

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, January 27, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ebensburg Municipal Building, 300 W. High Street, Ebensburg, by Council Vice President Susan Barber.

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

Others: Heath Long, Solicitor
Randy Datsko, Mayor
Dave Dodson, Public Works Director
Bernie Kozlovac, Plant Supervisor
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Rachel Vasilko, The Mountaineer Herald

Absent: Doug Tusing, President
Joe Lutz
Matt Pfeil, Recreation Director

Audience: 2

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – None.

C. **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Kuhar made a motion to approve the consent agenda, containing the following items:
(Houser) Motion passed unanimously with one abstention to item #3 from Ms. Barber.

1. Approve the minutes of the December 16, 2013 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council and the January 6, 2014 reorganization meeting.
2. Approve the Financial Statement.
3. Approve payment of bills.

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

E. **Mayor's Report** – Mayor Datsko requested that the Street Committee consider making both sides of the 300 block of W. Alton Street “No Parking”. Currently, there are cars parking on the cemetery side and are driving onto the grass.

F. **Council President Comments** – None

G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

1. There were no excursions for the month of December 2013 at the wastewater plant. Plant flows averaged 1.643 MGD and 11.7 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. Ms. Jacoby informed Council that there was a leak at the Borough Pool and several heating related issues at the YPCC that have since been fixed. The repair costs are not known but will likely be significant. A claim has been filed with the Borough's insurance company regarding the leak.

I. Street Committee

1. Staff had hoped to be able to solicit bids for the sidewalk project on West High Street, South Center Street and Rowena Drive in January. PennDOT has not yet issued the required Highway Occupancy Permit. Keller Engineers is completing a design for the crosswalk signal at Manor Drive, and the revised HOP submission is expected to be back to PennDOT by the end of January.

There are 34 properties in the project at which the proposed work exceeds the existing right-of-way. In some cases the curb radius at an intersection extends beyond the R/W. In many, the area required for a proper driveway transition is outside of the R/W. There are three properties on Rowena Drive that will require fill outside of the R/W. And in some cases, a small portion of the sidewalk itself is out of the R/W. Staff will begin the process of obtaining Authorizations to Enter for those properties, a requirement of the HOP.

J. Administration Committee

1. The deadline for full-time police applications was on January 23rd. There were 23 applications received; 22 of which were complete/eligible. The Civil Service exam will be administered on February 10th. Those who pass the exam will move on to take the oral exam. A final recommendation is expected for Council's March meeting.

K. General Business

1. Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency has proposed a revised fee schedule for building permits across Cambria County. It is necessary for each participating municipality to adopt the schedule. The revised schedule includes a separate fee for signs instead of being included in commercial fees. All fees were rounded up slightly eliminating cents; i.e. \$72.50 became \$75.00. A new fee of \$25.00 was added for requests for a duplicate Certificate of Occupancy. Cabin permits were increased from \$10.00 to \$25.00. Mr. Penatzer stated that all municipalities have the same fee structure.

Mr. Miller made a motion to adopt Resolution #2014-01 approving the building permit fee schedule proposed by Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

2. Cambria Township Variance - Council discussed a hearing notice issued by the Cambria Township Zoning Board for a setback variance requested at Complete Concrete along Route 22, bordering a borough-owned parcel in Crestwood Estates. Council had no objection to the variance, provided it was limited to residential construction, as contained in the notice.

L. Department Reports

1. **Police Department** – Chief Wyland reported that it's been a busy month. The department is short three officers. Officer Vaught has accepted a full-time position with Cambria Township, Officer Gonzalez has taken a full-time position in Savannah, GA and Officer Stoltz is out on extended medical leave. Chief Wyland reported that

parking tickets are significantly fewer this year and 2 citations have been filed for neglecting to clear snow from sidewalks.

2. **Public Works Department** - Mr. Dodson reported on last month's activities including repairs at the Water Treatment plant, sewer backups, and water main repairs. Mr. Penatzer gave an overview on a few items Mr. Dodson mentioned in his report. The DAF (Dissolved Air Floatation) clarifier was installed to eliminate algae problems. Saltlick water is water purchased from the Greater Johnstown Water Authority and serves the areas out by the airport. "Going off the grid" refers to a program in which Penelec will turn off electricity at the Water Treatment Plant and the plant will switch over to generators. The Borough is compensated for participating in this program. The new water meters are radio read meters and are detecting when flows exceed the normal range. Customers are contacted when this occurs.
3. **Community Development** – Ms. Koss reported on last month's activities including the status of EMP membership renewals and promotions, partnering with SFU on a Marketing Management class project, the results of the Downtown Survey, Art in Bloom and WPSU's plans to feature Ebensburg in their *Our Town* series this year.
4. **Recreation Department** – None.

M. **Media Comments/Questions** – None

N. **Public Comments** - None

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

Meeting Adjourned: 7:03 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by:

Danea Koss
Community Development Director