



Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday, October 25, 2021
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
William Westrick, Jr. Councilor
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 9C: Make it a matter of record that Emma Dumm and Ian McGrorey were hired part-time at the YPCC and Tennis Center at the rate of \$8.50/hour.

Item 11A: Approve the minutes of the September 27, 2021 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 11B: Approve the financial statement and quarterly transfers.

Item 11C: Approve payment of bills.

Recommended Action – Approve the consent agenda.

2. APPOINTMENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

3. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MOTION(S) TO AMEND AGENDA

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

Item 4A: Report on Police Department

Item 4B: Update on Winter Parking Ordinance

5. COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMENTS

6. WATER, WASTEWATER & STORMWATER COMMITTEE

Ball & Kuhar

Item 6A: 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 6B: 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.

Item 6C: Consider agreement with Inframark to allow them to utilize Borough equipment to assist Public Works in locating leaks within the distribution system.

On October 7, 2021 the Municipal Authority had a special meeting to consider this proposal and is recommending to Borough Council to approve said agreement. This is no cost to the Borough.

Recommended Action – Approve the Agreement with Inframark to utilize our equipment to locate leaks in the distribution system.

7. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Jacoby, May & Owatt

8. STREET COMMITTEE

Ball, Houser & Owatt

Item 8A: 2021 Paving Project

New Enterprise completed the milling and paving of the northwest quadrant of the borough on September 28, 2021.

Recommended Action – No action required.



Item 8B: Ordinance 659: An Ordinance establishing procedures and requirements pertaining to the implementation of Act 50 of 2021 and regulating small wireless facilities to be placed within the public right-of-way.

The proposed Ordinance received tentative approval last month, has been advertised for public inspection and is ready for final adoption

Recommended Action – Grant final approval to Ordinance #659 Establishing procedures and requirements pertaining to the implementation of Act 50 of 2021 and regulating small wireless facilities to be placed within the public right-of-way.



Item 8C: 2021 Sidewalk Project - Change Order #1 to Ameron Construction.

Additional work was performed by Ameron in two areas which were not envisioned in the bid specifications.

1. Horner Street had concrete under the asphalt that needed to be removed for curb installation for approximately 1,200 feet. The concrete could not be saw-cut, but rather had to be jack-hammered. This additional work significantly increased Ameron's amount of manpower and equipment time.
2. The bid specifications were written as follows, "Curb cost to include street repairs, E&S, stump removal and traffic control measures. Sidewalk cost to include all grading, seeding and costs of transitions." Approximately 1,560 square feet of sidewalks was removed from Ameron's scope of work after the contract was awarded because more home-owners chose to perform their own

work. Ameron still installed the curbing in those areas, which required them to remove and haul away topsoil, backfill the area, grade and transition it, import top soil and seed it. Compensation for that work was in the sidewalk part of the bid and not the curbing. As such, when the sidewalk area was deleted, there was no payment included for the restoration performed.

Ameron initially estimated their additional costs for the above items to be \$97,300.00. After lengthy discussion and review with Ameron, Staff has negotiated the extra charges down to \$59,000.00, which Ameron is willing to accept as a fair resolution.

Recommended Action – Approve the Change Order #1 to Ameron Construction for \$59,000.00 and authorize payment of same.

Item 8D: Consider an Ordinance deleting Julian Street as a one-way street.

Recommended Action – Grant tentative approval to an Ordinance amending the code of the Borough of Ebensburg Chapter 11, Section 11-203 deleting Julian Street as a one-way street northbound from Sample Street to Highland Avenue.

9. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar

Item 9A: 2022 Annual Budget

The administrative committee has compiled a tentative 2022 budget for Council’s review. The 2022 Operating Budget calls for revenues of \$6,304,880 and expenditures of \$6,238,245. The general fund budget is balanced with no increase in real estate taxes. This is the 12th consecutive year without a tax increase for general purposes, and the 11th 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 | \$2,186,580 | \$2,186,580 | \$0 |
| Water Fund Budget | \$1,949,800 | \$1,949,800 | \$0 |
| Wastewater Fund Budget | \$1,940,000 | \$1,873,365 | \$66,635 |
| Stormwater Fund Budget | <u>\$ 228,500</u> | <u>\$ 228,500</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| Total Operating Fund | \$6,304,880 | \$6,238,245 | \$ 66,635 |

The General Fund Budget is increased by 2.2% over last year. The increase is primarily due to higher costs budgeted for healthcare and pensions.

The Water Fund Budget is increased by 7.7% vs. 2021, primarily due to an increase in rates due to incurring debt for a short-term loan to perform system repairs. The Wastewater Fund Budget has experienced a minimal increase.

With the exception of the higher budgeted cost of employee benefits and the increased needs for utility system repairs, expenditures in all funds remain fairly consistent, reflecting our commitment to control expenses while ensuring the continued delivery of services in a cost-effective manner.

The 2022 budget is granted tentative approval at this meeting, advertised for public inspection for a period of no less than ten days, and adopted at the November meeting.

Recommended Action – Grant tentative approval to the 2022 annual budget and advertise for public inspection.

Item 9B: Tax Resolution

Resolution 2021-07 is proposed, which maintains the real estate tax rate in 2022 at the current level.

Recommended Action – Adopt Resolution 2021-07 maintaining a real estate tax rate in 2022 of 30.75 mills on land and 8.5 mills on buildings for general purposes, and 2.5 mills on land for stormwater.

Item 9C: Part-time Employee

Emma Dumm was hired for part-time work at the YPCC and Ian McGrorey was hired for part-time work at the Tennis Center.

Recommended Action – Make it a matter of record that Emma Dumm and Ian McGrorey were hired as part-time help at the YPCC and Tennis Center at the rate of \$8.50/hour.

10. DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

May, Kuhar & Houser

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

* Item 11A: Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

The minutes of the September 27, 2021, regular meeting are presented for Council review and approval.

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

* Item 11B: Financial Statement

The financial statement for September 2021 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the September 2021 financial statement and quarterly transfers.

* Item 11C: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$600,694.11 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

Item 11D: Consider the request of the Community Development Director to install a mural in Ebensburg.

Recommended Action – Approve the request of the Community Development Director to proceed with a mural at the “Salt House” at Lake Rowena.

Item 11E: Consider the request an organization to hold a polar plunge at Lake Rowena during the weekend Dickens of a Christmas.

Recommended Action – Consider such an event and approve it pending all other conditions for the required special event permit are met.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Item 12A: Police Department

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

Item 12B: Public Works Department

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

Item 12C: Community Development

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

Item 12D: Recreation Department

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

* Item 12E: Codes Enforcement

A monthly codes enforcement report was forwarded to Council.

* Item 12F: Ebensburg Municipal Authority

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

* Item 12G: Ebensburg Planning Commission – No activity

* Item 12H: Ebensburg Zoning Board

13. 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.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

16. 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.

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. Notification 48-hours before the meeting will enable the Borough to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.