



**Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting**  
**Monday, October 23, 2017**  
**6:30 p.m.**

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**Borough Council**  
Doug Tusing, President  
Susan Barber, Vice-President  
John Cobaugh  
Cecilia Houser  
Theresa Jacoby  
Dave Kuhar  
Joe Miller  
**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 September 25, 2017 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 9B: Approve the Financial Statement and quarterly transfers.

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 Severn Trent Services on Wastewater Plant Operations**

Plant Supervisor Mark Wirfel will provide a verbal report on projects and activities at the wastewater plant during the month.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 5B: Wastewater Project Update**

PENNVEST approved funding for 100% of the project on October 18<sup>th</sup>. There is no grant component to the funding. The \$9 million loan is at 1% for the entire 25 year period. The project will soon be advertised for bids, with award expected in January. Construction should begin March/April.

Approximately 300 easements have been mailed to affected properties. Staff will be scheduling a specific day for property owners to stop by and ask questions concerning their specific easement.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 5C: Wastewater Project Easements**

The Municipal Authority's upcoming wastewater collection system project requires easements through borough-owned property at six locations. Maps illustrating the easements are included in the packet.

1. At NW corner of parcel between Ann Street and Ghost Town Trail.
2. Along east edge of Memorial Field south of Triumph Street.
3. At entrance to YPCC.
4. Along northern edge of parcel between Ann Street and Ghost Town Trail.
5. Across the western tip of the tennis center parcel.
6. Along the western edge of the Babcock property at the rear of the county's storage building (stormwater).

None of the proposed easements adversely affect future use of the properties.

Recommended Action – Approve six easements to the Ebensburg Municipal Authority in conjunction with the upcoming wastewater and stormwater collection system project.

**Item 5D: Water Allocation Permits**

DEP has finally issued the renewal of the Water Allocation Permit. The previous permit expired in 2015; DEP is behind on issuing new permits. A water allocation permit is good for 25 years.

This permit increases our permitted daily consumption from 1.1 million gpd to 1.22 million gpd. A second separate permit was issued for water purchased from the Saltlick Reservoir, allowing for 350,000 gpd to be purchased.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 5E: Fluoride**

The Ebensburg Water System has been adding fluoride to the water for many years. A survey of sixteen water systems in Cambria County found that Ebensburg is the only system adding fluoride. Johnstown had been adding fluoride, but recently stopped the practice.

The Municipal Authority discussed the pros and cons of fluoride treatment, and decided to cease the addition of fluoride. A minor permit amendment will be submitted to DEP.

Recommended Action – No action required.

<b>6. RECREATION COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Barber &amp; Jacoby</b>
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<b>7. STREET COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Cobaugh, Miller &amp; Houser</b>
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<b>8. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Barber, Jacoby &amp; Kuhar</b>
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**Item 8A: Review of 2018 Annual Budget Preparation**

Preliminary budget numbers have been compiled. There are three outstanding issues relative to staffing in the police department, the YPCC and the tennis center yet to resolve. Those will be discussed in an executive session at the conclusion of this meeting. The tentative budget will be presented to Council at the November meeting. Final adoption is expected at the December Council meeting. Based on the preliminary numbers, there is no change expected in tax rates.

Recommended Action – No action required.

**Item 8B: Death Benefit**

Over twenty years ago, the borough self-insured a \$2,000 death benefit for employees and retirees. Since then, a group policy provides the life and disability benefits for current employees. With the passing of Colman Anna, only two retirees remain self-insured, and the borough carries a long-term liability on the books for that \$4,000 amount. Staff recommends that the benefit be paid now to those two retirees, eliminating that liability.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of \$2,000 to each of two retirees.

<b>9. GENERAL BUSINESS</b>
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\* Item 9A: Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)  
The minutes of the previous 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 September 2017 is presented for approval.

At the end of each quarter, transactions are made in order to process fund transfers to and from reserve accounts, and to distribute the cost of routine and capital expenses among the proper accounts. Fund transfers made for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter are attached.

Recommended Action – Approve the September 2017 financial statement and quarterly fund transfers.

- \* Item 9C: **Bills**  
A list of bills totaling \$295,465.86 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

**Item 9D: Eagle Scout Project**

Thomas Swope is in the process of achieving his Eagle Scout designation. He chose as his community project the installation of bike crossing markings and crosswalks on Locust Street, Center Street and West Street at the Ghost Town Trail crossings. He and his fellow scouts completed the project in October.



Recommended Action – No action required.

## 10. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**Item 10A: Police Department**

Chief Wyland will provide a verbal report on the police department’s activities during the month.

**Item 10B: Public Works Department**

Public Works Director Jeff Evans will provide a verbal report on the public works department’s activities during the month.

**Item 10C: Community Development**

Community Development Director Danae Koss will provide a verbal report on the community development department’s activities during the month.

**Item 10D: Recreation Department**

Recreation Director Dirk Johnson will provide a verbal 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

\* 1) James Takacs

The Zoning Hearing Board granted two variances at 102 West Milton Street. The house was purchased by Takacs and will be razed. In the event a new house is ever constructed, smaller setbacks were approved. In addition, a variance was granted allowing the existing garage to remain on the property in the interim.

Recommended Action – No action required.

\* 2) Luke Byrne

The Zoning Hearing Board granted a use variance at 499 South Center Street. Byrne purchased the property and intends to raze an old barn on the property. He will construct two storage building, a use that not otherwise permitted.

Recommended Action – No action required.

## 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. EXECUTIVE SESSION

*An executive session is necessary in order to discuss police staffing as it relates to the annual budget and the collective bargaining agreement.*

## 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.*