

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, February 25, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ebensburg Municipal Building, 300 W. High Street, Ebensburg, by Council President Doug Tusing.

Present: Doug Tusing, President
Susan Barber, Vice President
Cecilia Houser
Dave Kuhar
Joe Lutz
Joe Miller
Theresa Jacoby

Others: Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Randy Datsko, Mayor
Dave Dodson, Public Works Director
Bernie Kozlovac, Plant Supervisor
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Matt Pfeil, Recreation Director
Rachel Vasilko, The Mountaineer Herald
Kelly Cernetich, The Altoona Mirror

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.

1. Approve the minutes of the January 27, 2014 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
2. Approve the Financial Statement.
3. Approve payment of bills.

D. **Appointments to Address Council - None**

E. **Mayor's Report – None**

F. **Council President Comments** – Mr. Tusing asked that Council excuse his absence at the January meeting as he was out sick with the flu.

G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

1. There were no excursions for the month of January 2014 at the wastewater plant. Plant flows averaged 1.390 MGD and 14.9 dry tons of sludge were hauled away to the landfill. Mr. Kozlovac, Plant Supervisor, provided a verbal report on activities at the wastewater plant during the month.

H. Recreation Committee

1. Cambria Elementary School has asked the Borough to contribute toward the development of a regional inclusive playground to be constructed at the school. The goal is to raise \$245,000. The request has been forwarded to the Ebensburg Recreation Board for a recommendation.

I. Street Committee

1. Keller Engineers submitted the revised Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) application to PennDOT at the end of January. We continue to await action by PennDOT. The project cannot proceed to bidding without the HOP. As mentioned last month, Authorizations to Enter were sent to 34 property owners along the project. The forms are required as the scope of the work exceeds the existing rights-of-way. Ten property owners have yet to file the signed forms.
2. A complaint was discussed last month about vehicles parking along the 300 block of West Alton Street. The Street Committee agrees that parking should be restricted in that block. There are two possible restrictions that can be implemented.

The first option is to post a 2 a.m. – 6 a.m. restriction, the same as the other blocks on that street. The existing Ordinance allows that restriction by simply posting signs.

The second option is to prohibit parking at any time in that block. This option would be of benefit to those parked in the Holy Name parking lot that face and exit onto Alton Street. That turn is difficult to make when cars are parked on the street. Prohibiting parking at any time in that block would require an Ordinance amendment.

Mr. Lutz made a motion to grant tentative approval of Ordinance #610 to prohibit parking at any time. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

3. A complaint was received about vehicle parking along the 100 block of West Triumph Street. The Street Committee recommends that alternate side parking be imposed on that block, the same restriction currently in place on the rest of that street. The existing Ordinance allows that restriction by simply posting signs. The consensus was to impose alternate side parking.
4. Danielle Bogus of 309 West Ogle Street has requested that a handicap parking sign be installed at the front of her residence for a disabled relative. Ms. Bogus has met all of the conditions stated within our policy to allow for the sign to be installed. Mr. Miller made a motion to authorize the installation of a handicap parking sign at 309 West Ogle Street. (Lutz) Motion passed unanimously.
5. Mr. Miller commended Dave Dodson and Public Works department for the job they have done on maintaining the streets and keeping up with snow removal.

J. Administration Committee

1. The deadline for full-time police applications was on January 23rd. Twenty-two applications received. Twenty-one applicants sat for the written examination on February 10th. Twenty of those received a passing grade and will attend examinations on Saturday, March 8th. A final recommendation is expected for Council's March Meeting.
2. Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve unpaid medical leave for Officer Scott Stoltz effective January 19, 2014. (Houser) Motion carried unanimously.

3. The Borough's Civil Service Rules & Regulations were last adopted in March 2009. Since then the Borough Code was rewritten (Act 43 of 2012), and the Civil Service Law was updated. It is necessary to update our local Rules & Regulations in order to conform to those recent legislative changes. Ms. Barber made a motion to approve agreement with Bill Gamble, Personnel Management Consultant, for updating of the Civil Service Rules & Regulations, in the amount of \$1,100. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

K. General Business

1. It is necessary to replace the 1998 bucket truck. Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve the purchase of a bucket van from TriStar Motors in the amount of \$49,600 on the State bid list. (Miller) Motion passed unanimously.
2. L.R. Kimball has submitted a proposal to complete a Stormwater Utility Impervious Area Study. The study is necessary to help in establishing an equitable monthly stormwater management utility fee for Ebensburg residents. As part of the scope of services, L.R. Kimball will digitize the impervious area of 10% of the 1253 residential parcels, all of the 180 commercial parcels and all of the 92 tax exempt parcels. Mr. Kuhar made a motion to approve the proposal of L.R. Kimball for the Stormwater Utility Fee Study at a cost of \$11,500. (Barber) Motion passed unanimously.

L. Department Reports

1. **Police Department** – Chief Wyland reported that they are following up on shoveling violations and that 32 property owners were contacted this month and last. He also reported that the meter certifications are almost complete and they will meet the March 1st deadline. He reported that the department will continue to be short-staffed until next month.
2. **Public Works Department** - Mr. Dodson reported on last month's activities including completion of the water supply inspection, installation of a dehumidifier in the DAF room, handling of 42 calls for plowing, snow removal and water leaks. Five tours were given of the Water Treatment Plant in response to the RFP. He reported that the salt supply is getting low and that we have one more load of salt coming. He speculated that we have enough for 2 or 3 more storms.
3. **Community Development** – Ms. Koss reported on last month's activities including an update on EMP membership renewals and promotions, the results of the Downtown Survey, the Entertainment Committee and the next "Our Town: Ebensburg" meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 4th in the Community Room of the Borough Building.
 1. Ebensburg Borough's Main Street Program formerly held "Achiever" status. DCED has restructured the State's Main Street Program, and the former designations are no longer applicable. Instead, the Main Street Partnership is seeking designation as a "Keystone Community". The term indicates that Ebensburg Borough possesses a stable Main Street organization, and that there is support in the community for continuing the program. The designation will allow the Borough to continue to receive façade grants, and other Main Street and Elm Street funding. Ms. Barber made a motion to approve Resolution #2014-04 in support of an application to DCED for designation as a Keystone Community. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Recreation Department** – Mr. Pfeil reported on activities at the YPCC including the start of the basketball league on January 18th. He added that the league is the largest it has been in the past 10 years with 86 teams participating. He also reported that a number of local groups continue to use the YPCC to hold large events, and that the Tennis Center will hold its Annual Teen Tournament in early March.

M. **Media Comments/Questions** – Ms. Cernetich asked how long the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) will take.

N. **Public Comments - None**

There being no further business, Ms. Barber made a motion to adjourn. (Miller) Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:10 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by:

Danea Koss
Community Development Director