

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ebensburg Municipal Building, 300 W. High Street, Ebensburg, by Council President Doug Tusing.

Present: Doug Tusing, President
Deborah Nesbella, Vice President
Joe Lutz
Susan Barber
Cecilia Houser

Others: Randy Datsko, Mayor
Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Dave Dodson, Public Works Director
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Rose Myers, Recording Secretary
Stephanie Stohan, CPA
Meghan Freidhof
Ian Wissinger, Mountianeer-Herald
Zach Geiger, Altoona Mirror

Absent: Dave Kuhar
Terry Illig

Audience: 3

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – None

C. **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve the consent agenda containing the following items.
(Barber) Motion passed unanimously.

- A. Approve supplemental agreement to the collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME.
- B. Approve the minutes of the January 28, 2013 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
- C. Approve the Financial Statement.
- D. Approve payment of the bills. Councilor Susan Barber abstained from voting.

D. **Appointment to Address Council**

- A. Stephanie Stohan and Meghan Freidhof of Wessel & Company reviewed the 2012 audit. They explained the format changes, summarized the audit and made recommendations.

B. Pat Tsikalas asked council to reconsider his previous request to harbor chickens on his property at 609 North Cherry St. After discussing the request Mr. Lutz made a motion to deny. The motion died for lack of a second. Following additional discussion Mr. Lutz again made a motion to deny. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

E. **Mayor's Report**-None

F. **Council President**-Mr. Tusing stated that municipal elections will be held this year for three council seats, mayor and tax collector.

G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

A. There were no excursions for the month of January, 2013 at the wastewater plant. Plant flow averaged 1.088 mgd.

B. Contract 1: Waterlines and Valves – Mortimer's Excavating, of Pulaski, PA. – Completed installation of new waterlines on Triumph Street and Reddinger Street. Now moving to North Caroline Street and Roland Street. DEP has approved design in Crestwood, and PennDOT has issued a highway occupancy permit. The contractor expects to begin work in Crestwood in another month.

Contract 2: WTP – Hickes Associates of Alexandria, PA. – Installed 16" influent and effluent lines to DAF clarifier. Completed installation of the weir extension in the two circular clarifiers. This has made a noticeable improvement in the clarifier effluent water quality and has extended filter runs between backwashes. Hickes has removed the filter media and underdrains in preparation for filter #2 to be rebuilt. Air headers for the scour system have arrived. The underdrain and filter media are delivered. Contractor is currently replacing the valves for filter #2. Construction of the backwash tank delayed until better weather.

Contract 3: L B Water – Borough has advertised for temporary workers. Expect to have four workers assigned to install 750 new water meters and new remote readers on all customers. Should begin early March and take four months. LB Water will provide training.

Contract 4: Cambria Systems, Inc. of Sidman – They have installed the new control panel at the water treatment plant and have all feeds from the old control system tied in and working. Plant operators are pleased with the appearance and features of the new system. Many additional functions to be added as the components are added to the construction project. A portion of the control work has been done at the elevated tank. Control work is being completed at the Salt Lick Pump Station. Cambria will then move to the Ogden Tank to perform their work.

- C. The Authority approved selling the Cherry Street property. It will be listed with Strayer & Associates for \$99,500.

H. Recreation Committee

- A. Lake Rowena Goose Control- Borough Council first hired Crespo's Wildlife Solutions in 2011 to eliminate the goose problem that we were having at Lake Rowena. The contract was renewed in 2012. While the number of geese has been greatly reduced, there are still a few persisting. Crespo warned initially that it would take several years to completely rid the problem. Staff is recommending that the contract be renewed for at least one additional year. Nest and egg treatment will be conducted March through May. If there are no new births, the geese will leave. For those remaining, Crespo will again conduct harassment as needed after July.

Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve extension of a contract through 2013 with Crespo's Wildlife Solutions for goose control at Lake Rowena in the amount of \$2,822. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously

I. Street Committee

- A. Parking Violations- An Ordinance was granted tentative approval last month to increase the winter parking fines from \$5 (\$15 after 7 days) to \$15 (\$35 after 7 days), and increase the meter parking fines from \$3 (\$15 after 7 days) to \$5.

Ms. Houser made a motion to grant final approval to Ordinance #604 amending the fines for various parking violations. (Lutz) Roll call was taken:

Barber	Yes	Tusing	No
Nesbella	Yes	Lutz	Yes
Houser	Yes		

Motion passed.

J. Administration Committee

- A. Community Development Director-The search committee for a new community development director was comprised of three members of the Main Street Partnership and the Borough Manager. There were 64 applications for the position. A series of interviews was conducted to develop a short list of candidates to be considered. The committee has recommended Danae Williamson Koss for the position.

Mrs. Barber made a motion to approve hiring Danae Williamson Koss as Community Development Director, effective 3/11/2013, at a salary of \$35,000. (Nesbella) Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Temporary Workers- Four temporary worker positions were advertised for the upcoming water meter conversion project. Work is expected to begin in March and last for approximately four months. There are 750 new water meters to be installed, and more than 2,200 remote readers. There were fourteen applicants for the positions. LB Water will provide the necessary training for the workers.

Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve hiring Bill Leary, Brian Springer, Matthew Bracken and Ted Farabaugh for temporary meter installation positions, effective 3/4/2013, at the rate of \$9.00/hr. (Barber) Motion passed unanimously.

K. General Business

- A. Ebensburg Main Street Partnership-A recommendation was made at last month's meeting to dissolve the Ebensburg Area Business Commission and create in its place the Ebensburg Main Street Partnership (EMP). The EMP is a non-profit entity under IRS Section 501(c)3. The existence of both entities will be redundant and confusing and serve no purpose.

Mr. Lutz made a motion to Adopt Resolution #2013-01 dissolving the Ebensburg Area Business Commission and creating the Ebensburg Main Street Partnership. (Barber) Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Airport Grant- A grant has been secured to fund a project at the airport to rehabilitate the hangar taxiway. The total project cost is \$257,594. The Federal and State shares for the project will be \$231,834 and \$12,880 respectively. The local share, provided by RACRA, will be \$12,880.

Mrs. Barber made a motion to adopt Resolution #2013-03 approving the project at the airport to rehabilitate the hangar taxiway and authorizing signatures for grant documents. (Lutz) Motion passed unanimously.

L. Department Reports

A. Police Department

Chief Wyland provided a written report on last month's activities. The police cruiser that was involved in an accident on Jan. 31 is repaired and back in use. April 7-April 10, four officers will be traveling to Dallas on a grant from the District Attorney's Office to receive domestic violence training.

B. Public Works Department

Mr. Dodson reported on last month's activities of staff maintenance including progress of the water project, repair of 2 water mains, 2 service leaks and repair of sewer lines.

C. Community Development-None

D. Recreation Department-None

M. **Media Comments/Questions** – Zach Geiger , from the Altoona Mirror asked about the budget for snow removal. Ian Wissinger, from the Mountaineer Herald asked which council members terms are up at the end of the year.

N. **Public Comments** –None

There being no further business Mrs. Nesbella made a motion to adjourn. (Lutz) Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:40PM

Minutes Recorded by:

Rose Myers, Recording Secretary