

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, May 21, 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
Dave Kuhar

Absent: Cecilia Houser

Others: Randy Datsko, Mayor
Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Jeff Evans, Public Works Director
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Josh Byers, The Mountaineer-Herald

Audience: 4

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – Mr. Tusing asked for a moment of silence to honor the memory of Bob Raymond, who recently passed away. Mr. Raymond served the borough for 32 years in various capacities; as Council member, a member of the Municipal Authority and a member of the Planning Commission.

C. **Consent Agenda**

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

1. Approve the minutes of the April 23, 2018 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** – None.

E. **Mayor's Report** – Mayor Datsko reported that Chief Wyland was unable to attend the meeting but asked him to remind residents that school is almost out and to watch out for kids on bikes. Mayor Datsko also reminded everyone of the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 28th beginning at 10 am.

F. **Council President**

Mr. Tusing reported that Councilor Cecilia Houser had given birth to her first child and

congratulated her and her husband. He added that Mr. Josh Byers was in attendance and the meeting was being recorded.

G. Water/Wastewater Committee

1. Report from Inframark on Wastewater Plant Operations

Mr. Mark Wirfel, plant supervisor, provided a written report of plant activities which included 38 million gallons of clean water returned to Howells Run, 15.7 tons of sludge sent to landfill, and no excursions for the month of April. He added that a press release will be sent out stating that cooking oil is not permitted to be disposed of down a drain and it is a punishable offense.

2. Water Project

Mr. Penatzer stated that the wastewater project started today and that the contractor doesn't expect to get beyond High Street before the end of the year.

3. Wastewater Pressure Testing at Borough Properties

Mr. Penatzer stated that the same rules apply to private properties relative to wastewater compliance and pressure testing also apply to all borough-owned properties. Staff has been making progress on verifying compliance.

The YPCC, pool and tennis center all passed their pressure tests after minor repairs. Babcock is new and passed when installed. The municipal building passed after a line on Julian Street was replaced and the High Street garage and ballfields are still being evaluated.

H. Recreation Committee – None.

I. Street Committee

1. Sidewalk Ordinance

Mr. Cobaugh reported that prior to issuing an RFP for sidewalk design, Council reviewed the existing Ordinance, amending street segments wherein sidewalks are required. Tentative approval was granted to Ordinance #643, it was advertised and is ready for final approval.

There was some discussion last month about further amending the Ordinance to include additional sidewalk segments, specifically both sides of a section of West Triumph Street. After additional discussion relative to West Triumph Street, Mr. Cobaugh made a motion to grant final approval to Ordinance #643, amending where sidewalks are required on certain segments of streets. (Kuhar) Roll call was taken:

Jacoby	Yes	Barber	Yes	
Kuhar	Yes	May	No	
Tusing	Yes	Cobaugh	Yes	Motion passed.

2. Sidewalk Project

Mr. Kuhar shared that Council issued an RFP for design of a proposed sidewalk project. The schedule for review of the RFP is as follows:

Release RFP	April 30, 2018
Deadline for Clarifications	May 14, 2018
Proposals Due	May 21, 2018
Finalists Notified	May 23, 2018
Interview Finalists	May 29, 2018
Apparent Consultant Selected	May 29, 2018
Contract Negotiations	May 31, 2018
Selection Finalized	June 4, 2018

Mr. Penatzer shared that eight proposals had been received. There are three in the \$40k range, one in the \$50k range, three in the \$80k range and one is less than \$20 but seems to have some deficiencies. All are available for Council's review. Final award will be considered in June.

All property owners abutting the proposed project will be provided with preliminary information, and invited to a series of public meetings. They will be informed that the project may be completed in phases, or not at all, depending on bids eventually received. Staff's intent is to provide enough information to the property owners as early as possible so that they are prepared for the costs involved and impacts on their property.

The earliest that any further action could be taken on this project will be in 2019. Construction bids could be sought in early 2019 while the sewer project is winding down. Actual construction could not begin until late spring or early summer, following completion of the sewer project.

3. Chris Street

Mr. Kuhar reported that Chris Street currently dead ends at the Ritchey property, making it necessary for the snow plow to back out of Chris Street twice when plowing. It is a dangerous practice because the street is narrow, and West Street traffic, which the plow is backing on to, is on a grade. Staff suggests that an existing private fence at the end of Chris Street be removed, and the street graded to allow the truck to proceed further west on Chris Street, and turn around on CASA Management's vacant parcel. CASA Management approves of the proposal, as does Ritchey, owner of the existing fence.

J. Administration Committee – None.

1. Engineering Request for Proposals (RFP)

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Mr. Penatzer added that a preliminary review of proposals received earlier in the day are available for review.

2. **Berleue Property**

It is a matter of record that the acquisition of 209 East Ogle Street has been finalized.

3. **Cambria County Boroughs Fall Dinner Meeting**

Mr. Penatzer shared that Ebensburg Borough will host the fall meeting of the Boroughs Association at Amici's on October 23rd.

L. **Department Reports**

1. **Police Department** – No report.

2. **Public Works Department** – Mr. Evans reported on last month's activities including water line and sewer work, getting pressure tests entered into GIS and fixing water leaks.

3. **Community Development Department**

Ms. Koss reported on last month's activities including Art in Bloom wrap-up, Wheels & Wings plans, getting the Farmer's Market, Downtown Shutdown and Homecoming plans in place and the start of PotatoFest. Ms. Koss shared that Coal Country Brewing would be opening soon, and the Main Street Partnership would have their highway clean-up on May 24th.

4. **Recreation Department** – Ms. Jacoby reported that the borough pool would be opening on May 26th and the YPCC would be starting a bike rental program in June.

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

6. **Ebensburg Zoning Board** – None.

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

N. **Public Comments**

Ms. June Fether shared that she had recently met someone in town who was visiting from the Scranton area who was very complimentary of what a nice town Ebensburg is.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 6:58 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Danae Koss, Community Development Director