



Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2022
6:30 p.m.

Phone: 814-472-8780
E-Mail: eburg@ebensburgpa.com
Website: www.ebensburgpa.com

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 6A: Approve report of Inframark for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations
- Item 6B: Approve report of Inframark for the Water Treatment Plant Operations
- Item 11C: Approve the minutes of the November 21, 2022 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
- Item 11D: Approve the financial statement for November.
- Item 11E: Approve payment of bills for December.
- Item 11F: Schedule the 2023 Council meetings for the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., with exception of November and December, which will be held on the 3rd Monday.
- Item 10G: Designate First National Bank, First Commonwealth Bank, AmeriServ Financial Bank, 1st Summit Bank and PLGIT as depositories.

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**

Inframark's written report was submitted regarding operations, projects and activities at the wastewater plant for Council review.

Recommended Action – Accept and approve report.

***Item 6B: Report from Inframark on Water Treatment Plant Operations**

Inframark's written report was submitted regarding operations, projects and activities at the water plant for Council review.

Recommended Action – Accept and approve report.

7. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Jacoby, Miller & Owatt

8. STREET COMMITTEE

Ball, Houser & Owatt

9. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar

Item 9A: 2023 Annual Budget

The administrative committee has compiled the 2023 budget for Council's approval.

The 2023 Operating Budget calls for revenues of \$6,673,705 and expenditures of \$6,673,705. The general fund budget is balanced with the implementation of an increase in real estate taxes amounting to 3.75 mills. It should be noted that the Borough has not enacted any tax increase in the past 13 years.

	Revenues	Expenditures	Surplus
General Fund Budget	\$2,320,170	\$2,320,170	\$0
Water Fund Budget	\$2,137,795	\$2,137,795	\$0
Wastewater Fund Budget	\$1,987,240	\$1,987,240	\$0
Stormwater Fund Budget	<u>\$ 228,500</u>	<u>\$ 228,500</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total Operating Fund	\$6,673,705	\$6,673,705	\$ 0

The General Fund Budget reflects an increase of 16.5% over last year. This increase is primarily due to higher costs of wages and benefits for borough personnel and overall inflation in supplies and services. In particular, the budget reflects the hiring of an additional full-time police officer to reduce anticipated overtime and to ensure 24/7/365 coverage, mainly due to difficulties encountered in reliably securing part-time officers utilized in the past.

The Water Fund Budget increased by 13.85%, primarily due to added personnel costs, as well as contractual increases in water plant operation due to inflation. The Wastewater Fund Budget experienced an increase of 4.4%. At this time, neither of these funds requires an adjustment in rates. Wastewater has had a small surplus of revenues over expenditures for several years, but this year, it will balance. The Water system has consistently experienced an increase in bulk water sales which are projected to continue in 2023.

Recommended Action – Grant final approval to the 2023 annual budget.

Item 9B: Ordinance #665 Regarding 2023 Taxes

The Borough must pass an ordinance for taxes if the rate is being increased.

Recommended Action – Grant final approval to Ordinance #665 establishing the tax rate for general purposes to the sum of 36.75 mills for assessed valuation for land, 11.75 mills for assessed valuation for improvements, plus continuation of a dedicated tax for stormwater management equal to 2.5 mills of assessed valuation for land. Overall, this equates to an overall average tax rate of 16.75 mills.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS**Item 11A: 2023 Fee Resolution**

A Resolution is required each year to establish fees to be charged for various services for the coming year. The fee for the pavilions was increased, based on the recommendation of the Recreation Board. The fees for the meters and laborer have been adjusted to reflect current costs. Equipment, other than a tractor and weed eater are seldom utilized, but in order to have a rate that can be assessed when needed, the Borough will utilize the current FEMA Schedule of Equipment Rates.

Recommended Action – Adopt Resolution #2022-17 establishing the fees to be charged in 2023 for various purposes.

Item 11B: Appointments to Boards and Commissions

1. Reappoint Gerald McMullen to a 5- year term on the Ebensburg Municipal Authority, expires 12/2027.
2. Reappoint Bruce Hultman to a 4-year term on the Ebensburg Planning Commission, expires 12/2026.
3. Reappoint Carol Rummel to a 3-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board, expires 12/25.
4. Reappoint Jamie Oravec to a 5-year term on the Ebensburg Recreation Board, expires 12/2027.
5. Reappoint Tim Myers as alternate on the Ebensburg Civil Service Commission, expires 12/2023.
6. Reappoint Charlie Moyer as Chairman of the Ebensburg Vacancy Board, expires 12/2023.
7. Appoint John Hawksworth and Chief Mike Sheehan to 1-year terms on the Central Cambria Emergency Management Council, expires 12/2023.
8. Appoint Borough Manager as delegate to the Cambria/Somerset Council of Governments.
9. Appoint Borough Manager as delegate to the Cambria County Tax Collection Committee.
10. Appoint CCSD Business Manager as alternate to the Cambria County Tax Collection Committee.
11. Appoint Borough Manager as delegate to the Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency.
12. Appoint Danae Koss as alternate to the Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency.

Recommended Action – Approve the listed appointments to Boards, Commissions and Authorities.

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

The minutes of the November 21, 2022 regular meeting are presented for Council review and approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the minutes of the previous meeting(s).

* Item 11D: Financial Statement

The financial statement for November 2022 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the November 2022 financial statement.

* Item 11E: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$341,145.33 for December 2022 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

* Item 11F: 2023 Meeting Schedule

Routine action to announce schedule of next year’s regular Council meetings.

Recommended Action – Schedule the 2023 Council meetings for the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., with exception of November and December, which will be held on the 3rd Monday.

* Item 11G: Designation of Depositories

Routine action to approve bank depositories for coming year.

Recommended Action – Designate First National Bank, First Commonwealth Bank, AmeriServ Financial Bank, 1st Summit Bank and PLGIT as depositories.

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 Josh Surkovich has submitted a written report on the public works department’s activities during the month.

Item 12C: Community Development

Community Development Director Dana 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
- * Item 12H: Ebensburg Zoning Board – 1st Summit applied for a Special Exception before the Zoning Hearing Board

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 – Only if necessary with specific reason stated beforehand.

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.