

Councilwoman Gabriel stated that she would like to thank everybody from all the wonderful departments for all their hard work in all the situations, whether it is getting the pool going, or putting out fires, it is just a nice to so many wonderful people that give to the community. In addition, Welcome Wednesdays were back at the Garden of Etna, every Wednesday, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., and if anyone wanted to attend, you don't have to garden, you can just come and hang out and if you want to do some gardening you can. She added that a lot of local kids in the garden area too. She also reminded everyone that Yoga continues at the Riverfront Park every Thursday from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. and there is a free kid's class at the same time so please, come check it out and she wished everyone a Happy Juneteenth Tomorrow.

Manager Ramage had an announcement, and that was there would be another Late Swim Night at the pool tomorrow evening until 9 p.m. This had been very popular last month so we are doing it again tomorrow due to the extreme heat.

Mr. Trader passed.

Junior Council Member Yarnot stated that she had graduated last month, and this will probably be her last meeting. She would like to say thank you to everyone and said it was fun, she learned a lot of things that she didn't think she would have learned, and it was a cool experience.

Council all wished Ms. Yarnot Congratulations and thanked her for her service to Council and the community.

Mr. Burke said he was very excited to hear about project lifesaver program. This is an excellent program, sponsored by the District Attorney's office and said that 20 years ago, this would be a program his sister would have benefit from.

President Becki said, the lifesaver program is something the Borough learned about through the District Attorney Stephan Zappala which is a program where you can ask for a monitor if someone in your home has dementia or Alzheimer's, where they may wander away from the home. They provide a band like a hospital band they wear either on their wrist or on their ankle, this band can not be removed without tools. The police departments through Allegheny County have a special trained responder that the minute the person leaves their home they are notified. These bands are available for free, all you need to do is go on the District Attorney Zappala website. He added that there was no cost to anyone as long as you live in

Allegheny County resident. Manager Ramage added, the person would also need to have a caregiver on site with the person 24 hours a day in order to qualify for the program.

Mayor Tuñón; gave some quick thanks to the Borough staff, manager, public works, fire department, EMS, police for their continued hard work and specifically around the recent fire. He also thanked everyone that came out to Dementia Friends. He extended his thanks to those that supported the different Memorial Day activities. There are a couple of more activities coming up with the seniors and at the senior Highrise this month. He thanked Councilman Trader for addressing the senior center a place that needs some welcome attention.

Manager Ramage added that the Senior Center should be going to five days a week starting in July. The current volunteer was not being paid as the regular Coordinator was off with an injury. NAMS was still completing all the required paperwork and scheduling, including meals, etc. on behalf of the Etna Center and their staff was performing that work as paid employees. Councilman Trader thanked her for checking into that.

President Becki stated that Solicitor Orsatti was present for Solicitor Rushford but stated that he had no reports or updates.

Public Comment

President Becki said it is time for public comment in the meeting and any resident in the Borough of Etna has any questions about anything council talked about tonight or has any other concerns, this was the time to speak but added to please state your name and address in Etna.

Jesse Dubin, 49 Cherry Street said that he would like to note how nice it is to hear all the thank you train. He would like to talk about Jewish safety for a second being Jewish himself. He would like to thank council for passing the ceasefire resolution. When he thinks about Jewish Safety in Etna, he looks to that showing him that it is safe here. He remembers at a previous meeting before the resolution was passed, there was a discussion about how there was an incident with the Nazi flag in the neighborhood and the Council can only do so much about his concern about it wasn't just Jewish people or queer people seeing it as unsafe it was all people could see that and feel welcome with their ideology with the dangerous ideology that would feel safe in Etna knowing that there was such a concern around our people being safe here was really important and heartwarming and so when people say that the ceasefire resolution is a danger to Jewish community or that is not in the scope of the council to do. He has two things to say to that one He is also Jewish community right, and he does not feel danger, he feels safe here and so if you think about it the scope of the council is for the resident right? So, to him even though this is happening far away it is impacting residents. So, he thinks it is so important that you all said something, he wants to share a quick little act and that his landlord recently gave him a lease to renewal, and he didn't have to think whether or not he was going to renew his lease, so he did. It was an easy decision for multiple reasons one of them main factors cause he is new to Etna as of this past August and one of the main factors is knowing that he is represented by a council and was willing to do this difficult thing to save the difficult thing cause it is the right to say because it makes people like him be safe here knowing that he can stay here for a long time and consider to be safe. So, he knows that being on the right side of history isn't easy and a lot of people can make a of ruckus he knows people already have right there has been a lot of emails I am sure but know from your resident over on Cherry Street that he sees you and he hears your and he thanks you.

Charles Cox 47 Grant Avenue stated that many might have heard about him because his house got hit with a truck after he mentioned about the curbs need to be updated but that has nothing to do with why he is here tonight. He went to the fire and found he actually reported the fire until Officer Rodman got there and took over. He watched a firefighter and they did an excellent job, everything they were supposed to do but they did they had one problem and he looked and he waited it wasn't on the firemen it was that the fire hydrant would not open now the other day he opened up a hydrant near his house and after a considerable force it opened up and he is a strong guy.

President Becki said you shouldn't have done that you are not supposed to do and it was illegal to for a private citizen to open a fire hydrant. Mr. Cox stated that he had Sharpsburg waterworks, Etna waterworks and Hampton/Shaler Water Authority riding up and down the alleys and stuff. The two people were out doing exactly what he was doing to the hydrants took off the small caps and wire brushed off all the threads put some vegetable oil and the treads and put the caps back on. One of the guys he watched from one of the companies he was trying to get the cap off and he had a rough time. I came down here

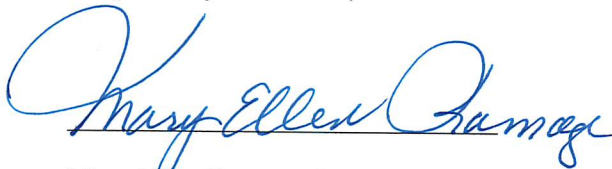
and told Manager Ramage the caps need to be loosened and wire brushed and greases that is why they are probably racing around that day doing whatever they were doing but while he was at the fire he noticed a very serious problem in the whole borough especially you fire prone hazard area. He added that he had been a fireman for many years and he knew you had to maintain these hydrants. He added that this is a major problem in the borough.

President Becki thanked Mr. Cox and he assured him that there is a process that occurs on these hydrants annually and that they are flushing fire hydrants which are maintained by Hampton/Shaler Water Authority and the reason they should be opened by any resident. No resident can just flush them is because 30 or 40 residents were around to every fire hydrant, and they would be calling the borough office complaining about the brown water. He added that he appreciated Mr. Cox's knowledge and concern but that the Borough does not want residents working on the fire hydrants, Mr. Cox also mentioned the AED's and that is that everyone needed to be trained to use these.

A Motion to Adjourn the June 2024 Regular Session was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Trader. Motion carried.

Regular Session adjourned at 8:30 p.m./

Respectfully Submitted,



Mary Ellen Ramage, Manager

Date: Oct. 16, 2024

