

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, January 26, 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
Joe Miller
Cecilia Houser
Dave Kuhar
Theresa Jacoby

Absent: Joe Lutz

Others: Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager
Randy Datsko, Mayor
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Dave Dodson, Public Works Director
Matt Pfeil, Recreation Director
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Allison Garver, The Mountaineer Herald
Sean Sauro, The Altoona Mirror

Audience: 7

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – Judge Joe Leahy asked for clarification regarding Section 21 of proposed Ordinance #617. He also reiterated his comments made at the public hearing stating that it was premature to change the zoning of any parcels of the former middle school property. Mr. Tusing noted a correction to the public hearing minutes - Dennis Simmers stated that the property is owned by the residents of the school district rather than the residents of the borough.

C. **Consent Agenda**

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to approve the consent agenda, containing the following items: (Houser)
Motion passed unanimously.

1. Approve the minutes of the December 15, 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** – Mayor Datsko would like to remind everyone to be sure to clean their sidewalks and not throw snow in the street. He also asked that residents do not park in driveways that block sidewalks as it very difficult for people to walk through the snow around the parked cars.

F. **Council President Comments** – None.

G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

1. There were no excursions for the month of December 2014. Plant flows averaged 1.374 MGD. Mr. Kozlovac, Plant Supervisor, provided a verbal report on activities at the wastewater plant during the month.

2. Mr. Kuhar made a motion to grant final approval of Ordinance # 618, an amendment to Ordinance #558 which requires property owners to perform a pre-sale test of sewer connections. The borough has been performing the tests, saving the property owners the cost of engaging a plumber. Ordinance #618 was proposed at last month's meeting to amend the language to reflect the current practice. (Barber) Motion passed unanimously.
3. Mr. Kuhar made a motion to grant final approval to Ordinance #619 which has been proposed to make corrections to Ordinance #612 regarding stormwater management fees. Ordinance #619 stated that the stormwater fees were adopted by Borough Council and that Borough Council would hear any appeals for the fees. The stormwater fees were imposed by the Ebensburg Municipal Authority under the authority of the Municipal Authorities Act. Any petitions for hearings related to stormwater would be heard by the Authority. (Miller) Motion passed unanimously.
4. Ms. Houser made a motion to approve advertising for bids for construction of stormwater improvements on Beech Street below the fairgrounds. (Miller) Motion passed unanimously.
5. Ms. Houser made a motion to approve soliciting quotes for completion of stormwater improvements on East Triumph Street. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.
6. Replacement of the Manor Drive water line was planned for 2015. The existing 1,900 feet of long 6" line services a dozen residences, and is plagued by repeated breaks. Most of the breaks occurred where individual service lines were threaded into the plastic main. After further consideration, and at the recommendation of the municipal authority, staff will instead replace the remaining old service taps with new saddles, hopefully eliminating future leaks. No action is required at this time.

H. Recreation Committee

1. Ms. Jacoby reported that the Recreation Board was invited by the Cambria County Prevention Coalition to participate in a Key Leaders meeting at Central Cambria High School. She will be attending on behalf of the Recreation Board and added that the invitation was also extended to members of Council.

I. Street Committee

1. 2015 Sidewalk Project Loan

Proposals were received on January 20th for the bridge loan necessary for this project. The 1-year note will allow costs to be paid while property owner payments are pending and grant proceeds are received. The following proposals were received.

	<u>% Rate</u>	<u>Fee</u>
First Commonwealth	1.570%	\$ 750.00
First Summit Bank	1.995%	\$ 59.50
First National Bank	2.240%	\$ 84.00
S&T Bank	1.948%	\$1,000.00

Mr. Miller made a motion to accept the proposal of First Commonwealth Bank for bridge financing in the amount of \$750,000 for the 2015 sidewalk project. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

2. Unit Debt Act Compliance

All new debt, regardless of duration, requires Unit Debt Act compliance involving calculation of an updated debt statement and borrowing base certificate and adoption of an Ordinance.

Mr. Miller made a motion to grant tentative approval to Ordinance #620, seeking authorization from DCED for a new debt, in compliance with the Unit Debt Act. (Barber) Motion passed unanimously.

3. **2015 Sidewalk Project Pedestrian Signals**

Part of the 2015 sidewalk project is the installation of new pedestrian crossing signals at the intersection of Rowena Drive and Manor Drive. Ms. Houser approved advertising for bids for the construction of pedestrian crossing signals on Rowena Drive at Manor Drive. (Miller) Motion passed unanimously.

4. **2015 Sidewalk Project Signs and Lights**

Part of the 2015 sidewalk project is the installation of new traffic signs and streetlights. Ms. Houser made a motion to approve advertising for bids for new traffic signs and streetlights for the 2015 Sidewalk Project. (Miller) Motion passed unanimously.

5. **2015 Sidewalk Project Tree Removal**

There are eight large trees along South Center Street that need to be removed prior to the 2015 sidewalk project. This project will be under the bidding threshold. Ms. Houser made a motion to approve soliciting quotes for tree removal along South Center Street for the 2015 Sidewalk Project. (Miller) Motion passed unanimously.

J. **Administration Committee** – None.

K. **General Business**

Zoning Amendments

1. Mr. Kuhar made a motion to approve Sections 1-20 of Ordinance #617 related to land development issues, signs and definitions, creating a Billboard Sign Overlay District, expanding the Central Business District to include the former prison, and expanding the Historic Character Overlay District. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

2. Ms. Houser made a motion to reject Section 21 of Ordinance #617 proposing a change in the zoning district applicable to two parcels of the former middle school properties from Single-Household Residential to Multi-Family Residential. Roll call was taken:

Houser	Yes	Tusing	No
Miller	Yes	Kuhar	Yes
Barber	Yes	Jacoby	Yes

Motion passed.

2. **Pawn Shop Ordinance**

Ms. Barber made a motion to grant final approval to Ordinance #616 requiring said brokers and dealers to conduct business at a single location, to maintain a log of all purchases, to submit copies of all receipts to the police department weekly, and to retain all purchases for thirty days. Ordinance #616 was granted tentative approval last month and has been advertised for public inspection. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Utility Vehicle**

The purchase of a 4x4 utility vehicle is planned for 2015. The vehicle would benefit all departments. It can be used by community development at various events, by public works for maintaining the Saltlick water line and wastewater lines for Crestwood and Ebensburg Center, and by the police department for patrolling the reservoir properties. The Main Street Partnership

will share the cost of this vehicle. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve advertising for bids for purchase of a 4x4 utility vehicle. (Barber) Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Police Vehicle**

The replacement of the 2010 police car is planned for 2015. Mr. Kuhar made a motion to approve advertising for bids for purchase of an AWD police vehicle. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Babcock Doors**

The replacement of two large sliding doors on the storage kiln at the Babcock property is planned for 2015. The doors are extremely heavy, slide on an unstable guide, and are dangerous to operate. Ms. Jacoby made a motion to approve advertising for bids for new kiln doors at the Babcock property. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Digital Records**

Mr. Penatzer gave an update on the digital records storage progress. Staff will demonstrate how the system works at a later meeting.

7. **Designation of Primary EMS Provider**

Mr. Miller made a motion to adopt Resolution #2015-01 designating Ebensburg Area Ambulance Association as the primary provider of emergency medical services within Ebensburg Borough. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

L. Department Reports

1. **Police Department** – Chief Wyland reported on last month's activities including a staff update - Officer Tony Woodard accepted a full-time position with the City of Johnstown and Officer Brian Diehl accepted a part-time position with Saint Francis University Police Department.
2. **Public Works Department** – Mr. Dodson reported on last month's activities including work at the Water Treatment Plant, work on the sewer collection system and staff license and certification updates.
3. **Community Development** – Ms. Koss reported on last month's activities including an update on membership renewals, a member networking event scheduled for March and Art in Bloom. She added that she was finishing up a Historic Ebensburg Walking Tour Guide and would have that ready for the February meeting.
4. **Recreation Department** – Mr. Pfeil reported on last month's activities including updates on the basketball league and community events being held at the YPCC. He added that a story on the Tennis Center and Vicki Askew was recently featured in the USTA magazine Net Play. Mr. Pfeil also shared that Ron Kikta would be applying for a grant through the Community Foundation of the Alleghenies to implement a 6-week program geared toward serving our area youth.
5. **Codes Enforcement** – A monthly codes enforcement report was provided to Council.
6. **Ebensburg Municipal Authority** – A copy of the minutes of the last municipal authority meeting was included in Council's packet.

7. Ebensburg Planning Commission – Cox Subdivision

The Planning Commission is expected to grant approval to a subdivision plan for the Cox property south of Prave Street at Cherry Street. The plan creates two new parcels on the south side of the property. This subdivision requires the Ebensburg Municipal Authority to accept ownership of the 4” water main extension into the development, and requires that the Borough ordain an extension of South Cherry Street. The street extension has been constructed in accordance with the borough’s design specifications, and will be surfaced as weather permits. It includes a turnaround at the dead end, as required. Once the street extension is ordained, the construction is completed, the Borough will assume responsibility for maintenance and plowing. Ms. Barber made a motion to grant approval to the Cox subdivision plan. Councilor Jacoby abstained from voting. (Miller) Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Miller made a motion to grant tentative approval to Ordinance #621 extending South Cherry Street in a southerly direction from Prave Street. Roll call was taken:

Houser	Yes	Tusing	Yes
Miller	Yes	Kuhar	Yes
Barber	Yes	Jacoby	No

Motion passed.

M. Media Comments/Questions

Ms. Garver from Mainline News asked if Council could talk about the development of the old Cambria County prison.

Mr. Sauro from the Altoona Mirror asked who is L.R. Kimball, what is the background on the stormwater problem, when will the Beech Street stormwater project start and what is the cost of the project, is the Triumph Street situation the same as Beech Street and what is the cost of that project and will the borough do the work or will it be contracted out.

N. Public Comments

Judge Joe Leahy noted that he was very impressed with how the council meeting is run. He also congratulated council on rejecting the proposed zoning change to the middle school parcel.

Bill Link thanked whoever is responsible for putting together the Borough Newsletter. He added that it is very informative and well done. Lastly, he asked who is responsible for calling out the crew for plowing and salting.

O. Adjournment

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

Meeting Adjourned: 7:42 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by:

Danea Koss, Community Development Director