



Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday, April 25, 2022
6:30 p.m.

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Borough Council
Doug Tusing, President
Cecilia Houser, Vice-President
Jeffrey Ball
Theresa Jacoby
Dave Kuhar
Robert Miller
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 9C: Make it a matter of record that Pat Pileski was hired as part-time help at the YPCC at the rate of \$8.50/hour.

Item 11A: Approve the minutes of the February 28, 2022 and March 28, 2022 regular monthly meetings of Borough Council.

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

Item 11C: Approve payment of bills of February and March.

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

5. COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMENTS

6. WATER, WASTEWATER & STORMWATER COMMITTEE **Ball, Kuhar & Miller**

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.

7. RECREATION COMMITTEE **Jacoby, Miller & Owatt**

Item 7A: Ebensburg Dog Park- The Rotary Club of Ebensburg has been fundraising to obtain the estimated funds needed for the construction of the dog park (to supplement the State grant that was recently awarded for the project). Once these funds are secured, they would like the Borough to put the project out for bid. Due to the volatility of the market, actual bids are expected to come in higher than originally projected. Staff continues to work with the Rotary, and recommends that the Rotary and Borough’s Recreation Committee meet when updated estimates are obtained. The purpose of that meeting would be to develop a plan to cover any additional costs and to establish overall procedures of how funding of the project would flow.

Recommended Action – Pursuant to discussion.

Item 7B: The parks within the Borough need 15 trash receptacles with lids. The receptacles deemed to be the best option by staff are made of recycled material with lids to protect trash from rain and animals. Staff has experience with receptacles and picnic tables made of the same material, and after approximately 25 years, they are still in excellent shape and only require periodic power washing. The cost of 15 receptacles is nearly \$25,000 from the state contract.



Recommended Action – Pursuant to discussion.

8. STREET COMMITTEE	Ball, Houser & Owatt
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Item 8A: Sidewalk and Curb Repair/Replacement Project

For several years a list of areas from older sidewalk projects in need of concrete repairs or replacement has been retained. There are also areas of the borough that were not part of previous projects that require curbing to be replaced or installed for stormwater purposes. Specifically a long stretch of new curbing on E. Ogle and S. Poplar will prevent stormwater from draining into the East Ward Playground. Also some areas on N. Beech Street and S. Julian St. also require curbing, as recommended by the Municipal Authority. The total cost estimate for this project is \$40,000, which will be paid primarily using Stormwater Funds.

Recommended Action – Approve the project to advertise for bids.

Item 8A: 2022 Street Paving Project

The areas in need of paving for the 2022 project include the areas of the 2021 sidewalk project that were excluded last year due to work by the gas company (Spruce, Horner, Belmont) as well as areas of Beech Street and Julian, Helen and Charles Streets. In addition, the estimated cost for this project is \$250,000 which will be paid primarily using the Borough’s Liquid Fuels allocation.

Recommended Action – Approve the 2022 paving project to advertise for bids.

9. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE	Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar
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Item 9A: Summer Hires

The following applicants were hired for summer employment.

Summer Public Works

Jestin Poruban	Lilly, PA	1 st yr.
Brock Martin	Ebensburg, PA	1 st yr.
Jason Bacho	Northern Cambria	1 st yr.
Aaron Caplea	Johnstown, PA	1 st yr.

Swimming Pool Manager

Nolan Johnson	East Highland Avenue	7 th yr.
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Co-Head Lifeguards

Abbey O’Brien	North Spruce Street	4 th yr.
Karson Johnson	East Highland Avenue	4 th yr.

Lifeguards

Jaylee Sikora	Lou’s Road	5 th yr.
Jewel Sikora	Lou’s Road	2 nd yr.
Elizabeth Bopp	Winterset Road	5 th yr.
Tina Hildebrand	BelAir Road	5 th yr.

Tessa Novotny	Sylvan Glen Road	4 th yr.
Anna Dill	West Crawford Street	3 rd yr.
Loralyn Simmers	Vetera Road	3 rd yr.

Normally, the Borough has more than enough applicants to fill the needed positions for summer work. In fact, we often need to turn some applicants away. This year, however, applications are lagging way behind, which is not surprising, given the current shortage of workers in many businesses and industries across the economy. The fact that the demand for summer workers far outweighs the supply may require that we adjust our wage structure to attract an acceptable level of applicants to perform the tasks necessary to maintain Borough facilities at desired levels. In that regard, Council will hold an Executive Session later this evening to discuss this issue.

Recommended Action #1 – Make it a matter of record that the persons listed above will be hired to the respective positions in public works, pool manager, head lifeguards, and lifeguards at rates to be determined based on discussion in Executive Session.

Item 9B: Public Works Hiring:

Interviews to fill the two vacancies within Public Works were conducted and will continue. The acceptance of applications will continue until suitable applicants are found and the positions are filled.

Recommended Action – No action required.

Item 9C: Part-time Employee: Pat Pileski was hired for part-time work at the YPCC.

Recommended Action – Make it a matter of record that Pat Pileski was hired as part-time help at the YPCC at the rate of \$8.50/hour.

10. DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Kuhar & Houser

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

- * Item 11A: Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)
The minutes of the February 28, 2022 and March 28, 2022 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 statements for February and March 2022 are presented for approval, as well as the 1st quarter transfers.

Recommended Action – Approve the February and March 2022 financial statements and quarterly transfers.

* Item 11C: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$422,299.34 for March is submitted for approval. A list of bills for April totaling \$214,082.87 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

Item 11D: **Backhoe**

It is necessary to replace the 2008 backhoe. The purchase is included in the 2022 capital budget. The current backhoe will be advertised for sale to the highest bidder.

Recommended Action – Approve the purchase of a 2022 Case backhoe from Groff Tractor & Equipment from the State bid list in the amount of \$110,800.

Item 11E: **Appointment to the Municipal Authority**

Mr. Randy Seymour has submitted a letter of interest to be appointed to the Authority to fill a current vacancy.

Recommended Action – Approve the appointment of Randy Seymour to the Municipal Authority for a nominal 5-year term, commencing April 2022 and ending December 31, 2026.

Item 11F: **Resolution #2022-04:** A resolution authorizing and approving Borough officers to sign documents for the PENNVEST Funding.

Recommended Action- Approve Resolution #2022-04 authorizing the Borough of Ebensburg's Officers to execute any and all documents, Agreements, contracts, and/or undertake any and all actions required to be delivered and/or taken by the Borough of Ebensburg and further authorizing any actions by Borough of Ebensburg Officials which are necessary or proper to effectuate the guaranty of the Borough of Ebensburg secured by a lien on its water revenues, which lien shall be subordinate only to the liens that secure the two previous PENNVEST water construction loans (ME #'s 80113, 82201); the guaranty of the Borough of Ebensburg shall also be secured by a pledge of its taxing authority; any other requirements by PENNVEST to effectuate the guaranty by the Borough of Ebensburg; the PENNVEST funding application; funding agreement; the maximum loan amount of \$1,505,765.00 and the maximum principal forgiveness loan amount of \$1,265,610.00; and directing other necessary and proper action.

Item 11G: **Resolution #2022-05:** A resolution authorizing and approving the Guaranty Agreement

Recommended Action- Approve Resolution # 2022-05, authorizing and approving the Guaranty Agreement and authorizing and approving Ebensburg Borough officers to sign any and all necessary and related documents, and to take any and all required and appropriate related action, and further authorizing any actions by authority

officials which are necessary or proper to effectuating the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) Guaranty Agreement,, funding application and agreement, and loan and principal forgiveness loan award and directing other necessary and proper action.

Item 11G: **Resolution #2022-06:** A resolution proposing an amendment to the Agreement of Lease

Recommended Action- Approve Resolution # 2022-06 amending the Agreement of Lease to provide for an increase in the annual lease payment from the Borough of Ebensburg to Ebensburg Municipal Authority prior to the initiation of principal and interest payments on this PENNVEST water construction loan sufficient to cover the Ebensburg Municipal Authority's increased annual debt service as a result of this water construction project. Also all references in the Agreement of Lease to the “2018 Capital Improvements Program” shall be amended to provide: “both the 2018 Capital Improvements Program and the 2022 Water Construction Project.”

Item 11G: **Resolution #2022-07:** A resolution to be submitted to the county for aid.

Recommended Action- Approve Resolution # 2022-07 an application for county aid from the County Liquid Fuels tax fund in the amount of \$10,000.

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 Dana 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 –

Lot Merger, 505 Belmont

A merger of two parcels, 505 Belmont Avenue and 726 West Milton, is proposed to be merged. The applicant at 505 Belmont purchased a house and parcel at 726 West Milton. The structure on Milton has been razed and the applicant wishes to combine the lots. The matter was reviewed by the Planning Commission on March 3rd and they have recommended approval. The applicant is seeking final approval by Council.

Recommended Action – Approve the lot merger of 505 Belmont Avenue.

Dog Park-962 Rowena Drive

A site development plan was submitted and reviewed by the Planning Commission on April 7th and they have recommended approval. The Zoning Hearing Board met on 3-23-2022 and approved a variance for the construction of a fence that encroaches on the neighboring property. An easement was previously with the T-5 Properties. The applicant (the Borough) is seeking approval by Council.

Recommended Action – Approve the Site Development Plan for the Dog Park.

* 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 – To discuss personnel matters, specifically, current wage structures for part-time and full-time employees

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.