

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, March 28, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room of the Ebensburg Municipal Building by President, Doug Tusing.

Present: Doug Tusing, President  
Dave Kuhar, Vice President  
Theresa Jacoby  
Robert Miller  
Mike Owatt  
Jeff Ball

Others: Kelly Cook, Borough Manager  
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor  
Dirk Johnson, Recreation Director  
Tracy A Strom, Recording Secretary  
Amanda Datsko, The Mountaineer Herald  
Katie Smolen, The Tribune Democrat

Absent: Cecilia Houser  
Randy Datsko, Mayor  
Jeff Evans, Public Works Director  
Danea Koss, Community Development Director

Audience: 2

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Tusing announced that, due to an administrative glitch, the meeting would be informational only. The agenda was inadvertently not made available for the public to access on website at least 24 hours prior to the meeting as required by recent changes to the State Sunshine Law. As such, no voting or deliberations could occur.

B. **Public Comments** – None.

C. **Consent Agenda**

Routine items normally on the Consent Agenda will be included for approval at the April meeting.

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

E. **Consideration of Any Motion(s) To Amend Agenda** – None.

F. **Mayor's Report**

Ms. Jacoby announced that there is a Spaghetti Dinner/Basket Raffle to Benefit first responders Dwayne Kauffman and Zach Green on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm at the Masonic Lodge in Ebensburg.

G. **Council President:** None.

H. **Water/Wastewater Committee**

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

Mr. Kuhar reported that written reports from Inframark for the wastewater plant are available through the office and on the website.

**2. Report from Inframark on Water Treatment Plant Operations**

Mr. Kuhar reported that written reports from Inframark for the water plant are available from the office and on the website.

**I. Recreation Committee**

Ms. Jacoby reported 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 7<sup>th</sup> for the land development.

**J. Street Committee**

Mr. Owatt reported 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 the 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.

Mr. Owatt reported 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. Ms. Cook was asking Peoples Gas for their schedule for next year, so both parties can continue to try to work together for the community.

**K. Administration Committee**

Ms. Jacoby reported 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 applications are found and the positions filled.

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

Mr. Tusing asked the Administration Committee to look at wages for new hires and workers in the Borough to be competitive with the market and report back to council.

L. **Diversity Committee** – None.

M. **General Business**

N. **Department Report**

1. **Police Department**

Chief Wyland reported on the police department's activities during the month.

2. **Public Works Department**

Public Works Director Jeff Evans has submitted a written report on the public works department's activities during the month.

3. **Community Development**

Community Development Director Danae Koss has submitted a written report on the community development department activities during the month including membership renewals, member networking meeting and Art in Bloom.

4. **Recreation Department**

Recreation Director Dirk Johnson reported on activities including the lifeguard certification and recertifications that are scheduled and the upcoming Bingo event to be held on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> which will help support the planned Dog Park sponsored by the YPCC.

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

P. **Public Comments** – None.

Q. **Adjournment** – There being no further business, Mr. Kuhar made a motion to adjourn. (Jacoby)  
Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 6:47 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Tracy A Strom/Recording Secretary