



Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday, January 23, 2017
6:30 p.m.

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Borough Council
Doug Tusing, President
Susan Barber, Vice-President
John Cobaugh
Cecilia Houser
Theresa Jacoby
Dave Kuhar
Joe Miller
Mayor
Randy Datsko

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public are invited to comment at this time on any item appearing on the agenda.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Council request specific items to be removed for separate action.

Item 9A: Approve the minutes of the December 19, 2016 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 9B: Approve the Financial Statement and quarterly transfers.

Item 9C: Approve payment of bills.

Recommended Action – Approve the consent agenda.

2. APPOINTMENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

3. MAYOR'S REPORT

Item 3A: Report on Police Department

4. COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMENTS

Item 5A: Report from Severn Trent Services on Wastewater Plant Operations

Plant Supervisor Mark Wirfel will provide a verbal report on projects and activities at the wastewater plant during the month.

Recommended Action – No action required.

- * **Item 5B: Beech Street Stormwater Project**
Snyder Excavating has begun work on this project. The wet weather and periods of extreme cold are slowing the project, but it should be completed through the winter months. The concrete head wall in the channel below Julian Street is completed, and the first sections of large pipe to Julian Street are installed.



Recommended Action – No action required.

Item 5C: Wastewater Project Update

1. Scope of Project

Stiffler-McGraw has completed the preliminary alignments for the wastewater project. They are now generating profile views in order to determine where conflicts with other utilities might exist. Staff will review the preliminary alignments so that Council is aware of which sections of the service area will be affected.

Recommended Action – No action required.

2. Pre-Sale Testing

Since the first of the year, customers selling properties are required to pass a pressure test of the sewer lateral. In nearly all cases, that will require the replacement of the sewer lateral, and the installation of a cleanout and viewport.

There have been several already that will require a new lateral. If the property is included in the project area, and we still are not certain of the location or depth of the new main, those sellers are permitted to escrow funds (\$2,000) assuring that the required work will be completed later. The buyer is required to also sign acknowledging that the buyer will be responsible for any amount exceeding the escrow.

Escrows will also be permitted in cases in which conditions such as weather, snow pack, etc. make it impractical to perform the necessary work prior to closing. Escrows will not be permitted because of ignorance of the regulations or premature closing schedules. All property owners, realtors and attorneys have been supplied with adequate public information concerning the requirements for sewer testing in Ebensburg and throughout the county.

Recommended Action – No action required.

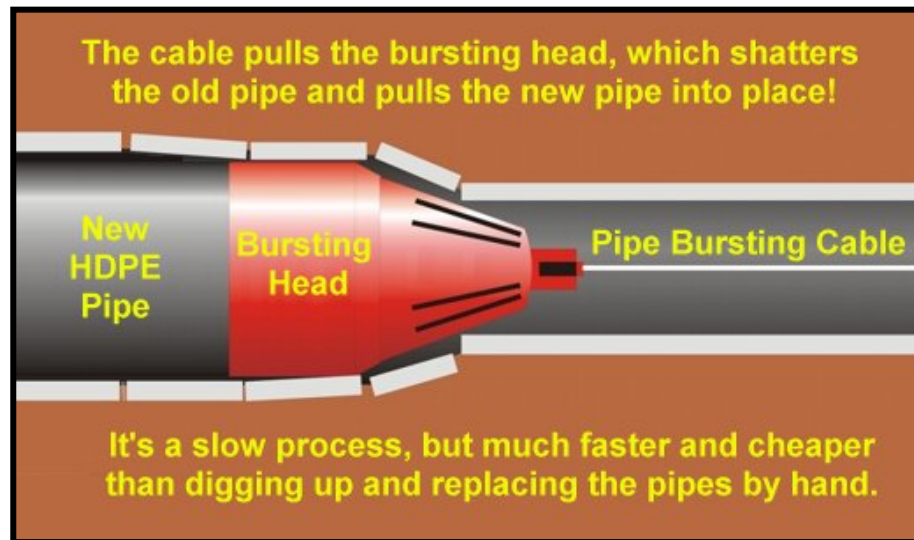
3. Schedule of Pressure Testing

The original intent was to complete the wastewater project throughout the borough, enforce compliance with laterals within the project area, and then follow up each subsequent year with enforcement in other parts of the service area. Since the project will not begin until late 2017 at the earliest, staff suggests beginning enforcement in one of the non-project areas during 2017, prior to the project.

Crestwood is known to contribute significant amounts of I&I to the system. There are approximately 180 properties in the Crestwood development. One-third of those are within the newer S&P section, where it is more likely that properties could successfully pass an air pressure test.

Enforcement notices would be prepared and mailed at the end of February. Customers would have until August 31st (6 months) to bring their sewer lateral into compliance.

In Crestwood, customers situated on the same side of the street as the sewer main will excavate to the main and install a new connection saddle, a viewport and a cleanout. Customers on the opposite side of the street will excavate only to the street, installing a viewport and cleanout. The borough will video the pipe under the street and the connection point to determine its condition. If it requires replacement, the borough will perform a trenchless repair of the pipe, and/or install a new connection saddle at the main.



Example of “pipe bursting” one form of trenchless pipe repair

Staff

will look into acquiring a pipe bursting machine. That will likely cost in excess of \$22,000. The machine will greatly minimize the amount of excavation necessary during this project, and will be beneficial in the long term when it is necessary to replace sewage lines from time to time. The borough will not be in a position to provide trenchless repair on behalf of customers; there are simply too many. Many contractors will possess this equipment, and can be hired by customers to repair laterals if so desired.

Recommended Action – Reach consensus on proceeding with enforcement in Crestwood.

Item 5D: Reservoir Drainage Structure

The construction permit for the replacement of the sluice gate valve was received in December. Staff believes this project can be accomplished in-house. The project would otherwise cost \$100,000 or more. All materials have been ordered. Work will not be able to begin on this project until the bottom of the drained reservoir is dry and free of mud. The drawdown permit expires at the end of April, and will be extended.

Recommended Action – No action required.



6. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Barber & Jacoby

Item 6A: Agreements for Use of Memorial Field

In 2008, Council entered into an agreement with Ebensburg Youth League for the use of the baseball fields at Memorial Field. At that time, the youth league oversaw little league baseball and girls softball. The league paid \$2,000 annually, and the borough provided all maintenance for the fields.

Since then, girls softball has split from the youth league, and is now its own independent operation. They desire to utilize First Energy Field for softball games. Shared use of the facilities has been negotiated, and is reflected in two new agreements proposed to Council.

The youth league will continue to have first priority on McDonalds and Kimball fields. Softball will have first priority on First Energy Field. Both will share the storage building, and only the youth league will use the concession stand. The youth league will pay \$1300 annually, while the softball association will begin paying \$700 annually. Neither agreement grants exclusive use to either group.

Recommended Action – Approve agreements with Ebensburg Youth League and Ebensburg Softball Association for use of Memorial Field.

Item 6B: Playground Fencing

Replacement of the perimeter fences at the east ward and center ward playgrounds is planned for this spring. The existing fence is bent and broken, has missing poles and supports, and is not safe. The existing gate gives the appearance of a corral rather than a playground. Quotes were obtained earlier for black aluminum fence and gates, the same as was installed several years ago at the Memorial Field playground and around the swimming pool. The black fence is sturdier and more aesthetic than chain link.

Staff suggests that Council approve the purchase of the materials now, so that the project can be completed as weather permits. The cost of materials for the east ward playground is \$3,700. The cost for the center ward playground is \$15,100. The supplier is Summit Fence of Akron, OH. All installation will be performed by borough staff.



East Ward Playground Fence



Center Ward Playground Fence

All playground equipment at both playgrounds is in excellent condition. The play surface at the east ward playground was replaced last year. The center ward surfaces will be re-edged, weeded and replaced this year.

Recommended Action – Approve the purchase of fence for the east ward and center ward playgrounds in the amount of \$18,800 from Summit Fence.

7. STREET COMMITTEE

Cobaugh, Miller & Houser

Item 7A: Ghost Town Trail Crossings

Staff had been optimistic that a grant funding a joint project with Saltsburg for marking trail crossings would be approved. That grant was not approved. The Borough has enough materials on-hand from last year's PennDOT paving project to install new crosswalks at the trail crossings on Locust Street, Center Street and West Street. That will be completed in warmer weather.



Locust Street Trail Crossing



Center Street Trail Crossing



West Street Trail Crossing

Recommended Action – No action required.

8. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Barber, Jacoby & Kuhar

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

- * Item 9A: Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)
The minutes of the previous regular meeting are presented for Council review and approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the minutes of the previous meeting(s).

- * Item 9B: Financial Statement
The financial statement for December 2016 is presented for approval.

At the end of each quarter, transactions are made in order to process fund transfers to and from reserve accounts, and to distribute the cost of routine and capital expenses among the proper accounts. Fund transfers made for the 3rd quarter are attached.

Recommended Action – Approve the December 2016 financial statement and quarterly fund transfers.

- * Item 9C: Bills
A list of bills totaling \$438,948.59 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

Item 9D: Sheetz Liquor License Transfer

Sheetz desires to transfer a liquor license from Conemaugh Borough to the West High Street store for the purpose of selling beer for on-site consumption, and for beer and wine sales to go. The Liquor Code requires Council to conduct a public hearing concerning the request.

Recommended Action – Schedule a public hearing relative to the proposed liquor license transfer of Sheetz for Monday, February 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

10. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Item 10A: Police Department

Chief Wyland will provide a verbal report on the police department's activities during the month.

Item 10B: Public Works Department

Public Works Director Jeff Evans will provide a verbal report on the public works department's activities during the month.

Item 10C: Community Development

1. Report

Community Development Director Danae Koss will provide a verbal report on the community development department's activities during the month.

2. Wyoming Visit

The City of Pittsburgh and the Pa Downtown Center will be hosting the National Main Street Center’s annual conference May 1-3. A delegation (60 persons) from Wyoming has asked to make a pre-conference visit in Ebensburg on April 28th for a tour, and a presentation on recent and upcoming projects undertaken in town. They will be here all afternoon.

3. Lake Rowena Chair

The Main Street Partnership wants to construct a large Adirondack chair for Lake Rowena. The oversized chairs are usually 12 feet high and are popular for photo-ops. The Long Barn has agreed to donate all materials, and will construct the chair in their shop. Brian Dumm, the CCHS art teacher, will do the art work.



Item 10D: Recreation Department

Recreation Director Samantha Kemock will provide a verbal report on the recreation department’s activities during the month.

- * Item 10E: Codes Enforcement
A monthly codes enforcement report was forwarded to Council.
- * Item 10F: Ebensburg Municipal Authority
A copy of the minutes of the last municipal authority meeting is included in Council’s packet.
- * Item 10G: Ebensburg Planning Commission – No activity
- * Item 10H: Ebensburg Zoning Board – No activity

11. MEDIA COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Representatives of the media are invited to comment and ask questions at this time on any issues, whether or not on the agenda.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public are invited to comment at this time on any issues, whether or not on the agenda.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Copies of all staff reports and documents subject to disclosure that relate to any item of business referred to on the agenda are available for public inspection the Thursday before each regularly scheduled meeting at the Borough office, located at 300 West High Street, Ebensburg, Pa. Any documents subject to disclosure that are provided to members of the Borough Council regarding any item on this agenda are available for public inspection at the Borough office or at www.ebensburgpa.com.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Borough office (814) 472-8780 or eburg@ebensburgpa.com. Notification 48-hours before the meeting will enable the Borough to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.