

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, October 28, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ebensburg Municipal Building, 300 W. High Street, Ebensburg, by Vice President Susan Barber.

Present: Susan Barber, Vice President
Theresa Jacoby
Scot May
Dave Kuhar
Cecilia Houser
John Cobaugh

Others: Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Jeff Evans, Public Works Director
Todd Adams, Inframark
Tracy Strom, Recording Secretary
Jocelyn Brumbaugh, The Tribune Democrat
Gina Bianucci, The Mountaineer Herald

Absent: Doug Tusing, President
Randy Datsko, Mayor
Dirk Johnson, Recreation Director
Danea Koss, Community Development Director

Audience: 9

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – None.

C. **Consent Agenda**

Ms. Houser made a motion to approve the consent agenda containing the following items.
(Cobaugh) Motion passed unanimously.

1. Adopt Resolution #2019-08 adopting the maintenance agreement for the traffic signal at Center Street and Highland Avenue.
2. Approve the minutes of the September 23, 2019 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
3. Approve the Financial Statement.
4. Approve payment of bills.

D. **Appointment to Address Council** – None.

E. **Mayor's Report** – Mr. Penatzer acknowledged the Eagle Scout Project. Bobby Soyka obtained funding and constructed a bicycle shelter at the YPCC for the rental bikes.

F. **Council President** – None

G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

1. **Report from Inframark on Wastewater Plant Operations**

Todd Adams reported that Mike Montgomery submitted his report on projects and activities at the wastewater plant during the month.

2. **Wastewater Project**

Mr. Kuhar reported that all work on sewer mains and laterals is completed, and all work has successfully tested. Walk-through inspections were completed on October 24th. Work continues on a punch list of remaining items. A small amount of street repair remains.

3. **Water Plant Operations**

Inframark has submitted a proposal to assume responsibility for operation of the water treatment plant, in the same manner in which they already operate the wastewater treatment plant. Services at both plants would be combined into a single 3-year contract. The contract with Inframark was allowed to expire two years ago and has continued on a year to year basis. The issues involving AFSCME have been addressed. Council discussed the pros and cons of having an independent company operate our water treatment plant. Mr. Cobaugh made a motion to grant tentative approval to a new 3-year contract with Inframark to operate both treatment plants, subject to submission and approval of final documents. (May) Motion passed unanimously.

H. **Recreation Committee** - None

I. **Street Committee**

1. **Street Resurfacing**

Mr. Cobaugh reported Quaker Sales has completed all street milling and resurfacing in areas south of High Street.

2. **Triumph Street Sidewalk**

Ms. Houser reported the Borough and the contractor have expressed concern to PennDOT that the design of the handicap ramps on Triumph Street at South Center Street are unsafe due to the extreme grade onto Center Street. Nonetheless, PennDOT insists that the ramps be constructed as drawn. The curbs were installed prior to resurfacing. Kishmo has ordered the non-standard detectable warning surfaces and will complete the ramps in the near future.

J. Administration Committee

1. FOP Labor Agreement

The administrative committee has met twice with the police officers to negotiate a renewal of the FOP labor agreement, which expires at the end of 2019. An agreement is expected soon.

2. 2020 Annual Budget

Mr. Kuhar reported the administrative committee has compiled a tentative 2020 budget for Council's review; however, presentation of the full budget will be delayed until the November meeting. If necessary that Council first decide how to proceed with the water plant operations.

The 2020 annual budget will be granted tentative approval at the November meeting, advertised for public inspection, and then adopted at the December meeting.

K. General Business

1. Ogle Street House

Mr. Penatzer reported the house recently acquired by the borough through judicial sale has been razed by the Cambria County Redevelopment Authority with Act 152 grant funds. Council's intention was to dispose of the land once the house was razed. The 42' x 132' lot is on a steep grade. The small frontage and steep grade limit possibilities for stand-alone development. In order to comply with regulations, the land must first be advertised for sale. If no bids are received, Council can consider coordinating a subdivision of the land involving adjacent property owners. Mr. Kuhar made a motion to advertise the property for sale. (Houser) Motion passes unanimously.

2. Ventrac

Mr. Penatzer reviewed with council the Ventrac tractor is eleven years old and requires replacement. The Ventrac is a heavy-duty 4-wheel drive tractor. It has a variety of attachments used for multiple purposes including mowing of the reservoir breasts and winter sidewalk maintenance. The new tractor will have an attachment for maintenance of skinned areas of the ballfields. Ms. Jacoby made a motion to approve the purchase of a new Ventrac tractor and attachments in the amount of \$42,570.00 from the Somerset Power Equipment on State bid list. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

L. Department Reports

1. Police Department – Chief Wyland reported on last month's activities including the Potatofest and weapon qualifications for the police officers.

2. Public Works Department – Mr. Evans reported on public works activities including no issues at the water plant and crews continue to look for water leaks to repair. The dump truck has been delivered. Leaf pick up has started and will continue through November.

3. **Community Development Department** –Mr. Penatzer reported hopefully everyone has seen the painted Halloween storefronts. He wanted to remind everyone the Turkey Trot is coming up and for Dickens of a Christmas this year we are bringing in live reindeer.
4. **Recreation Department** – In the absence of Mr. Johnson, Ms. Jacoby reported on the activities during the month and reminded everyone of the Black Friday Bingo coming up. Wanted to share Frank Burns held his Senior Fair at the YPCC on Friday, September 27th, over 200 individuals and 25 vendors attended. The YPCC has 23 swimmers signed up to participate in swim lessons for the first session at the CCHS Pool.
5. **Ebensburg Zoning Board** – None

M. **Media Comments/Questions** - None

N. **Public Comments** - None

There being no further business Ms. Jacoby made a motion to adjourn. (Cobaugh) Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:19 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Tracy Strom, Recording Secretary