

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, June 24, 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  
Deb Nesbella, Vice President  
Cecilia Houser  
Terry Illig  
Dave Kuhar  
Joe Lutz

Others: Randy Datsko, Mayor  
Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager  
Dave Dodson, Public Works Director  
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police  
Bernie Kozlovac, Plant Supervisor  
Danea Koss, Community Development Director  
Ian Wissinger, Mountaineer-Herald  
Zach Geiger, Altoona Mirror

Absent: Susan Barber  
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor

Audience: 4

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – There was an inquiry on when sewer rates would increase and by how much. Mr. Penatzer stated that sewer rates would increase by 40% beginning with the July-August billing cycle. A resident of South Marian Street raised a concern about the placement of sidewalks on the west side of this street. He asked Council to consider changing the placement to the east side of the street. Mr. Penatzer clarified that the proposed Ordinance #605 does not change the sidewalk already required on the west side of the 200 block.

C. **Consent Agenda**

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

1. Approve the minutes of the May 20, 2013 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
2. Approve the Financial Statement.
3. Approve payment of bills.

D. **Appointments to Address Council**

1. Darrell Wilson, Consulting Forrester was asked to review with Council the Borough's woodlands, their locations and condition, and to discuss long-term timber management. Mr. Wilson informed Council that this hasn't been reviewed in 25 years, and that there have been 16 major timber sales since 1988 grossing \$600,000. He presented the option of doing some reforestation and costs associated with that. He added that some prep work would need to be done including weeding and fertilizing. Mr. Wilson emphasized that the idea is to protect the land and make it productive for the long-term. Mr. Penatzer asked if it's a good idea to continue to lease a portion of the land out for farming. Mr. Wilson agreed that the Borough should continue this as it keeps the land cultivated, fertilized and

productive. He added that he doesn't like to see agricultural land be taken out of production. He informed Council that there are 1,300 acres total and the last timber sale was in 2008. Mr. Tusing added that this land is a valuable resource that the Borough owns and it should be reviewed more often.

**E. Mayor's Report**

1. Mayor Datsko acknowledged the police department for their professional presence at Wheels & Wings, for keeping things in order and getting people moving out of town at the end of the evening.
2. **Council President Comments** – Mr. Tusing acknowledged the fine speech that Chief Wyland gave at the Memorial Day celebration in Veterans Park.

**G. Water/Wastewater Committee**

1. There were no excursions for the month of May 2013 at the wastewater plant. Plant flows averaged .697 mgd.
2. Mr. Kozlovac, Plant Supervisor, provided a verbal report on activities at the wastewater plant during the month which included installing a new UV sensor, replacing a hydrant, completing a sludge analysis, and clearing a blocked line at the state school.

**H. Recreation Committee – No report**

**I. Street Committee**

1. Ms. Houser made a motion to grant final approval to Ordinance #605 which prescribes the specific segments of streets on which sidewalks are required.

Tusing	No	Lutz	Yes
Illig	Yes	Nesbella	Yes
Kuhar	Yes	Houser	Yes

Motion passed.

2. Bids were received for the 2013 street paving project. Ms. Houser made motion to award a bid in the amount of \$49,467.00 to Grannas Brothers. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

Grannas Brothers	\$ 49,467.00
New Enterprise Stone & Lime	\$ 52,388.85
HRI, Inc.	\$ 62,290.00
Quaker Sales Corp.	\$ 64,160.50
Glenn Johnston, Inc.	\$124,248.00

3. Bids were received for the paving of the municipal parking lot. Ms. Houser made a motion to award a bid in the amount of \$32,672.30 to Grannas Brothers. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

Grannas Brothers	\$ 32,672.30
Quaker Sales Corp.	\$ 33,627.50
New Enterprise Stone & Lime	\$ 34,823.25
LTM Paving	\$ 40,767.45

4. Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve a petition to PennDOT to approve the installation of new signs aimed at improving pedestrian safety. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Nesbella added that she would like to see enforcement of the 25 mph zone through town, especially with regard to trucks.

#### J. Administration Committee

1. Mr. Lutz made a motion to adopt Resolution #2013-06 adopting amendments to the Ebensburg Borough Employee Manual relative to distracted driving and social media. (Nesbella) Motion passed unanimously.
2. Mr. Lutz made a motion to adopt Resolution #2013-07 adopting amendments to the Ebensburg Borough Police Department SOP and Code of Conduct relative to distracted driving, use of tasers, Heart & Lung benefits, and social media. (Nesbella) Motion passed unanimously.

#### K. General Business

1. It was the consensus of the Council to move forward with staff's suggestion to cover and seed the Lloyd Street alley. For access to the parking lot, Council agreed that vacating two spaces in the municipal parking lot would be the best option.
2. Mr. Penatzer made Council aware of two "Letters to the Editor" he had written in response to two recent articles. The articles were written with regard to the flooding on South Center Street and the affiliation of Wheels & Wings with Thunder in the Valley. Mr. Lutz asked for clarification on one of the points made in the letter relating to Wheels & Wings. Mr. Penatzer clarified that Wheels & Wings would continue to align with Thunder in the Valley, and that any beer sold would be from Thunder's approved sponsor, whoever that happened to be. This issue would be resolved by either Dauntless agreeing to adhere to this, or, as an alternative, the EMSP would set up their own beer tent to sell the sponsor's product. Mr. Kuhar and Mr. Lutz agreed that they wouldn't want to see Dauntless and the EMSP compete for sales.

#### L. Department Reports

1. **Police Department** – Chief Wyland reported that he participated in the Memorial Day parade and ceremony, and that the officers are currently participating in weapons qualifications. He added that there were three arrests made at Wheels & Wings and the fairgrounds had not reported any problems.
2. **Public Works Department** - Mr. Dodson reported on last month's activities including painting projects, new meter head installation, new color meter for lab, stormwater issues on the 400 block of W. Lloyd Street, and a recent water main break on N. Center Street.
3. **Community Development**  
Ms. Koss reported on the community development department activities during the last month including Wheels & Wings wrap-up, updates on upcoming events and the purchase and placement of downtown flower pots on High & N. Center Streets.
4. **Recreation Department** – Mr. Pfeil reported that the Ebensburg Borough Pool had reported an average of 325 guests per day over the last three days and a total of 124 passes sold. He also informed Council that the YPCC Golf Outing would be taking place

on July 19<sup>th</sup> at the Ebensburg Country Club. Mr. Tusing asked if there was an issue with insufficient parking at the pool and Mr. Pfeil confirmed that there is a need for additional parking. Mr. Tusing asked if there were any plans in place for expanding parking. Mr. Penatzer answered that there was not currently a plan in place. Some ideas for expanding the parking lot were discussed.

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

**N. Public Comments**

1. Mike Illig asked if the Borough would be running a roller up and down the 200 block of Ogle Street.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 8:01 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by:

Danea Koss  
Community Development Director