

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ebensburg Municipal Building, 300 W. High Street, Ebensburg, by Council President Doug Tusing.

Present: Susan Barber, Vice President
John Cobaugh
Theresa Jacoby
Scot May
Dave Kuhar

Absent: Doug Tusing, President

Others: Randy Datsko, Mayor
Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager
Heath Long, Solicitor
Jeff Evans, Public Works Director
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Jocelyn Brumbaugh, The Tribune Democrat
Sean Sauro, The Altoona Mirror
Andrew Smithmyer, The Mountaineer Herald

Audience: 4

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – Mr. George Kopchik at E. Sample Street

C. **Consent Agenda**

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

1. It is a matter of record that Olivia Ratchford and Sam Archangelo have been hired at the tennis center at the rate of \$8.50/hr.
2. It is a matter of record that Harry Gearhart was hired at a rate of \$10.00/hr. for summer maintenance.
3. Approve the minutes of the May 21, 2018 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
4. Approve the Financial Statement and quarterly transfers.
5. Approve payment of the bills with an abstention by Councilor Kuhar on amounts owed Dave Kuhar and Ebensburg Country Club.

D. **Appointment to Address Council** – None.

E. **Mayor's Report** – Mayor Datsko welcomed back Chief Wyland.

F. **Council President**

Ms. Barber reported that the meeting was being recorded by Andrew Smithmyer for The Mountaineer Herald.

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 35 million gallons of clean water returned to Howells Run, 16.1 tons of sludge sent to landfill, and no excursions for the month of April.

2. Wastewater Project

Mr. Kuhar stated that the wastewater project had started the last week of May and that updates are being posted to the borough's website and Facebook page.

3. Inframark Proposal for Water Treatment Plant Operations

The Water/Wastewater Committee met and considered a proposal from Inframark to manage operations at the water treatment plant, in the same manner that they do for the wastewater plant. Due to costs, the committee recommends that the proposal be rejected, and that the operation of the water treatment plant continue in-house.

H. Recreation Committee

1. Lake Rowena

Ms. Jacoby reported that the County Conservation District and the PA Fish Commission wish to undertake a project of shore stabilization and fish habitat at Lake Rowena. The Conservation District will serve as the grantee in a funding application to DCED's Growing Greener Program. The Borough will have no obligations during the project, except to allow access to the property. The project will correct the erosion and steep drop offs that have occurred along the shoreline.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to agree to authorize the Cambria County Conservation District to seek funding for, administer and undertake a project at Lake Rowena.

2. Tennis Court Hires

The Recreation Director recommended the hiring of Olivia Ratchford and Sam Archangleo for part-time front desk duties at the tennis center, replacing Emmy Sikora who is now attending college. Both are members of the tennis center.

It is a matter of record that Olivia Ratchford and Sam Archangelo have been hired at the tennis center at the rate of \$8.50/hr.

I. Street Committee

1. Sidewalk Project

Mr. Cobaugh reported that Council issued an RFP for design of a proposed sidewalk project. The seven responses received are:

L. R. Kimball	\$43,125
Nittany Engineering	\$45,876
HF Lenz	\$48,270

Stiffler-McGraw	\$51,000
Keller Engineering	\$85,300
Bassett Engineering	\$96,140
Gwin Dobson & Foreman	\$98,885

The Request for Proposals outlined the selection criteria that would be considered when reviewing the proposals including the overall quality of the proposal, consultant qualifications and experience, recommendations of previous clients, experience in sidewalk design, and the cost of design. All firms demonstrated an unquestionable ability to complete the proposed project. After consideration of all factors, staff recommends that Kimball be awarded a contract for sidewalk design.

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.

Mr. Cobaugh made a motion to award a contract in the amount of \$43,125 to L.R. Kimball for design of a sidewalk project. (Kuhar). Motion passed unanimously with one abstention from Councilor May who is employed by L.R. Kimball.

2. Stop Signs

Mr. Cobaugh asked Council why there are so many four-way stop signs in the borough. Council consensus is to have the streets committee, along with Chief Wyland and Mr. Penatzer review whether or not they are all needed.

J. Administration Committee

1. Part-time Maintenance

It is a matter of record that Harry Gearhart was hired at a rate of \$10.00/hr. for summer maintenance.

2. AFSCME Agreement

The AFSCME labor agreement expires at the end of 2018. The initial negotiating session is scheduled for June 27th.

K. General Business

1. Engineering Request for Proposals (RFP)

Mr. Kuhar reported that Council issued an RFP for consulting engineering services for the borough and the airport. Five proposals were received:

- L. Robert Kimball & Associates, Ebensburg
- Keller Engineers, Hollidaysburg (w/ GAI Consultants)
- Bassett Engineering, Montoursville (w/ GAI Consultants)

CPS Surveys, Ebensburg (w/ C&S Companies)
Stiffler-McGraw, Hollidaysburg (w/ Delta Airport Consultants)

An analysis of the selection process was provided to Council . The selection committee was comprised of Mayor Datsko, Council President Doug Tusing and the Borough Manager. The committee recommends that L.R. Kimball be engaged to provide ongoing consulting engineering services to the borough and airport.

Mr. Kuhar made a motion to designate L.R. Kimball as the engineering consulting for the Borough and Ebensburg Municipal Airport. Motion passed unanimously with one abstention from Councilor May who is employed by L.R. Kimball.

2. Garbage Collection

Mr. Penatzer reported that several issues have arisen with the garbage collection contract. Most involved customers being repeatedly skipped along the route, or the separate collection of recyclables. The Mayor and staff met with the owner of Pro Disposal on June 19th, and are hopeful that the issues will be corrected.

3. Property Maintenance Enforcement

Mr. Penatzer reported that routine property maintenance inspections were conducted during May. Fifty-three violation notices were mailed. The vast majority of those are for high grass/weeds and are quickly corrected by the property owners. Borough crews had to cut high grass at two properties. About a dozen of the notices are for junk in yards and abandoned vehicles. It was necessary to file civil complaints on only two properties. All other violations were corrected by the property owners.

None of the violations were for building conditions. The only building in town deemed to be a violation is the house at 209 East Ogle Street, recently acquired by the borough for demolition. That house will be razed later this year with a county grant. In the meantime, borough crews have secured the building and are caring for the yard.

L. Department Reports

- 1. Police Department** – Chief Wyland reported on last month’s activities adding that the Memorial Day Parade and Wheels & Wings seemed to both draw the largest crowds to date. He added that there were a few issues with Wheels & Wings and he estimated an attendance of 20,000 people.
- 2. Public Works Department** – Mr. Evans reported on last month’s activities including work on the DAF clarifier and sewer project updates.

3. **Community Development Department** - Ms. Koss reported on last month's activities including Wheels & Wings, new business openings and the upcoming Movie in the Park and start of the Farmer's Market.
4. **Recreation Department** – Mr. Johnson reported on recreation department activities including the recent golf tournament, youth swimming club and upcoming dance at the pool.
5. **Ebensburg Planning Commission** – None.
6. **Ebensburg Zoning Board** – None.

M. Media Comments/Questions

Mr. Sean Sauro from The Altoona Mirror asked how long has the borough been using Pro-Disposal and who was the borough's provider before them? He also asked what residents pay for trash collection, how many people have been affected by collection issues, are they all in the same neighborhoods and has this problem happened before?

N. Public Comments

Ms. June Fether asked if we could add the garbage collection notice in The Mountaineer-Herald. She added that she would like to ask those reviewing stop signs to examine everything carefully.

O. Executive Session – Council entered into an executive session at 7:11 PM.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 7:31 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Dana Koss, Community Development Director