



**Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting**  
**Monday, October 22, 2018**  
**6:30 p.m.**

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**Borough Council**  
Doug Tusing, President  
Susan Barber, Vice-President  
John Cobaugh  
Cecilia Houser  
Theresa Jacoby  
Dave Kuhar  
Scot May  
**Mayor**  
Randy Datsko

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Members of the public are invited to comment at this time on any item appearing on the agenda.*

**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

*All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Council request specific items to be removed for separate action.*

Item 9A: Approve the minutes of the September 24, 2018 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 9B: Approve the financial statement and quarterly transfers.

Item 9C: Approve payment of bills.

Recommended Action – Approve the consent agenda.

**2. APPOINTMENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

**3. MAYOR'S REPORT**

**Item 3A: Report on Police Department**

**4. COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMENTS**

**5. WATER, WASTEWATER & STORMWATER COMMITTEE**

**Houser, Kuhar & May**

**Item 5A: Report from Inframark on Wastewater Plant Operations**

Plant Supervisor Mark Wirfel will provide a verbal report on projects and activities at the wastewater plant during the month.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 5B: Wastewater Project**

The project is proceeding in the southern sections of the borough. The project is 18% complete, however, 33% of the contract time has elapsed. Restoration of streets and yards has begun.

Recommended Action – No action required.

<b>6. RECREATION COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Barber, Jacoby &amp; May</b>
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<b>7. STREET COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Cobaugh &amp; Houser</b>
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<b>8. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Barber, Jacoby &amp; Kuhar</b>
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\* Item 8A: AFSCME Labor Agreement

The administrative committee has had five negotiating sessions with the AFSCME representatives. On October 16<sup>th</sup> the Borough gave its last best offer. We await a response.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 8B: 2019 Annual Budget**

The administrative committee has compiled a tentative 2019 budget for Council’s review. The 2019 Operating Budget calls for revenues of \$6,036,770 and expenditures of \$5,927,480. The general fund budget is balanced with no increase in real estate taxes. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive year without a tax increase for general purposes, and the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year without a tax increase for any purpose; the last being in 2010 for the swimming pool debt.

	Revenues	Expenditures	Surplus
General Fund Budget	\$2,207,270	\$2,149,200	\$58,070
Water Fund Budget	\$1,670,500	\$1,651,970	\$18,530
Wastewater Fund Budget	\$1,933,000	\$1,900,310	\$32,690
Stormwater Fund Budget	<u>\$ 226,000</u>	<u>\$ 226,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Total Operating Fund	\$6,036,770	\$5,927,480	\$109,290

	2018	2019	Change
General Fund Budget	\$2,011,020	\$2,149,200	6.87%
Water Fund Budget	\$1,543,070	\$1,651,970	7.06%
Wastewater Fund Budget	\$1,838,750	\$1,900,310	3.35%
Stormwater Fund Budget	<u>\$ 226,000</u>	<u>\$ 226,000</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total Operating Fund	\$5,618,840	\$5,927,480	5.49%

The draft budget maintains taxes at their current levels, but includes an increase in water rates. The Manager will review the major points of the proposed budget. A synopsis of the budget is included in Council's packet.

The 2019 annual budget is granted tentative approval at this meeting, advertised for public inspection, and then adopted at the November meeting.

Recommended Action – Grant tentative approval to the 2019 annual budget and advertise for public inspection.

**Item 8C: Tax Ordinance**

An Ordinance is required each year to establish the real estate tax for the coming year.

Recommended Action - Grant tentative approval to Ordinance #645, establishing the 2019 real estate tax, and advertise for public inspection.

**9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- \* Item 9A: Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)  
The minutes of the previous regular meeting are presented for Council review and approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the minutes of the previous meeting(s).

- \* Item 9B: Financial Statement  
The financial statement for September 2018 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the September 2018 financial statement and quarterly transfers.

- \* Item 9C: Bills  
A list of bills totaling \$552,668.29 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

**Item 9D: Municipal Authority Appointment**

A vacancy exists on the Ebensburg Municipal Authority. Two applications were received for the position. The Municipal Authority members were asked to review both applications. It is the recommendation of the Manager and members of the Authority that Renee Martin-Nagle be appointed to the vacant seat. This particular 5-year term expires at the end of 2018.

Recommended Action – Appoint Renee Martin-Nagle to a vacant seat on the Ebensburg Municipal Authority, term expires 12/2018.

**Item 9E: Street Trees**

There are several street trees every year that need replaced because of being hit by cars, damaged in some way, or simply died. This year there are eleven to be replaced. In addition, the five street trees in front of the courthouse are to be replaced.

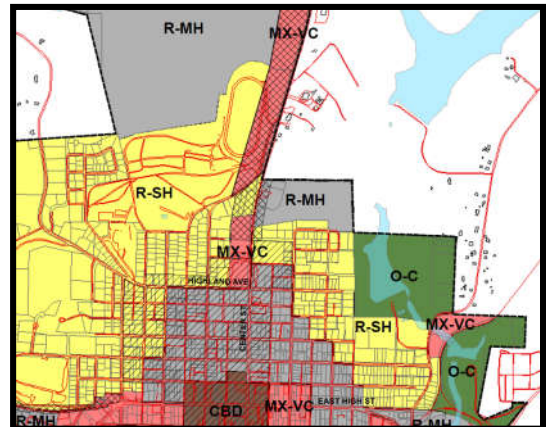
Quotes were sought from Eisler Nursery and Schichtel Nursery. Eisler quoted \$3,493. Schichtel quoted \$3,587. Both include delivery to Ebensburg

Recommended Action – Approve purchase of sixteen trees from Eisler Nursery in Butler at a cost of \$3,493.00.

**Item 9F: Middle School Field Zoning**

Council received a request last month to rezone the former middle school field at the northeast corner of Center Street and Bolton Street from Single-Family Residential to Mixed Use-Village Commercial. The matter was referred to the Planning Commission for a recommendation.

The Planning Commission met on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Approximately twenty residents attended the meeting. Those that spoke were all opposing the change. A copy of the minutes of the meeting is in Council’s packet. The Planning Commission voted to decline offering any recommendation, preferring to wait until a public hearing is scheduled in order to hear comments from all after public notice.



The plan for this parcel has changed twice since Council’s last meeting. The proposal to the Planning Commission involved keeping half of the parcel as residential. Staff understands that the intent now is to limit any commercial development to a narrow tract bordering Center Street, and more than half of the parcel would remain residential.

Staff suggests that prior to making any decision, or even scheduling a public hearing, Council should instruct the applicant to prepare a very preliminary sketch plan of the proposed development. Council can then decide, based on a specific proposal, whether it wishes to proceed with a public hearing.

Recommended Action – Dependent on discussion.

- \* Item 9G: Ogle Street House  
The County Redevelopment Authority accepted seven buildings for demolition under the ACT 152 blight funding. The house on Ogle Street that Council purchased at judicial sale was approved. They are starting that bidding process now, with most of the demolition scheduled for spring. It is possible that the Ogle Street house could be razed yet this fall.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 9H: Airport Inspection**

On August 29<sup>th</sup> the Bureau of Aviation conducted the annual inspection of the Ebensburg Airport. A report dated September 6<sup>th</sup> is in Council's packet. There are ten off-airport tree obstructions, some missing runway markings, and several regulatory issues to update. Kimball has submitted responses to the Bureau on each matter, and is awaiting determinations on each.

Recommended Action – No action required.

- \* Item 9I: Vehicle Replacement

The Public Works Department is preparing specifications for a new large dump truck to replace a 1999 International. A 2008 Ford Ranger pickup is also to be replaced. Both trucks will be advertised for sale after winter. Council will be asked soon to approve the order of the new trucks, but neither will be delivered until spring.

Recommended Action – No action required.

- \* Item 9J: Fire Department Grant

The Dauntless Fire Company informed the Borough that they have been awarded a \$461,905 Federal grant for replacement of a 1986 Rescue Engine. Dauntless is able to fund the remaining balance of \$200,000.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**10. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Item 10A: Police Department**

Chief Wyland will provide a verbal report on the police department's activities during the month.

**Item 10B: Public Works Department**

Public Works Director Jeff Evans will provide a verbal report on the public works department's activities during the month.

**Item 10C: Community Development**

Community Development Director Dana Koss will provide a verbal report on the community development department's activities during the month.

**Item 10D: Recreation Department**

Recreation Director Dirk Johnson will provide a verbal report on the recreation department's activities during the month.

- \* Item 10E: Codes Enforcement  
A monthly codes enforcement report was forwarded to Council.
- \* Item 10F: Ebensburg Municipal Authority  
A copy of the minutes of the last municipal authority meeting is included in Council’s packet.
- \* Item 10G: Ebensburg Planning Commission
  - \* 1) Central Commons, North Center Street  
Having received many public comments, the Planning Commission preferred to wait for a public hearing before rendering an opinion.

Recommended Action – Issue addressed above.
- \* Item 10H: Ebensburg Zoning Board – No activity

**11. MEDIA COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

*Representatives of the media are invited to comment and ask questions at this time on any issues, whether or not on the agenda.*

**12. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Members of the public are invited to comment at this time on any issues, whether or not on the agenda.*

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

*Copies of all staff reports and documents subject to disclosure that relate to any item of business referred to on the agenda are available for public inspection the Thursday before each regularly scheduled meeting at the Borough office, located at 300 West High Street, Ebensburg, Pa. Any documents subject to disclosure that are provided to members of the Borough Council regarding any item on this agenda are available for public inspection at the Borough office or at [www.ebensburgpa.com](http://www.ebensburgpa.com).*

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Borough office (814) 472-8780 or [eburg@ebensburgpa.com](mailto:eburg@ebensburgpa.com). Notification 48-hours before the meeting will enable the Borough to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.*