



**Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting**  
**Monday, April 24, 2023**  
**6:30 p.m.**

Phone: 814-472-8780  
E-Mail: [eburg@ebensburgpa.com](mailto:eburg@ebensburgpa.com)  
Website: [www.ebensburgpa.com](http://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 6B: Approve report of Inframark for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations.

Item 6C: Approve report of Inframark for the Water Treatment Plant Operations.

Item 11C: Approve the minutes of the March 27, 2023 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 11D: Approve the financial statement for March and the quarterly transfers.

Item 11E: Approve payment of bills for April.

Recommended Action – Approve the consent agenda.

**2. APPOINTMENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

**2A: Laura Wolf requested to speak regarding the crosswalks on High Street.**

**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: Ordinance #666: An Ordinance for compliance with the Unit Debt Act

Recommended Action : Grant final approval to Ordinance #666 determining the Borough to incur lease rental debt under the Pennsylvania Local Government Unit Debt Act, by its guaranty of a loan in the amount of \$622,000.

##### \* Item 6B: 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 6C: 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

##### Item 7A: Dog Park Project, Contractor Payment Request #1

Recommended Action: Approve the payment request of Straw Construction for \$69,276.82

##### Item 7B: Swimming Pool Renovation Project

The Borough received a state grant in the amount of \$134,600 and the renovations are expected to be between \$280,000 and \$350,000. Staff is continuing to pursue more revenue sources but recommends that the project is placed for bid as soon as possible so that the work can be performed this fall. The Borough has the money necessary for the project within the capital projects fund, should no additional funds be secured.

Recommended Action: Approve preparation of documents and subsequently putting the project out for bid.

**Item 7C:** The Recreation Board and Committee recommend the approval of Diane Hoffman to fill a vacancy.

Recommended Action: Approve the appointment of Diane Hoffman to the Recreation Board for a five-year term, expiring 12/2027.

<b>8. STREET COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Ball, Houser &amp; Owatt</b>
----------------------------	---------------------------------

**Item 8A: High Street Waterline Project Paving Repairs**

Due to continued cold temperatures, final paving repairs for last year’s waterline project did not start this week as was planned. The contractor is scheduled to initiate work May 1<sup>st</sup>, weather permitting.

Recommended Action – No action is required.

**Item 8B: 2022 Street Paving Project**

Council has been provided with a list of streets to be resurfaced and a cost estimate of approximately \$185,580. Staff is preparing the bid documents for the project which will be advertised for bids on April 27<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>. Bids will be opened on May 18, 2023 at noon with a scheduled award date at the May 22, 2023 Council Meeting.

Recommended Action – No action is required.

<b>9. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Houser, Jacoby &amp; Kuhar</b>
------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

**Item 9A: Summer Hires**

The following applicants were hired for summer employment.

Summer Public Works

Tobey Bequet	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Brock Martin	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Bob Koscho	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Gabe Forst	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Jason Bacho	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Landen Connor	1 <sup>st</sup> yr.

Swimming Pool Manager

Nolan Johnson	8 <sup>th</sup> yr.
---------------	---------------------

Co-Head Lifeguards

Abbey O’Brien	5 <sup>th</sup> yr.
Karson Johnson	5 <sup>th</sup> yr.

Lifeguards

Jaylee Sikora	6 <sup>th</sup> yr.
Elizabeth Bopp	6 <sup>th</sup> yr.
Tina Hildebrand	6 <sup>th</sup> yr.

Tessa Novotny	5 <sup>th</sup> yr.
Anna Dill	4 <sup>th</sup> yr.
Loralyn Simmers	4 <sup>th</sup> yr.
Jewel Sikora	3 <sup>rd</sup> yr.
Taylor Ream	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Maggie McCullough	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Kayden Magulick	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Maya Sirsikar	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Gwendalyn Fodor	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Nareen Sirsikar	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr.
Jemma Sikora	1 <sup>st</sup> yr.
Ryan Broderick	1 <sup>st</sup> yr.
Ian Estep	1 <sup>st</sup> yr.
Deklan Estep	1 <sup>st</sup> yr.
Victoria Griffith	1 <sup>st</sup> yr.

Recommended Action – Make it a matter of record that the persons listed above will be hired to the respective positions. Pay for public works and lifeguards is \$10.50 per hour. The head lifeguard rate is \$11.50 per hour and the pool manager rate is \$14.50 per hour.

**Item 9B: Police Chief Retirement**

Long-time Chief of Police, Terry Wyland, has formally announced his retirement effective July 1, 2023. The position should be placed for advertisement.

Recommended Action – Approve the advertisement to fulfill the upcoming vacancy.

**Item 9C: Hiring of Police Officer: Council needs to notify the Civil Service Commission of a possible vacancy within the department to begin the hiring process.**

Recommended Action – Notify the Civil Service Commission of the need to develop an eligibility list.

**Item 9D: Public Works Vacancy**

Long-time employee, Randy Lauer, has announced his retirement in July. Public works currently has a vacancy for a Laborer I and interviews have been conducted to fill that vacancy as well as the upcoming vacancy. Jordan McEvoy has been hired with a start date of May 1, 2023. Applications will continue to be accepted for the remaining vacant position.

Recommended Action – Make it a matter of record that Jordan McEvoy will be hired as Laborer I effective May 1, 2023 at the rate of \$22.24/hour.

## 11. GENERAL BUSINESS

**Item 11A: Blair Pawlowski retirement**

The Borough's long-term solicitor has announced his retirement at the end of June. The Borough has paid the retainer to the law office of Pawlowski, Long & Gribler for the full year, as on occasion, Attorney Long and Attorney Gribler have provided services in assistance to Attorney Pawlowski. Staff has spoken to Matt Gribler and the law office will continue to honor the retainer and agreement with the Borough, if Council is so inclined.

Recommended Action- Approve continuing the agreement and retainer with the law office of Pawlowski, Long and Gribler to serve as the Borough's solicitor for the remainder of the year.

**Item 11B: EPA Lead and Copper Rule-** The federal government passed legislation related to the use of lead and copper in water distribution lines and guidelines for compliance have been issued by DEP last month. Each water system nationwide will need to provide a full inventory of all service lines within the entire system by October of 2024. This will require multi-point verification, which means personnel will have to confirm the material used for the service lines at the point of entrance to a home or building as well as on both sides of the curb stop.

In addition to the massive amount of fieldwork required by Public Works to investigate each line, a significant amount of data will need to be collected and input into a state database. All of this is far more than current employees can handle and staff is looking into the possibility of part-time assistance for inputting data and conducting inspections. Staff is also considering the purchase of a hydrovac truck which will allow for easier access to the curb stops and avoid the need for countless PA one-calls to uncover and inventory the service lines.

In the meantime, the Municipal Authority has initiated the design phase of a water line replacement project. Funding requirements have already been updated to include elements of the Lead and Copper Rule noted above. In order to proceed expeditiously with the procurement of funds for this project, residents and property owners within the project area will be asked to provide information and photos of their incoming service lines. While such information can be used for now, ultimately those lines will need to be inspected by a Borough representative prior to October, 2024.

Recommended Action- Staff will continue to examine available options to fill manpower and/or equipment needs, but no formal action by Council is required at this time.

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

The minutes of the March 2023 regular meeting are presented for Council review and approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

\* Item 11D: Financial Statement

The financial statement for March 2023 is presented for approval, as well as the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter transfers.

Recommended Action – Approve the March 2023 financial statement and

\* Item 11E: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$460,853.41 for April 2023 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 Josh Surkovich 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- No activity

\* Item 12H: Ebensburg Zoning Board – No activity

## 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 – Council will meet to discuss personnel matters.**

**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](http://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](mailto:eburg@ebensburgpa.com). Notification 48-hours before the meeting will enable the Borough to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.*