



**Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting**  
**Monday, June 26, 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 May 22, 2023 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 11D: Approve the financial statement for May.

Item 11E: Approve payment of bills for June.

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: Consider a Retainer Agreement for Electrical Needs

The Borough calls electrical contractors numerous times throughout the year for emergency and non-emergency calls. It is sometimes difficult to obtain an electrician, especially if the call is during non-business hours. A lot of these calls are related to the water and wastewater facilities, and because of this Inframark solicited proposals from electrical companies to supply the Borough with reduced rates with a guaranteed response time of one hour. The proposed contract is relevant to all services of the Borough. Numerous contractors were contacted but only one proposal was received. Some contractors stated they did not have the manpower and/or equipment to meet the response time. Other contractors could not meet the one-hour response time.

Recommended Action: Approve an agreement with Dodson Electric in which they guarantee their services within one hour of the initial call with the rates outlined on the proposal plus a retainer of \$150 per month.

##### \* 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 #2, #3 and #4.

Recommended Action: Approve the payment request of Straw Construction for payment #2 in the amount of 72,980.83, as reviewed and accepted by the Borough Engineer. Approve payment #3 in the amount of 95,377.45 and payment #4 in the amount of \$26,403.90, contingent upon the Borough Engineer's review and acceptance.

**8. STREET COMMITTEE**

**Ball, Houser & Owatt**

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

The work has been completed and outstanding items are being addressed.

Recommended Action – No action is required.

**Item 8B: 2023 Street Paving Project**

Bids were awarded to New Enterprise Corporation in the amount of \$175,572.30 on May 22, 2023. The Borough has not received an estimated start date as of this time.

Recommended Action – No action is required.

**Item 8C: Municipal Parking Lot**

A letter was received requesting the monthly rent of the parking lot to increase from \$1,100 to \$2,000 a month. This would take the cost to \$24,000 a year, which significantly exceeds the revenue taken in from this lot. Revenues received from this lot in the past three years are as follows:

2020 - \$8,553.59 (affected by Covid business shutdowns)  
2021 - \$7,524.97 (partially affected by Covid)  
2022 - \$8,023.77

While the Borough would prefer to retain all parking spaces currently available in the center of town, it is staff's opinion that adequate parking exists at the other lots and along the street. A significant amount of taxpayer money is and will be required to subsidize payment of the lease. It is recommended by the Streets Committee that the Borough does not renew the current lease, which expires on August 31, 2023.

Recommended Action – Discuss in an executive session as a “real estate matter”, with possible action taken upon re-opening of the meeting to the public.

**9. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar**

**Item 9A: Police Chief Recruitment**

The upcoming vacancy in the Police Chief position was advertised. Twelve applications were received, and interviews are to be scheduled. The Borough hopes to fulfill this position as soon as possible.

Recommended Action – No action required at this time.

**Item 9B: Date for 2024 Reorganization Meeting**

The date for the 2024 Council Reorganization meeting needs to be determined. Since January 1<sup>st</sup> falls on a Monday, the Reorganization meeting can occur from January 2<sup>nd</sup> up to and including January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Recommended Action – Dependent upon discussion

**Item 9C: Police Officer Recruitment**

The position for a full-time officer will be posted for receipt of applications but at this time, Council should establish various agencies for the hiring process.

1. Staff recommends that Penn Highlands Police Academy conducts the agility testing as outlined in the agreement.

Recommended Action – Approve the Agreement with Penn Highlands Police Academy

2. Staff recommends that Assured Polygraph Services Inc. administers polygraph testing, if required.

Recommended Action – Approve the appointment of Assured Polygraph Services Inc., at a rate of \$300 per candidate, as the administrator of the polygraph testing.

3. Staff recommends that Police Consulting Services administers the test of candidates.

Recommended Action – Approve the agreement with Police Consulting Services for the administration of the test at a rate of approximately \$535 per candidate plus mileage reimbursement.

4. Staff recommends that Police Consulting Services conducts oral interviews of the candidates.

Recommended Action – Approve the agreement with Police Consulting Services for the oral interviews at a cost of \$1,300.

5. Staff recommends that Police Consulting Services provides background checks for designated candidates.

Recommended Action – Approve the agreement with Police Consulting Services for background investigations at a rate of \$75 per hour plus mileage.

6. Staff recommends that psychological testing be conducted by Dr. S. Hand at the rate of \$375 per applicant.

Recommended Action – Approve Dr. Hand to administer the psychological testing at a rate of \$375 per applicant.

7. Staff recommends that medical testing be conducted by Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ at the rate of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per applicant.

Recommended Action – Approve Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ to administer the medical testing at a rate of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per applicant.

## 10. DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Kuhar & Houser

## 11. GENERAL BUSINESS

### Item 11A: Public Works Truck

It is necessary to purchase a new Public Works vehicle. The purchase is included in the 2023 capital budget.

Recommended Action- Approve the purchase of a Ford F-350 from Stuckey Ford from the state bid list in the amount of \$63,114.

### Item 11B: Ebensburg Municipal Airport

RACRA requested the Borough engineer to look at the existing hangar, which is owned by the Borough, to determine the feasibility of rehabilitation of the hangar. After this review, the structural engineer determined the hangar could not be rehabilitated. Based upon the findings, RACRA requested a meeting with borough staff, which Solicitor Matt Gribler also attended.

During the meeting, RACRA stated they request a solution to this situation and suggested that the Borough raze or shore the building as soon as possible to ensure their ability to continue to supply fuel and erect a new hangar. The cost of that hangar is yet to be determined as the prices range from \$250,000 to \$650,000. They would then like the borough to supply the necessary funds to construct the new building and they will try to secure federal funds for the reimbursement. It is the understanding of Borough staff that this money is not guaranteed.

Recommended Action- Pursuant upon discussion in executive session.

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

The minutes of the May 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 May 2023 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the May 2023 financial statement.

### \* Item 11E: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$755,301.64 for June 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 legal and 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. Notification 48-hours before the meeting will enable the Borough to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.*