



Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday, March 28, 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 11A: Approve the minutes of the February 28, 2022 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 11B: Approve the financial statement

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

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: The borough applied for a zoning variance for the proposed dog park at Lake Rowena because approximately 40 feet of fence crosses over onto the property of T-5 Properties (Ebensburg Animal Hospital) in the northwest corner of the park. The Borough obtained an easement from T-5 Properties in May 2021. The Zoning Hearing Board held a hearing on 3-23-2022 and the variance was granted. The Borough will go before the Planning Commission on April 7th for the land development.

Recommended Action – No action required.

8. STREET COMMITTEE

Ball, Houser & Owatt

Item 8A: In May 2020 the Borough took out a non-revolving letter of credit for interim financing for 2020 and 2021 sidewalk projects. Following completion of the projects a balance of \$670,000 was projected in which the Borough would obtain another loan. Assessments were paid faster than anticipated and Borough obtained a loan in the amount of \$540,000. Currently \$87,133.82 is outstanding from the 2020 property assessments and \$33,008.29 from the 2021 property assessments. To date, 12 liens have been filed against properties in the 2020 project where owners either made no effort to pay or defaulted on payment agreements for the assessed amounts. Additional liens will be filed at a later date against similar properties in the 2021 project. The Borough reserves funds annually for the remainder of the debt service.

Recommended Action – No action required.

Item 8B: Peoples Gas will start the project to replace gas lines on Belmont Avenue, North West, West Milton, North Spruce, West Alton and West Horner Streets next week. They anticipate the

work will be completed by mid-May. Bids for the 2022 paving project will be prepared to go out in May with paving expected to be completed by the end of September.

Recommended Action – No action required.

9. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar

Item 9A: Hiring:

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

Applications are currently being accepted for part-time positions of Lifeguard, Crew Maintenance Leader and Summer Maintenance Laborers.

Recommended Action – No action required.

Item 9B: The Borough's compost receptacle will soon open for the acceptance of tree branches, leaves, weeds, and other small plant material. However, the Borough is no longer able to accept grass clippings, as that material causes issues with regard to disposal. Additionally, from a pure sustainability standpoint, the best practice is to mulch lawn clippings in place and as such, practically all lawn equipment today is designed to accommodate mulching.

Recommended Action – No action required.

10. DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Kuhar & Houser

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

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

The minutes of the February 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 statement for February 2022 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the February 2022 financial statement.

* Item 11C: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$422,299.34 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

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 –

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. The applicant is seeking approval by Council.

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

* Item 12H: Ebensburg Zoning Board - The Zoning Board met on 2-23-2022 to discuss a variance for property at 169 Hillcrest Drive, owned by Megan and Brian Dumm, for the construction of a pool which encroaches on the rear yard set-back. The conditions that allow the ZHB to grant a variance were met and there was not opposition to the request, therefore, approval was granted.

The Board met on 3-23-2022 to discuss a variance for the property at 962 Rowena Drive, owned by Ebensburg Borough, for the construction of a fence that encroaches on the neighboring property. An easement was previously obtained. The conditions that allow the ZHB to grant a variance were met and there was not opposition to the request, therefore, approval was granted.

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 (if required – reason to be stated publicly)

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.