



**Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting**  
**Monday, April 27, 2020**  
**6:30 p.m.**

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**Borough Council**  
Doug Tusing, President  
Dave Kuhar, Vice-President  
Jeffrey Ball  
Cecilia Houser  
Theresa Jacoby  
Scot May  
Michael Owatt  
**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 March 30, 2020 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 9B: Approve the financial statement.

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**

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

Q&A on the written report submitted and on projects and activities at the wastewater plant.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 5B: Report from Inframark on Water Treatment Plant Operations**

Q&A on the written report submitted and on projects and activities at the water plant.

Inframark is in the process of developing a written SOP for water plant operations. On April 15<sup>th</sup> a conference call was conducted with borough staff and Inframark representatives to resolve any confusion regarding delineation of responsibilities between the treatment plant and the distribution system. Chlorine monitoring and addition at the Ogden tank has overlapping responsibilities. In the future we should enhance SCADA to allow chlorine levels and pumps at Ogden to be adjusted by the plant operator.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 5C: Reservoir Drain Valve Replacement**

The project to replace the drain valve on the small reservoir has lingered for several years. The valve and associated parts are already on hand. A project to install that valve primarily involves draining the reservoir again, redirecting or pumping the channel flow away from the intake tower, and pouring concrete for the tower base. A pre-bid conference is scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup> with bids due on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 5D: West Horner Street Sewer Projects**

There are two sewer related projects in the 200 block of West Horner Street being advertised. The first extends a sewer main to the rear of residences on the south side of Horner Street. The second extends a sewer main from Horner Street north on Cherry Street to Alton Street. Bids are due on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 5E: Carroll Street Sewer Main**

Bishop Carroll High School is completing a project to replace the sewer laterals on the school campus. Guyer Brothers is the contractor. A 220 LF section of 8” public sewer main existed between the private sewage collection network and Truman Street and had significant I&I. Guyer offered to replace that section of public main at a cost of \$11,000. That additional work was approved. Such a price (\$45/LF plus restoration) could not have been obtained through bidding and was below the bidding threshold.

Recommended Action – Make it a matter of record that Guyer Brothers was engaged to replace 220 LF of sewer main along Carroll Street.



**Item 5F: Sewer Replacement Project**

The \$9 million sewer replacement project is essentially completed. Sippel still has some minor work to complete this spring including some yard restoration and lowering of several laterals. A dispute exists concerning down time allegedly incurred by Sippel due to unmarked utilities being struck/relocated and other factors. They have submitted a change order in excess of \$2.1 million. The claim is currently being reviewed by the Authority’s engineer, and specialized legal advice is being sought.

Recommended Action – No action required.

<b>6. RECREATION COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Jacoby, May &amp; Owatt</b>
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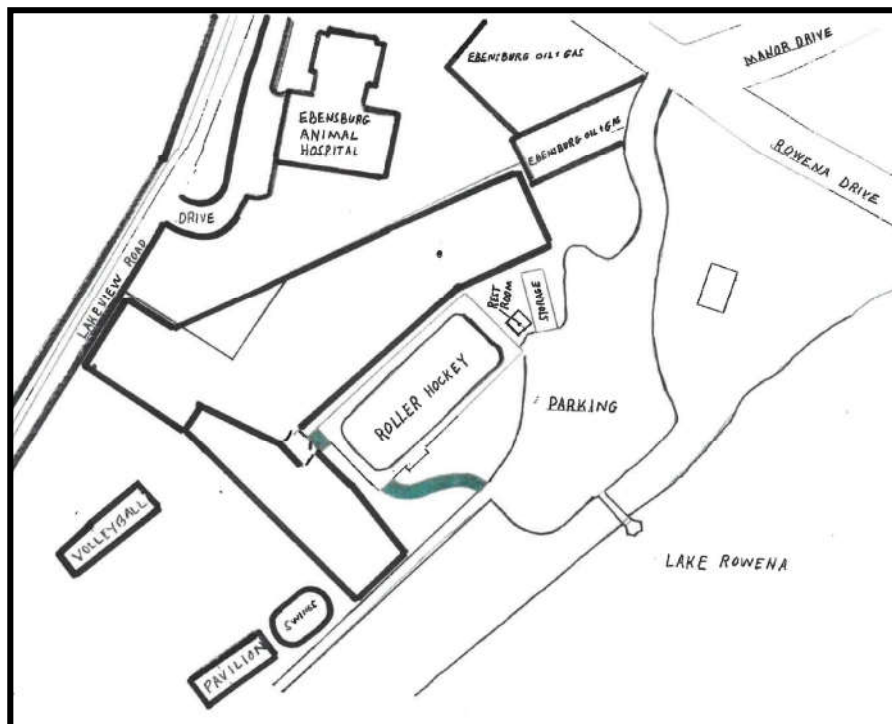
**Item 6A: Lake Rowena Concession Building**

The poor condition of the existing concession stand at Lake Rowena was previously discussed and referred to the Recreation Board for recommendations. Staff and the Board agree that the existing building can be repaired instead of a completely new one being built. The restrooms in the building have not been open for several years and should be removed. The concrete floor needs to be replaced. Cracks in the block of the building should be repaired, a second window added and siding added to the outside of the building.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 6B: Dog Park**

The Ebensburg Rotary Club earlier discussed with Council its desire to construct and donate to the Borough a dog park. Various locations were considered including near the YPCC, at the east end playground and the fairgrounds. After discussions and meetings with staff and the Recreation Board, the Board recommends that the dog park be constructed at Lake Rowena adjacent to and behind the current outdoor hockey rink. There will be two sections within the Dog Park to keep smaller and larger dogs separated. Parking and water service is readily available.



The Rotary Club is asking for Council's approval of the project as soon as possible so they can start exploring grants and raising funds for a 2021 project.

Recommended Action – Approve the construction of a dog park by the Rotary Club at the Lake Rowena property.

**7. STREET COMMITTEE**

**Ball, Houser & Owatt**

**Item 7A: 2020 Sidewalk Project**

Bids for the 2020 sidewalk project in the northeast quadrant were considered last month. The low bid was \$1,371,061.79 from M&B Services of Clarion. Action was tabled due to the limitations imposed on contractors for non-essential work during the Coronavirus outbreak.

Restrictions on construction are scheduled to be lifted on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff recommends that the project be awarded at this time. The ability to resurface streets this fall in the northeast quadrant is dependent on the project being started by June. Further, the ability to undertake next year's project in the northwest quadrant depends on completing this year's project this year. The street repairs following the sewer project did not include a conventional topcoat, and street conditions will deteriorate significantly if paving is delayed until 2022.

Staff also suggests that special consideration be given to property owners who have experienced a financial hardship during Covid-19. Council has always done that in the past for the few that, for whatever reason, may have had a particularly difficult time paying for the project. Under the current circumstances there may be a higher number needing to stretch payments over a longer period.

Recommended Action – Dependent on discussion.

**Item 7B: 2020-21 Sidewalk Project Line of Credit**

Proposals were considered last month for the line of credit necessary for the 2020 and 2021 sidewalk projects. The line of credit will allow costs to be paid while property owner payments are pending. First Commonwealth Bank submitted the most favorable proposal.

The responding banks were informed that if a project is possible in 2020 a rate would be negotiated with First Commonwealth. If the project is delayed until 2021, new financing proposals would be requested. If the sidewalk project is awarded, staff should be authorized to negotiate an updated financing proposal.

Recommended Action – Dependent on award of sidewalk contract.

**Item 7C: Unit Debt Act Compliance**

All new debt, regardless of duration, requires Unit Debt Act compliance involving calculation of an updated debt statement and borrowing base certificate and adoption of an Ordinance. If the project is awarded, and once a revised financing proposal is obtained, then tentative approval should be granted to Ordinance #652 seeking DCED authorization to incur debt in compliance with the Unit Debt Act.

Recommended Action – Dependent on award of sidewalk contract.

**Item 7D: 609 East Crawford Street Trees**

The property owner at 609 East Crawford Street is requesting that the sidewalk project be revised in order to save the large trees at the front of his property, and that a curb cut be permitted for access to the property. This matter was tabled last month for a final decision.

The address is in fact two separate parcels, although not shown as such on the county GIS. As a matter of policy, the request for the curb cut would be granted.

Recommended Action – Dependent on discussion.

**Item 7E: Tree Cutting**

Bids for the tree cutting associated with the 2020 sidewalk project were considered last month. The low bid was \$35,000.00 from Top Notch Logging of Ebensburg. Action was tabled pending a decision on the sidewalk project. If the sidewalk contract is awarded, this contract should also be awarded, subject to any changes discussed above.

Recommended Action – Dependent on award of sidewalk contract.

**8. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar**

**9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

\* Item 9A: Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

The minutes of the March 30, 2020 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 March 2020 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the March 2020 financial statement.

\* Item 9C: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$210,368.40 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

**Item 9D: Sewage Enforcement**

Due to the closure of the Cambria County Sewage Enforcement Agency, staff recommends that the Cambria County Building Codes Enforcement Agency (Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency) be empowered to serve as the Borough's sewage enforcement officer, in accordance with Act 537.

An intergovernmental agreement is required in order for multiple municipalities to share sewage enforcement through the agency. An Ordinance is required to adopt such an Agreement. Ordinance #651 was tentatively approved last month, has been advertised for public inspection and is ready for final adoption.

Recommended Action – Grant final approval to Ordinance #651 adopting an Intergovernmental Agreement authorizing the Cambria County Building Code Enforcement Agency to serve as Sewage Enforcement Officer.

**Item 9E: Airport**

Bids are currently being sought for the airport resurfacing project. Bids are due on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The CARES Act will now allow this project to be paid 100% with FAA funds, with no local match required. In addition, a grant of \$20,000 has been awarded to the airport to be used for general expenses. RACRA wishes to use the grant funds for a new credit card reader at the fuel pump.

Kimball has prepared the engineering agreement for the construction phase of the resurfacing project.

Recommended Action – Approve the engineering agreement with CDI/L.R. Kimball in the amount of \$65,166.00 for the construction phase of the airport resurfacing project.

- \* Item 9F: Spring Clean-up  
Pro Disposal will be conducting spring clean-up, as previously scheduled, on April 30 and May 1.

Recommended Action – No action required.

## 10. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**Item 10A: Police Department**

Chief Wyland has submitted a written report on the police department's activities during the month.

**Item 10B: Public Works Department**

Public Works Director Jeff Evans has submitted a written report on the public works department's activities during the month.

**Item 10C: Community Development**

Community Development Director Danae Koss has submitted a written report on the community development department's activities during the month.

**Item 10D: Recreation Department**

Recreation Director Dirk Johnson has submitted a written 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 – No activity

\* 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.*