

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, July 22, 2019 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
Cecilia Houser
Scot May
John Cobaugh
Theresa Jacoby
Dave Kuhar

Absent: Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager

Others: Randy Datsko, Mayor
Heath Long, Solicitor
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Jeff Evans, Public Works Director
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Dirk Johnson, Recreation Director
Gina Bianuci, The Mountaineer Herald
Jocelyn Brumbaugh, The Tribune Democrat
Matt Churella, The Altoona Mirror

Audience: 9

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Public Comments

Mr. Roy Johnston of South Marian Street asked what the time schedule is for paying Sippel Construction for the work they have completed and what is the Borough's recourse if we find that inadequate work has been done.

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 from the June 10, 2019 monthly meeting of Borough Council.
3. Approve the Financial Statement.
4. Approve payment of bills with an abstention by Councilor May on amount owed to him.

D. Appointment to Address Council

Ms. Jennifer Woodring of 108 Lovell Avenue raised concerns over the proposed mental health counseling office looking to go in at 123 Lovell Avenue. She explained that she has researched Project Point of Light, which claims to be a forensic therapy office, and that its focus is on the treatment of sexual offenders, individuals with problematic sexual behavior and victims of sexual abuse. She expressed that the fear of her and her neighbors is that it will turn into a group home. She also questioned how Mr. Penatzer can be both the zoning officer and a voting zoning board member.

E. Mayor's Report – None.

F. **Council President** – None.

G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

1. **Report from Inframark on Wastewater Plant Operations**

Mr. Mark Wirfel, plant supervisor, reported on activities at the water treatment plant. He also announced that he would be retiring at the end of August and thanked Council for the last 14 years.

3. **Laurelbrook Road Water**

Mr. Kuhar reported that two bids were received for this project; Ray Winter & Sons at \$73,500.00 and Kev's Excavating for \$67,600.00. The project involves the replacement of 400 feet of 4" water main along Laurelbrook Road east of Crestwood Drive and installation of a new fire hydrant at that intersection to replace one removed earlier. Sufficient money is available in the water reserve fund to accomplish this project.

Mr. Kuhar made a motion to award a contract to Kev's excavating in the amount of \$67,600.00 for replacement of 400' of water main on Laurelbrook Road. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

H. **Recreation Committee** – None.

I. **Street Committee**

1. **Street Resurfacing**

Ms. Houser reported that the bids for street resurfacing south of High Street are due by July 31st.

J. **Administration Committee** – None.

K. **General Business** – None.

L. **Department Reports**

1. **Police Department** – Chief Wyland reported on last month's activities including the hiring of Officer Leyo and a relatively uneventful Wheels & Wings with one DUI. He added that they will again begin patrolling stop signs and speeding in neighborhoods and crosswalk enforcement.
2. **Public Works Department** – Mr. Evans reported on public works activities including operations at the water plant and detecting leaks within the system, paving repairs by Quaker Sales and updates to the traffic lights.
3. **Community Development Department** – Ms. Koss gave reported that Downtown Shutdown and Homecoming would be taking place this Friday & Saturday. She thanked everyone who helped out with and attended Wheels & Wings and the Movie in the Park. She added that there have been three new businesses open: KFC, Sandy Johns Boutique and Creative Momentz Photography. Lastly, she reported that the Main Street Partnership had purchased two paddle boats for use at Lake Rowena and they would be ready for Homecoming this Saturday.
4. **Recreation Department** – Mr. Johnson reported on activities at the Tennis Center including free lessons at the tennis center during Ebensburg's Homecoming and that dividers have been added to the courts. He added that sign-ups for the fall basketball league have started and that State Rep.

Frank Burns would be hosting a job fair at the YPCC on Wednesday, July 24th. Lastly, he reminded everyone that the gym floor will be resurfaced the week of August 1st through the 10th.

M. Media Comments/Questions

Ms. Jocelyn Brumbaugh, The Tribune Democrat, asked if the Lovell Avenue property is already zoned mixed-use-village-commercial and if the zoning board makes recommendations to Council?

- N. Public Comments** – Mr. Randy Johnson of S. Marian street expressed a complaint he has against Dodson Electric. He stated that he contracted them to do sewer lateral work at his home and that he never Dodson never finished the work. He added that he's tried to call many times and is unable to get a hold of Mr. Dodson.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 7:01 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Danae Koss, Community Development Director