

Ebensburg Borough Council Meeting Monday, September 22, 2025 6:30 p.m.

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Borough Council

Doug Tusing, President Cecilia Houser, Vice-President Jeffrey Ball Theresa Jacoby Susan 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 marked with an asterisk or 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 11F: Approve the minutes of the August 25, 2025 regular meeting of Borough Council.

Item 11G: Approve the financial statement for August.

Item 11H: Approve payment of bills for September.

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, 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

Guyer Brothers essentially completed the project, but have been working to finish outstanding items in the past week. A few items are left to be completed, and a final inspection will be scheduled.

<u>Recommended Action</u> – No action required.

*Item 6D: Stormwater Project

A. Liberoni Construction was issued substantial completion for the Stormwater Project. They have completed most of the restoration. An inspection was conducted last month and the contractor is expected to complete outstanding items within a month.

<u>Recommended Action</u> – No action required.

7. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Jacoby, Kuhar & Miller

Item 7A YPCC

The YPCC is experiencing moisture problems that are getting worse. Last month the Borough accepted a bid from Sports Interiors. The work is scheduled to commence in late October and be completed in early November.

Recommended Action - No action required.

8. STREETS COMMITTEE

Ball, Houser & Murphy

Item 8A: Parking Enforcement

Staff continue to evaluate options for parking management and enforcement and will give recommendations in the future.

<u>Recommended Action</u> – No action required at this time.

Item 8B: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

A contract was awarded to M and B Services, LLC. Construction began last week, but a pole that is required is not expected to arrive until mid- October. As soon as it arrives, the contractor will schedule one day of work to complete the job.

<u>Recommended Action</u> – No action is required at this time.

9. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Houser, Jacoby & Kuhar

Item 9A: Budget: The department heads have begun their preparation for the 2026 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 2026 has been changed to \$6,665.6690 per unit value for 2026. This is an increase of 5.95% from the prior year. The state aid listed below is approximated, but an amount must be approved by the end of September. 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 \$79,179.
- Action #2 Adopt the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) calculation for the uniformed pension plan in the amount of \$46,036.
- Action #3 Adopt the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) calculation for the defined contribution plan in the amount of \$24.539.
- Action #4 Adopt Resolution #2025-03 authorizing distribution of the State aid check to the respective employee pension plans.
- Action #5 Adopt Resolution #2025-04 establishing an employee contribution rate of 5% (unchanged) for the non-uniformed defined benefit pension plan for 2026.
- Action #6 Adopt Resolution #2025-05 establishing an employee contribution rate of 5% (unchanged) for the uniformed pension plan for 2026.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Item 11A: Transient retailer's ordinance.

The ordinance regulates transient retail businesses, including door-to-door solicitation, establishing fees and penalties, and repealing prior ordinance no. 439.

Recommended Action – Grant final approval of Ordinance #677 regarding transient retail business.

Item 11B: Ordinance #675 Zoning Ordinance regulating the location of certain businesses within zoning districts.

The Borough developed a proposed ordinance to regulate the location and zoning of certain commercial uses including gaming parlors, hookah bars, marijuana dispensaries, CBD stores, Vape shops and tobacco stores.

A public hearing was conducted just prior to this meeting to solicit input on the proposed ordinance. Council may further deliberate the matter or take action on the ordinance depending on the testimony presented.

Recommended Action - Dependent on hearing results and subsequent discussion.

Item 11C: Ordinance #676 changing the zoning map of the Borough.

The Borough has developed a proposal changing the zoning map to establish the north side of the 400 and 500 block of High Street between Beech and Spruce Streets, the 100 block of N. Marion, and the south side of the 400 and 500 block of W. Sample Street from Residential Multi Household (RMH) to Mixed Village Commercial (MX/VC).

A public hearing has conducted just prior to this meeting to solicit input on the proposed ordinance. Council may further deliberate the matter or take action on the ordinance depending on the testimony presented.

<u>Recommended Action</u> – Dependent on hearing results and subsequent discussion.

Item 11D: The VFW stated their intent was to donate the Hometown Hero Banners to the Borough and asked if we would be willing to accept them and display them while rotating them into our seasonal banner program.

Recommended Action - Dependent upon discussion.

Item 11E: Water and Wastewater Billing Software

The water and sewer billing is done with Munilink software. It is a software program the Borough has been using since 2014 and is very satisfied with it. The software is becoming outdated and will not have security or assistance starting in June 2026. The new software cost is \$10,093.75. The programs also have an annual fee of approximately \$18,500. The annual fee is only a minimal increase of the current charge. The current service agreement is up for renewal. Recently we hired an employee who was to undergo more extensive training on reports and programs that we currently pay for but have not taken advantage of. Rather than training her in the old system, the training should be done on the new system. Staff recommends purchasing the software now rather than next year.

Recommended Action – Approve the purchase of the Munilink software with LB Water Service in the amount of \$10,093.75.

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

The minutes of the August 25, 2025 meeting are presented for approval.

Recommended Action - Approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

* Item 11G: Financial Statement

The financial statement for August 2025 is presented for approval.

Recommended Action - Approve the August 2025 financial statement.

* Item 11H: Bills

A list of bills totaling \$649,094.16 for September 2025 is submitted for approval.

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 Acting Director Jerry Poruban has submitted a written report on the public works department's activities during the month.

Item 12C: Community Development

Community Development Director Danea 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: Building Permit Enforcement

A monthly building permit 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 No activity
- * Item 12H: Ebensburg Zoning Hearing Board No Activity
- Item 12I: Code Enforcement Property Violations Issued 3 violations: 2 for nuisance junk and 1 for nuisance junk and property maintenance.

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

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.