



Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday, August 26, 2024
6:30 p.m.

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Borough Council
Doug Tusing, President
Cecilia Houser, Vice-President
Jeffrey Ball
Theresa Jacoby
Dave Kuhar
Robert Miller
Mike Murphy
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 July 22, 2024 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.

Item 11D: Approve the financial statement for July.

Item 11E: Approve payment of bills for August.

Recommended Action – Approve the consent agenda.

2. APPOINTMENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Kevin Rosensteel and Donna Ragley requested to speak about trash collection in the borough.

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, Miller & Murphy

*** 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.

Item 6C: Waterline Replacement Project

This project is proceeding well and on schedule. Guyer Brothers has installed approximately 64% of the mainline and 30% of the service installations.

Recommended Action – No action required.

Item 6D: Stormwater Project

Construction began on this project by A. Liberoni Construction on August 12, 2024 with the razing of the house on North Julian Street. The area will be cleaned up prior to the installation of approximately 5,515 feet of 60”, 30”, 24”, 18” and 15” storm sewer piping, inlets, manholes, headwalls and all necessary appurtenances. This project will take approximately seven months to complete.

Recommended Action – No action required.

7. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Jacoby, Kuhar & Miller

Item 7A: Tennis Center

The work at the Tennis Center to control the moisture problem was completed on August 14, 2024.

Recommended Action – No action is required.

8. STREETS COMMITTEE **Ball, Houser & Murphy**

9. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE **Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar**

Item 9A: Budget: The department heads and have begun their preparation for the 2025 budget.

Item 9B: Employee Pension Plans

There are several routine actions required every year relative to the employee pension plans. The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) is the amount calculated each year that is required to be deposited into each pension plan. Regulations require Council to formally approve that number by September 30th. The state aid unit value for 2025 has not yet been announced, but it is not necessary to adopt the actuarially determined MMO. The state aid listed below is approximated. Council must also establish the contribution rate, if any, for employees and determine how the State pension aid is to be distributed to the two pension plans.

- Action #1 - Adopt the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) calculation for the non-uniformed pension plan in the amount of \$96,325.
- Action #2 - Adopt the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) calculation for the uniformed pension plan in the amount of \$40,430.
- Action #3 - Adopt the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) calculation for the defined contribution plan in the amount of \$10,244.
- Action #4 - Adopt Resolution #2024-07 establishing an employee contribution rate of 5% (unchanged) for the non-uniformed defined benefit pension plan for 2025.
- Action #5 - Adopt Resolution #2024-08 establishing an employee contribution rate of 5% for the uniformed pension plan for 2025.
- Action #6 - Adopt Resolution #2024-09 authorizing distribution of the State aid check to the respective employee pension plans.

10. HUMAN RELATIONS & DIVERSITY COMMITTEE **Kuhar & Houser**

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Item 11A: Ordinance # 670: Garbage Ordinance

An ordinance which amends the current ordinance by prohibiting garbage and/or recycle receptacles to be placed in public roadways.

Recommended Action- Grant tentative approval for Ordinance 670 amending provisions of the garbage ordinance.

Item 11B: Ordinance # 671:

Knox Boxes are a secure means for the Fire Department to gain access to buildings in an emergency. The Knox system is nationally known and uses a master key that is secured on Fire Department vehicles. The use of this will allow the firefighters to expedite entry into buildings and eliminate forced entries; therefore, avoiding costly and time-consuming efforts of gaining access to locked buildings during emergencies. The proposed ordinance submitted by Dauntless Fire Company requires Knox Boxes to be installed on all new commercial buildings and multi-family dwellings that have a common corridor for access to the living units, and existing commercial buildings and multi-family structures, when improvements are made that require a building permit.

Recommended Action – Dependent on discussion of draft ordinance #671 requiring Knox Boxes on certain structures within the Borough.

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

The minutes of the July 22, 2024, regular meeting are presented for Council review and approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the minutes of the previous meetings.

* Item 11D: Financial Statement

The financial statement for July 2024 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve the July 2024 financial statement and second quarter transfers.

* Item 11E: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$726,485.66 for August 2024 is submitted for approval.

Recommended Action – Approve payment of the bills as submitted.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Item 12A: Police Department

Chief Loughran 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 Rebecca Williamson 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 the Council’s packet.

Item 12G: Ebensburg Planning Commission-1st Summit Bank applied for a final land development to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission recommends the bank’s final land development plan which razed the structure on 516 W. High and constructed additional parking.

Recommended Action – Approve the Final Land Development Plan for 1st Summit Bank.

Item 12H: Ebensburg Zoning Hearing Board – No Activity

Item 12I: PA Municipal League Voting Delegate / Resolutions Committee Appointment

Each year the PA Municipal League asks that members designate a Voting Delegate / Resolutions Committee Appointment to participate in the Resolutions Committee Meeting and Annual Business Meeting which are held during the fall PML Leadership Summit.

Council President Doug Tusing sits on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the PML and is currently the Legislative Committee Co-Chair. Therefore, Staff recommends that Council President Tusing be designated as the Delegate for Ebensburg Borough.

Recommended Action – Appoint Doug Tusing as Ebensburg’s Voting Delegate for 2024.

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 – Discuss personnel issue and litigation

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.