

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, June 22, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ebensburg Municipal Building, 300 W. High Street, Ebensburg, by Council President Doug Tusing.

Present: Doug Tusing, President
Cecilia Houser
Joe Lutz
Cecilia Houser
Dave Kuhar
Theresa Jacoby

Others: Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager
Randy Datsko, Mayor
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Jeff Evans, Public Works Director
Bernie Kozlovac, Plant Supervisor
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Kelly Cernetich, The Altoona Mirror
Brian Fronk, Mainline News
Jocelyn Brumbaugh, The Tribune Democrat

Absent: Susan Barber, Vice President

Audience: 4

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – None.

C. **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the consent agenda, containing the following items: (Kuhar)
Motion passed unanimously.

1. Adopt Resolution #2015-04 appointing Tracy Strom as Deputy Tax Collector.
2. Approve the minutes of the May 18, 2015 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
3. Approve the Financial Statement.
4. Approve payment of bills.
5. Appoint Tracy Strom to complete a 1-year term on the Cambria County Sewage Enforcement Agency, expires 12/2015.

D. **Appointments to Address Council** – Mr. Charles Bagley questioned the hiring of the new public works employee and whether or not the candidate chosen has met the minimum requirements stated in the job description.

E. **Mayor's Report** – None.

F. **Council President Comments** – Mr. Tusing took a moment to publicly acknowledge the passing of Patti Carnes and her 25 years of service to the Borough of Ebensburg. A moment of silence was held in memory of Patti.

G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

1. There were no excursions for the month of May 2015. Plant flows averaged .757 MGD. Mr. Kozlovac, Plant Supervisor, provided a verbal report on activities at the wastewater plant during the month.

2. **North Beech Street** – Snyder Excavating is expected to begin this project soon. No action needed.
3. **Reservoir Valves** – DEP is requiring that a “close inspection of the outlet conduit including appurtenant gates and valves” be conducted at both reservoirs. That has not been done since 2003. This issue was referred to the borough engineer to determine what technical requirements might be involved with such an inspection. Staff expects to have a recommendation for Council soon.
4. **DAF Evaluation** – A dissolved air flotation (DAF) clarifier was added to the water treatment plant in 2013 as part of an overall plant improvement project. The \$1.1 million DAF was necessary for algae removal during the summer months. The DAF appears to work fine by itself, and the plant continues to work fine by itself, but getting the two to work together has been problematic. More often than not, the DAF has not been utilized, in favor of the two older circular clarifiers.

Staff has exhausted all available options for optimizing the DAF’s operation. Severn Trent, the contracted operator of the wastewater plant, also operates and has expertise in water treatment plants, and particularly with DAF-type clarifiers. The Municipal Authority has accepted a proposal from Severn Trent to send experts to our water treatment plant to completely evaluate the DAF and its compatibility with our plant, and to provide recommendations on how to proceed. The evaluation will cost \$22,000. No action is required at this time.

H. Recreation Committee

1. **Young Lungs at Play**

The Alternative Community Resource Program is encouraging all Cambria County municipalities to designate their parks and playgrounds as tobacco-free, and to participate in Young Lungs at Play.

Council previously designated the YPCC as a tobacco-free zone in 2003 by Resolution. Young Lungs at Play signs have been posted at area playgrounds for years. This is the first time that Council is asked to formalize the designations. The tobacco-free designation would apply to all playground facilities, the entire Memorial Field complex, the baseball fields and the YPCC.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to grant tentative approval to Ordinance #624 designating certain recreational areas as tobacco-free, with the following amendments: Section 1, e. will state Lake Field – within 50 ft of Lake Field fence; remove Section 1, g. Any playgrounds within the Lake Rowena complex and add Section 1, g. Ebensburg Tennis Center, and advertise for public inspection. (Lutz) Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Tennis Center Lights**

The tennis center has had an ongoing issue with maintenance of the ceiling lights over the indoor tennis courts. Replacement of inoperative lights is problematic in that a lift is needed to perform the work. Each time that a lift is driven onto the floor, there is risk of damaging the cushion floor. The lift is owned by the county, and had been stored at the former prison. It is difficult to load and transport to the tennis center. The lift now is stored at the War Memorial in Johnstown.

Staff normally waits until there are four or more lights out to change them. That results though in dark areas on the courts during the interim period. In almost all cases, another light burns out as soon as we complete a project.

Staff has considered a total relamp of the facility. The Hite Company and Sylvania has prepared four options for Council's consideration. A copy of the complete proposal is in Council's packet.

| <u>Option</u> | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Annual Savings</u> | <u>Utility Rebate</u> | <u>Payback</u> | <u>Warranty</u> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Relamp - 1000 watt MH | \$7,563 | | | | 1 year |
| New Fixtures - T5 Fluorescent | \$29,038 | \$5,224 | \$2,612 | 5.0 yrs. 4.75 | 10 years |
| New Fixtures - LED Option 1 | \$39,222 | \$7,476 | \$3,738 | yrs. 10.65 | 5 years |
| New Fixtures - LED Option 2 | \$66,052 | \$5,922 | \$2,961 | yrs. | 10 years |

There is \$17,477 that remains in a capital reserve fund from the initial construction, held exclusively for capital projects at the tennis center, that could be used for this project.

Ms. Jacoby shared that the recreation board, Mr. Pfeil and Mr. Taylor do not see that it is necessary to relamp the facility. Upon discussing the bids, the consensus of Council was to send the issue back to the recreation board and to ask them to revisit the bids keeping in mind the annual cost savings.

I. Street Committee

1. Sidewalk Project

PennDOT has awarded the sidewalk project to Gordon Delozier, Inc., and has issued the notice to proceed. Delozier began work on June 10th. The project completion date is October 30th.

Borough crews have completed the installation of new stormwater systems on Rowena Drive, and are currently working on replacing basin tops on West High Street. No action is required.

2. Hillcrest Drive Addressing

The new owner of 723 West Highland Avenue asked why the property is addressed off of West Highland Avenue and not off of Hillcrest Drive. It is clear that the address should be on Hillcrest Drive. That would normally be an easy correction to make, except that in this case, the appropriate house number on Hillcrest Drive is already taken.

If dispatched to an emergency at 723 West Highland Avenue, emergency vehicles would already be past Hillcrest Drive before they realized they cannot access the property from the rear. The owner does not wish to inconvenience the neighboring properties with an address change, but staff believes the situation requires correction.

At the same time, the house at the intersection currently addressed as 701 West Highland should more accurately be addressed on Hillcrest Drive.

Correcting the addressing will involve five properties:

- 701 West Highland Avenue will change to 101 Hillcrest Drive.
- 103 Hillcrest Drive will remain unchanged.
- 105 Hillcrest will remain unchanged.
- 723 West Highland Avenue will change to 107 Hillcrest Drive.
- 107 Hillcrest Drive will change to 109 Hillcrest Drive.
- 109 Hillcrest Drive will change to 111 Hillcrest Drive.
- 111 Hillcrest Drive will change to 113 Hillcrest Drive.
- 115 Hillcrest Drive, and all subsequent addresses, will remain unchanged.

The procedure for changing the addresses is for the borough to petition the County's Department of Emergency Services to do so.

The consensus of the board is to petition the county to add a "106 Hillcrest Drive" address to replace 701 West Highland Avenue to avoid disruption to other affected property owners.

J. Administration Committee –

1. Public Works Hire

There has been a vacancy in public works for several months. The position was advertised, with 48 applications received. Twelve applicants were interviewed.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to approve the hiring of Casey Smith as Laborer I, at the rate of \$14.71/hr., effective 6/22/15. (Houser) Roll call was taken.

| | | | |
|--------|-----|--------|-----|
| Houser | Yes | Lutz | Yes |
| Kuhar | Yes | Tusing | Yes |
| Jacoby | Yes | Miller | No |

Motion passed.

K. General Business

1. Telephones

The telephone handsets have been malfunctioning, and are no longer supported by the manufacturer. Precision Business Solutions is proposing new Cisco handsets. These are very basic models with few functions. One mobile wireless set will be included for use in the Council room and community room.

The cost of the new handsets is \$3,921 installed. The monthly hosting fee will decrease from \$332 to \$240. This includes all 25 telephone handsets in all borough facilities.

Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve the purchase of new telephone handsets at a cost of \$3,921. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

2. Zoning Amendment

Ordinance #623 was proposed amending the Zoning Ordinance and the Zoning Map. The amendment to the Zoning Ordinance adds "Banks, Credit Unions and other Financial Institutions" as permitted non-residential uses in the Mixed Use-Village Commercial Zones (MX-VC).

The amendment to the Zoning Map changes the two parcels being sold by Central Cambria School District to Mixed Use-Village Commercial.

Mr. Kuhar made a motion to grant final approval to Ordinance #623. (Lutz) Motion passed unanimously.

L. Department Reports

- 1. Police Department** –Chief Wyland reported on last month's activities including an update on the Memorial Day Parade and preparations for Wheels & Wings.

2. **Public Works Department** – Mr. Evans reported on last month’s activities including work at the Water Treatment Plant, water leak locations, sewer collection systems the sidewalk project and flooding at Center Street & Rowena Drive.
3. **Community Development** – Ms. Koss reported on last month’s activities including the event updates, new business openings and the façade grant program.
4. **Recreation Department** – Ms. Jacoby reported on last month’s activities, as Mr. Pfeil was not in attendance, including the annual playground inspection, an injury at the Ebensburg Borough Swimming Pool and updates at the Ebensburg Tennis Center.
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 Zoning Board** – No activity.

M. Media Comments/Questions – Mr. Cernetich asked for clarification on the amendment to the Young Lungs at Play Ordinance #624.

N. Public Comments - Mr. Joe Inzana of Highland Avenue asked what the blue markings on N. Center Street were for.

O. Adjournment

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

Meeting Adjourned: 7:42 p.m.
Minutes Recorded by:

Danea Koss, Community Development Director