

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room of the Ebensburg Municipal Building by President, Doug Tusing.

- Present: Doug Tusing, President
Cecilia Houser, Vice President
Mike Owatt
Jeff Ball
Dave Kuhar
Theresa Jacoby
- Others: Kelly Cook, Borough Manager
Terry Wyland, Chief of Police
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Danea Koss, Community Development Director
Dirk Johnson, Recreation Director
Josh Surkovich, Public Works Director
Luke Byrne, Inframark
Breanne Berkebile, The Mountaineer Journal
- Absent: Randy Datsko, Mayor
Robert Miller

Audience: 5

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. (Kuhar)
Motion passed unanimously.

1. Approve report of Inframark for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations.
2. Approve report of the Inframark for the Water Treatment Plant Operations.
3. Approve the minutes of the February 27, 2023 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
4. Approve the financial statement for February.
5. Approve payment of bills for March.

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

E. **Mayor's Report** – None.

F. **Council President** – Mr. Tusing shared that Dauntless Fire Company had recently purchased a new tanker truck. He applauded the work of the Dauntless Fire Company members for their work and for staying current in all areas including fleet maintenance and their training and skills.

G. Water/Wastewater Committee

1. Resolution #2023-02

Mr. Kuhar reported that a resolution was needed authorizing and approving Borough officers to sign documents associated with the loan with Ameriserv for the 2023 Water Project of the Municipal Authority.

Mr. Kuhar made a motion to authorize the Borough's officers to sign any and all necessary and related documents, and to take any and all required and appropriate related action, and further authorizing any actions by Borough officials which are necessary or proper to effectuate the Ameriserv Financial Bank loan. (Owatt) Motion passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance 666

Mr. Kuhar reported that an Ordinance was needed for compliance with the Unit Debt Act.

Mr. Kuhar made a motion to grant tentative approval to Ordinance 666 determining 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. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

3. Report from Inframark on Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations

Mr. Kuhar made a motion to accept and approve Inframark's written report regarding operations, projects and activities at the wastewater plant. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

4. Report from Inframark on Water Treatment Plant Operations

Mr. Kuhar made a motion to accept and approve Inframark's written report regarding operations, projects and activities at the water plant. (Houser) Motion passed unanimously.

H. Recreation Committee

1. Ms. Jacoby reported that the Borough approved the award of a construction contract for the Dog Park, contingent upon the receipt of the monies from the Rotary Club. The necessary funds were received, and Straw Construction submitted the necessary paperwork. The contract was formally awarded, and Straw Construction plans on starting on the site on April 10, 2023.
2. Ms. Jacoby reported that the Borough was notified by Senator Langerholc and Representative Burns of a grant awarded by The Commonwealth Financing Authority for Ebensburg Borough Pool renovations in the amount of \$134,600. The grant is through the Local Share Account. Staff will continue to pursue avenues of additional funding and will meet with Aquatic Facility Design to further define the project.

I. Street Committee – None.

J. **Administration Committee** – None.

K. **Diversity Committee** – None.

L. **General Business**

1. **Resolution #2023-03**

Ms. Cook reported that Resolution #2023-03 has been prepared for the Borough's application for County aid.

Ms. Houser made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-03 to authorize an application for county aid from the County Liquid Fuels tax fund in the amount of \$10,000. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Civil Service Rules and Regulations**

Ms. Cook reported that the Borough's rules and regulations have not been updated since 2009 and needed amended to reflect current law. The Civil Service Commission has reviewed the changes and recommended them to Council for consideration. Ms. Cook gave an overview of key changes reflected in the new Rules and Relations including a change to the education requirement and to the polygraph requirement.

Mr. Owatt made a motion to approve the updated Civil Service Rules and Regulations as recommended by the Civil Service Commission. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

M. **Department Report**

1. **Police Department** – Chief Wyland reported that part-time Officer Tony Beltowski would be retiring at the end of the month, and he publicly thanked him for his many years of service to the borough. He added that he would like to advertise for and hire another part-time officer. Chief Wyland also shared a reminder that parking tickets should be paid promptly, otherwise the fee doubles. If still unpaid, a citation is issued and the case goes on to the District Magistrate, with the fine increasing to over \$100.

2. **Public Works Department** – Mr. Surkovich reported there is a dump truck that needs a new motor, they are waiting on parts to fix water leaks and he is working with Luke Paronish to schedule a time to discuss clean-up projects.

3. **Community Development** – Ms. Koss reported that the application deadline for Art in Bloom is April 3rd. Also, she has been working with Luke Paronish to set-up an Earth Day Clean-up event on Saturday, April 22nd and that applications for participation in this year's Farmer's Market are being accepted. Ms. Koss added that Rotary Club of Ebensburg would be holding a groundbreaking ceremony for the dog park on Monday, April 10th and they have extended an invitation to Borough officials to attend.

3. **Recreation Department** – Mr. Johnson reported that the YPCC Golf Outing is scheduled for June 9th at the Ebensburg Country Club.

N. **Media Comments/Questions** – None.

O. **Public Comments** - None

P. **Adjournment** – There being no further business, Ms. Jacoby made a motion to adjourn. (Houser)
Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 6:55 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Danae Koss, Community Development Director