



**Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting**  
**Monday, August 24, 2020**  
**6:30 p.m.**

Phone: 814-472-8780  
E-Mail: [eburg@ebensburgpa.com](mailto:eburg@ebensburgpa.com)  
Website: [www.ebensburgpa.com](http://www.ebensburgpa.com)

**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 8A: Make it a matter of record that \$1,750,000 was transferred from an Ameriserv CD to the FNB money market.

Item 8B: Make it a matter of record that Logan Prokop has been hired as a laborer in Public Works effective 9/7/2020.

Item 9A: Approve the minutes of the July 27, 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**

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

**Ball & Kuhar**

**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.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**6. RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**Jacoby, May & Owatt**

**7. STREET COMMITTEE**

**Ball, Houser & Owatt**

**Item 7A: 2020 Sidewalk Project**

East Crawford Street, East Horner Street and North Caroline Street are essentially completed. Work continues there on landscaping. Work on East Sample Street is progressing well. The project deadline is September 15<sup>th</sup>, and it might take a week or so more to complete.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 7B: 2020 Street Resurfacing**

The milling and resurfacing of streets in the northeast quadrant has been advertised for bids. Those bids will be received earlier in the day and a bid tab will be available at the meeting. The sidewalk and curb project is definitely far enough along that it will not delay any street milling. Assuming the bids are reasonable, Council should be able to award a contract tonight.

Recommended Action – Dependent on bids received.

**8. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar**

\* Item 8A: Investments

A certificate of deposit in the amount of \$1,750,000 matured at Ameriserv. As money market rates are now higher than CD rates, it was transferred to the existing money market account at First National.

Recommended Action – Make it a matter of record that \$1,750,000 was transferred from an Ameriserv CD to the FNB money market.

- \* Item 8B: Public Works Hire  
Thirteen applications were received for a vacant position in Public Works that was advertised. Six of the applicants were interviewed. Logan Prokop of Ebensburg was hired to fill the position.

Recommended Action – Make it a matter of record that Logan Prokop has been hired as a laborer in Public Works effective 9/7/2020.

**Item 8C: Employee Pension Plans**

There are several routine actions required every year relative to the employee pension plans. The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) is the amount calculated each year that is required to be deposited into each pension plan. Regulations require Council to formally approve that number by September 30<sup>th</sup>. The state aid unit value for 2021 has not yet been announced, but is not necessary in order to adopt the actuarily determined MMO. The state aid listed below is approximated. Council must also establish the contribution rate, if any, for employees and determine how the State pension aid is to be distributed to the two pension plans.

Non-Uniformed Plan

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Financial Requirement	\$86,392	\$140,562	\$149,648	\$155,989	\$157,752
Employee Contributions	-\$10,999	-\$17,057	-\$19,140	-\$20,593	-\$16,831
MMO	\$75,393	\$123,505	\$130,508	\$135,396	\$140,921
State Aid	-\$56,870	-\$59,647	-\$65,581	-\$68,000	-\$66,600
Borough Share	\$18,523	\$63,858	\$64,927	\$67,396	\$74,321

Uniformed Plan

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Financial Requirement	\$39,902	\$46,831	\$54,656	\$48,826	\$61,048
Employee Contributions	-\$7,035	-\$6,992	-\$8,160	-\$7,290	-\$8,974
Funding Adjustment	-\$11,555	-\$4,140	-\$4,140	-\$4,140	-\$1,032
MMO	\$21,312	\$35,699	\$42,356	\$37,396	\$51,042
State Aid	-\$16,622	-\$35,699	-\$42,356	-\$37,396	-\$51,042
Borough Share	\$4,690	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

NET COST FOR BOTH PLANS      \$23,213      \$63,858      \$64,927      \$67,396      \$74,321

- Action #1 - Adopt the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) calculation for the non-uniformed pension plan in the amount of \$140,921.
- Action #2 - Adopt the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) calculation for the uniformed pension plan in the amount of \$51,042.
- Action #3 - Adopt Resolution #2020-08 establishing an employee contribution rate of 3% (unchanged) for the non-uniformed pension plan for 2021.
- Action #4 - Adopt Resolution #2020-09 establishing an employee contribution rate of 3% (unchanged) for the uniformed pension plan for 2021.

Action #5 - Adopt Resolution #2020-10 authorizing distribution of the State aid check to the respective employee pension plans.

**Item 9D: 2020 Audit**

Regulations require that the auditor be designated prior to the end of each year.

Action – Adopt Resolution #2020-11 appointing Wessel & Company as auditor for 2020.

**9. DIVERSITY COMMITTEE**

**May, Kuhar & Houser**

**10. GENERAL BUSINESS**

\* Item 10A: Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

The minutes of the July 27, 2020 regular meeting are presented for Council review and approval.

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

\* Item 10B: Financial Statement

The financial statement for July 2020 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the July 2020 financial statement.

\* Item 10C: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$840,800.71 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

**Item 10D: Diversity**

- 1) The roles of the Borough and the Main Street Partnership have been discussed. The consensus of Council was to separate the Main Street Partnership from the Borough. The Main Street Partnership is a corporate body independent of borough government, is capable of sponsoring and managing its own events, and is free to develop and enforce its own rules without government assistance or interference of any kind.

Since it was first formed in January 2013 under Resolution 2013-01, the Main Street Partnership Board members have been appointed by Council. Since acquiring its 501(c)3 status, members of the Partnership have continued to be appointed by Council. The proper method is for the Partnership to appoint members to its own Board since it is in fact a corporate body separate from borough government. The Partnership has amended its own by-laws implementing that change.

The Borough will continue to provide contracted services to the Partnership such as staff support and office space. The Borough will provide any services to the Partnership's events that we would provide to any event, regardless of the sponsor; i.e. street sweeping,

increased police staffing, etc. This relationship is expressed in a proposed Operating Agreement similar to that which exists between the Borough and Ebensburg Municipal Authority.

In the future, the Borough will no longer sponsor any of the community events in town. Instead, events will be sponsored by the Partnership or other civic organization or group. Ordinance #653 is proposed to provide a process through which permits for special events and parades can be applied for.

Recommended Action #1 – Adopt Resolution 2020-06 rescinding Resolution 2013-01 which established the Main Street Partnership.

Recommended Action #2 – Adopt Resolution 2020-07 signifying the Borough’s desire to no longer provide oversight or control of future events.

Recommended Action #3 – Grant tentative approval to Ordinance #653 providing for the permitting of special events and parades and advertise for public inspection.

Recommended Action #4 – Grant approval to the Operating Agreement between the Main Street Partnership and the Borough of Ebensburg.

- 1) Inclusive Ebensburg, a citizen group formed to promote diversity throughout the Central Cambia region, has met with staff, the Mayor and Council representatives. Based on those discussions, Inclusive Ebensburg concluded that it would be more effective if it continued to be an organization separate from borough government, thereby able to consult with and make recommendations to the Main Street Partnership and the Borough and conduct its own diversity programs. All agreed that Council could create a standing diversity committee to be included in Council’s agenda to provide updates to Council on all diversity-related activities and to serve as the primary liaison between the Borough and groups such as Inclusive Ebensburg.

Recommended Action #1 – Achieve consensus on creating a standing diversity committee with members to be appointed by the President.

- \* Item 10E: Airport Capital Improvement Plan  
The

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 10E: Airport Runway Project**

Bids for the runway resurfacing project were considered by Council in May. The low bid was \$278,100 from Grannas Brothers. The bid is good for 120 days, or until September 15<sup>th</sup>. The grant for the project has not yet been fully executed by PennDOT’s Bureau of Aviation, and due to delays at the FAA it is not expected to be executed before September 15<sup>th</sup>. The normal procedure is to wait for full grant execution before awarding a contract. PennDOT is permitting contracts to be awarded prior to grant execution so that the projects can be completed this year and to avoid the need for rebidding. The Bureau is assuring that the grant has been awarded and will eventually be executed. The only risk in awarding a contract prior to grant execution is that the project may be completed and require the Borough to make payment prior to actually receiving the grant funds. The Borough has sufficient funds on hand to bridge any gap.

Recommended Action – Award a contract to Grannas Brothers in the amount of \$278,100.00 for resurfacing of the airport runway.

- \* Item 10F: Garbage/Recycling Bids  
The garbage/recycling contract expires at the end of 2020. Bids will be advertised for Council's consideration next month.

Recommended Action – No action required.

## BURNING ORDINANCE

## 11. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### **Item 11A: Police Department**

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

### **Item 11B: Public Works Department**

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

### **Item 11C: Community Development**

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

### **Item 11D: Recreation Department**

Recreation Director Dirk Johnson has submitted a written report on the recreation department's activities during the month.

- \* Item 11E: Codes Enforcement

A monthly codes enforcement report was forwarded to Council.

- \* Item 11F: Ebensburg Municipal Authority

A copy of the minutes of the last municipal authority meeting is included in Council's packet.

### **Item 11G: Ebensburg Planning Commission**

#### **1. Lot Merger, 320 East High Street**

A merger of three contiguous vacant parcels at 320 East High Street is proposed. The matter is scheduled for review by the Planning Commission on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The applicant is seeking early Council approval subject to the Planning Commission's approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the proposed lot merger at 320 East High Street contingent upon Planning Commission approval.

#### **2. Middle School Football Field**

Recommended Action – Dependent on discussion.

\* Item 11H: Ebensburg Zoning Board – No activity

## **12. 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.*

## **13. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

## **14. 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.*