

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, July 26, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Ebensburg Municipal Building by President, Doug Tusing.

Present: Doug Tusing, President
Scot May
Cecilia Houser
Mike Owatt
Jeff Ball

Absent: Dave Kuhar, Vice President
Theresa Jacoby
Will Westrick, Junior Councilor

Others: Kelly Cook, Borough Manager
Randy Datsko, Mayor
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Dirk Johnson, Recreation Director
Jeff Evans, Public Works Director
Kristin Baudoux, The Mountaineer Herald

Audience: 3

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.

(May) Motion passed unanimously.

1. Approve the minutes of the June 28, 2021 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
2. Approve the financial statement.
3. Approve payment of bills.

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

E. **Mayor's Report** – Mayor Datsko reported that there was an error in the Borough Newsletter regarding the current burning ordinance. Burning is no longer permitted in the Borough.

F. **Council President** – None.

G. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

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

Mr. Ball reported that Inframark provided written reports for the wastewater plant and they were provided in Council's packet.

2. Report from Inframark on Water Treatment Plant Operations

Mr. Ball reported that Inframark provided written reports for the water plant which were provided in Council's packet.

H. Recreation Committee– None.

I. Street Committee

1. 2021 Sidewalk Project

Ms. Houser shared that Ameron Construction began the sidewalk project on March 5th and completed it on July 16, 2021, well before the July 31st deadline. The project was awarded on February 22, 2021, for a total contract cost of \$768,467.00. Property owners who elected to install their own sidewalks will have 180 days from July 12th to complete their work. No exceptions will be made due to cold or inclement weather.

2. 2021 Paving Project

Ms. Houser reported that New Enterprise was awarded the 2021 paving project and received a notice to proceed commencing on July 19, 2021. The deadline for completion is September 28, 2021.

3. Center and High Street Signal

Ms. Houser reported that the audible alert for the walk/don't walk signal has been ordered and will likely be installed next month.

J. Administration Committee – None.

K. Diversity Committee – Mr. May reported that the Diversity Committee is supporting efforts to host a Spring Festival in Ebensburg next year, with the support of several local volunteer groups. The festival will celebrate diversity and the cultural heritage of our area. Details regarding timing and location are still under discussion.

L. General Business

1. PLCB Noise Enforcement Ordinance

Ms. Houser reported that since 2008, Ebensburg Borough has opted to enforce noise regulations at local licensed liquor establishments, exempting those establishments from PLCB's enforcement of noise violations. The exemption was last approved in 2016 and is due for renewal. Resolution #2021-02 was submitted authorizing that petition. A copy of the petition was included in Council's packet, along with a map of the exempted area and description of boundary lines.

Ms. Houser made a motion to adopt Resolution #2021-02 petitioning the PLCB to exempt Ebensburg Borough and licensed establishments from PLCB enforcement of noise violations. (May) Motion passed unanimously.

2. Cambria County Release of Claims

Ms. Houser reported that Cambria County and every county in the Commonwealth, was sued in a class action lawsuit by Chester County School District over fees charged to PA municipalities

for filing legal pleadings in the Prothonotary's Office. Upon review by the county, they determined municipalities were charged fees more than a ten-dollar limit. The county intends to reimburse all municipalities, which includes \$6.50 to Ebensburg Borough. They are requesting that the Borough release Cambria County and the Cambria County Prothonotary from any claim caused by the class action suit.

Ms. Houser made a motion to approve the release of Cambria County and Cambria County Prothonotary from any claim caused by the class action lawsuit filed by the Chester Upland School District against Pennsylvania Counties and local Prothonotaries, contingent upon the payment of \$6.50 to Ebensburg Borough. (May) Motion passed unanimously.

M. Department Report

1. Police Department

Chief Wyland reported on the police department's activities during the month which included the placement of a Safe Exchange Zone at the Cambria County Courthouse and placement of restricted parking signs near the Memorial Field.

2. Public Works Department

Public Works Director Jeff Evans reported on the public works department's activities during the month which included the fish delivery at Lake Rowena and Jenks Dam, work towards a lead line replacement along High Street and working towards pinpointing water leakages to stop water loss.

3. Community Development

Community Development Director Danae Koss reported on the community development department's activities during the month which included the weekend's upcoming Downtown Shutdown and Homecoming, as well as updates on Concerts in the Park, the Farmer's Markets and Volunteer Appreciation Night.

4. Recreation Department

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

N. Media Comments/Questions – None.

O. Public Comments – Mayor Datsko asked Council to consider limiting the hours of window service in the Borough Building to two hours a day. The consensus of Council was to hold off on making a decision for now since the new secure payment drop box had just been installed.

Q. Adjournment – There being no further business, Ms. Houser made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 7:13 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Danae Koss, Community Development Director