

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, January 22, 2018 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
John Cobaugh
Theresa Jacoby
Scot May
Cecilia Houser

Absent: Dave Kuhar

Others: Randy Datsko, Mayor
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Jeff Evans, Public Works Director
Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Dirk Johnson, Recreation Director
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Josh Byers, The Mountaineer-Herald
Randy Griffith, The Tribune Democrat
Calem Illig, The Altoona Mirror

Audience: 4

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – Mr. Tusing welcomed new council member Scot May and added that he looked forward to his contributions to Council.

C. **Consent Agenda**

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

1. Approve the minutes of the December 18, 2017 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
2. Approve the Financial Statement and quarterly transfers.
3. Approve payment of the bills.

D. **Appointment to Address Council** – Mr. Dan Kane presented information to Council on Fair Districts PA, a non-partisan organization working to support the creation of fair voting districts that are drawn by a citizens committee as opposed to the current system where the party in power “gerrymanders” districts for political advantage. They are encouraging local municipalities to pass resolutions in support of HB722 and SB22 which would serve this purpose. The consensus of Council was to table the discussion to the next meeting and decide whether or not they would like to take action.

- E. **Mayor's Report** – Mayor Datsko reminded everyone that winter parking regulations are in effect through March. There have been instances of people blocking the sidewalks with vehicles. This is not permitted and individuals will be ticketed. He added that residents are not permitted to blow, plow or shovel into the street – borough will be paying more attention to this.
- F. **Council President** – Mr. Tusing thanked Council for their continued support and cooperation as he begins his new term as Council president. He also acknowledged that with the start of the new garbage contract, there was mass confusion due to the change in service days and the holiday schedule. He added that he hopes residents will take advantage of weekly recycling and the enhanced version now accepting more types of plastics, cardboard boxes, etc.
- G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**
Mr. Mark Wirfel, plant supervisor, provided a written report of plant activities. He added that the change in name to Inframark will not affect level of service.
1. **Wastewater Project Update** – Mr. May reported that bids for the wastewater project were opened on January 15th. The low bid for the project and four alternates is \$8,973,073 from Sippel Development of Pleasant Gap. The Municipal Authority awarded the bid to Sippel Development after deleting Alternate #1 involving work on a section of West High Street. The project is expected to begin in April.
 2. **Wastewater Project Easements** – Ms. Houser reported that of the 300 easements required for the project, approximately 50 remain unresolved. Condemnation proceedings will be filed this week on properties for which easements have not been obtained.
- H. **Recreation Committee – None.**
- I. **Street Committee** – Mr. Cobaugh addressed Council to say that the Borough should have its sidewalks shoveled and cleared within the appropriate timeframe if we are going to be ticketing residents. He added that he's heard reports of plow trucks driving too fast and that some residents are parking too far out into the street.
- J. **Administration Committee**
1. **Investments**
Ms. Barber reported that five responses were received to the Borough's RFP for financial depository services. The list was narrowed to three banks – staff met with one and the administration committee met with two others. PLGIT products were also evaluated. Although the committee was authorized to make a final decision, the decision was delayed to allow time to further investigate one of the specific investments

recommended. That investment has since been rejected. The committee recommends that funds be placed in the following accounts with the respective institutions:

Operating Fund:	
FNB Checking at 0.6%	\$ 200,000+/-
FNB Money Market at 1.01%	\$1,300,000
PLGIT 1-yr. CD at 1.92%	\$1,500,000
Total Operating Fund	\$3,000,000+/-
Liquid Fuels Fund:	
FNB Checking at 0.6%	\$ 4,000
FNB Money Market at 1.01%	\$ 20,000
PLGIT 1-yr CD at 1.92%	\$ 400,000

Ms. Barber made a motion to approve the investment plan as submitted. (Jacoby)

K. General Business

1. 2017 Budget Analyses

Mr. Penatzer reviewed a year-end analysis of the 2017 budget with Council. Key points were discussed, including better than expected revenues at the recreation facilities, and well managed expenses with in the police department. A few concerns were also addressed including declining water revenues.

L. Department Reports

1. **Police Department** – Chief Wyland reported on last month’s activities including a what appeared to be the largest crowd yet for the Christmas parade, and the recent departure of Officer Jared Shope who resigned last month and Officer Deffibaugh who resigned last month.
2. **Public Works Department** – Mr. Evans reported on last month’s activities including plowing and shoveling, working on trucks, sewer work and replacing a sewer line in the borough garage that is causing a back-up.
3. **Community Development Department**
Ms. Koss reported on last month’s activities including membership renewals and final notices going out. She thanked the local business community for their continued support of the mission of the Partnership. Ms. Koss updated Council on the status of Art in Bloom, the next Main Street Member Happy Hour and upcoming community events.
4. **Recreation Department** – Mr. Johnson reported on last month’s activities including updates on Windber and Central Cambria High Schools signing on to use the Tennis Center this winter to help prep for the upcoming season, as well as the local universities

including Mount Aloysius, St. Francis, IUP and UPJ using the facility over the next few months.

5. **Ebensburg Planning Commission** – None.

6. **Ebensburg Zoning Board** – None.

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

N. **Public Comments** – None.

There being no further business Ms. Jacoby made a motion to adjourn. (Cobaugh) Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:05 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Danae Koss, Community Development Director