

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, July 27, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Ebensburg Municipal Building, 300 W. High Street, Ebensburg, by Council President Doug Tusing.

Present: Doug Tusing, President  
Theresa Jacoby, Vice President  
Susan Kuhar  
William Link  
Mike Murphy  
Sue Stevens  
Max Cafazza, Junior Councilor  
Randy Datsko, Mayor  
Terry Carcella, Borough Manager

Absent: Jeff Ball

Others: Joe Loughran, Chief of Police  
Chris Bopp, Assistant Police Chief  
Danea Koss, Community Development Director  
Jerry Poruban, Public Works Director  
Rebecca Williamson, Recreation Director  
Matt Gribler, Solicitor  
Julie Pittman, The Mountaineer Journal  
Matt Churella, The Altoona Mirror  
Ron Springer  
Matt Evans

Audience: 3

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. **Public Comments** – None.

C. **Consent Agenda**

Ms. Stevens 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 Inframark for the Water Treatment Plant Operations.
3. Approve report of Inframark for the Collections & Distributions Report.
4. Approve the minutes of the June 22, 2026 regular monthly meeting of Borough Council.
5. Approve the financial statements for June.
6. Approve payment of bills for July.

D. **Appointment to Address Council** – Master Sargeant Jacob Foster reported that there is an interest from the PA Air National Guard to use the Ebensburg Airport as a training site. The consensus of Council was that they are open to hearing more about the project.

**E. Consideration of Any Motion(s) to Amend Agenda**

Mr. Tusing requested to have two items added to the agenda.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to add item 7C to the agenda which is a request from the Ebensburg Youth League to place a new storage shed at the Lyons Field. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to add item 11H to the agenda to approve the quarterly transfers. (Stevens) Motion passed unanimously.

**F. Mayor's Report** – Mayor Datsko reported that, at the America 250 4<sup>th</sup> of July Ceremony, he was presented with a Patriotic Award from the Son's of the Union Veterans and wished to thank Mr. Ron Springer and Mr. Matt Evans, both in attendance, as the two borough representatives who are responsible for taking care of placing and maintaining the U.S. flags throughout the borough. Mayor Datsko also shared that the memorial plaque for Gregory Alex has been completed and was dropped off at borough office. Plans are to install the plaque in Penn Eben Park in the near future.

Mayor Datsko also gave an update on the recent police department regionalization study and a request from staff to consider the purchase of a used police vehicle from the vendor company of the Federal agency in the amount of \$24,000.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to proceed with the acquisition of a used police vehicle using excess funds in the Capital Account. (Murphy) Motion passed unanimously.

**G. Council President** – None.

**H. Water/Wastewater Committee**

**1. Report from Inframark on Wastewater Plant Operations**

Inframark's written report was submitted regarding operations, projects and activities at the wastewater plant for Council review.

**2. 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.

**3. Report from Inframark on Collections & Distribution Operations**

Inframark's written report was submitted regarding collections and distributions.

**I. Recreation Committee**

**1. Lake Rowena Shoreline Stabilization Project Awarding of Bid**

Ms. Kuhar made a motion to award the lowest responsible bid of \$196,371.80 to Smith's Lawn & Landscaping, to stabilize the shoreline of Lake Rowena. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

**2. Request to Eliminate the Basketball Court at the Pool Complex and Expand Parking**

Ms. Kuhar made a motion to authorize staff to have a development plan drafted to utilize the current basketball court area to expand parking at the pool complex. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Request by Ebensburg Youth League to Place Shed at Lyons Field**

Ms. Kuhar made a motion to approve the request from the Ebensburg Youth League to place a new storage shed at the Lyons Field at their expense. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

**J. Street Committee**

**1. Parking Enforcement Proposal from Cambria County**

Mr. Murphy reported that a proposed copy of the parking map for the Prave Lot fronting South Center Street and a request to eliminate two street parking spaces near the in and out access to the Prave Lot was received from the County. He added that the County would also like the Borough to draft a new agreement addressing revenue sharing and future maintenance for parking on the County owned portion of the Prave Lot.

Ms. Stevens made a motion to have our solicitor draft a new revenue sharing agreement for the Prave Lot and shared maintenance of the jointly owned parcel with Cambria County. (Link) Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to maintain the two on-street spaces in front of the Prave Lot. (Link) Motion passed unanimously.

**2. Parking Enforcement Now Active. County Lot Fronting Courthouse Changes.**

Mr. Murphy reported that Cambria County has requested that a new public parking sign be purchased and the cost shared with the Borough. The consensus of Council was that they need additional information. Ms. Jacoby made a motion to table this until next month. (Kuhar) Motion passed unanimously.

It is a matter of record that Allison McKee was hired as a parking enforcement officer.

**3. Equipment Replacement Purchase for Public Works Department**

Mr. Carcella reported that the borough's Ventrac 4200 unit is broken with a blown head gasket and parts for the units could not be found to repair and get it back into service. This piece of equipment is needed for cutting the slopes at the reservoir property and which must be cut prior to DEP inspections or we could face fines. The current unit was purchased in 2005 or 2006 and needs to be replaced as soon as possible. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the purchase of a new Ventrac at the purchase price of \$39,926.80 from Somerset Outdoor Equipment. (Stevens) Motion passed unanimously.

**K. Administration Committee**

**1. Airport Lease**

Ms. Stevens reported that the current lease with RACRA is set to expire on December 31, 2026. At last month's meeting, Council informed RACRA that it would not approve the optional one-year extension allowed for in the current lease, but would instead offer a 6-month extension through June 30, 2027. Subsequently, the Borough has received a letter from RACRA requesting an extension of 5 years or they will be terminating the current agreement upon expiration of the contract. This will be discussed in executive session.

**2. Municipal Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals**

Ms. Stevens reported that staff has presented a draft Ordinance for consideration to specify the Zoning Hearing Board to also hear appeals to the Property Maintenance Code. The Ordinance was revised and will be advertised.

**3. Borough Phone System Proposals**

Mr. Carcella reported that staff has received three phone system proposals and recommends continuing service with GoTo, at a significantly reduced rate vs. our current agreement.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to approve the GoTo proposal from the staff. (Stevens) Motion passed unanimously.

**4. Request to Advertise for Sale Excess Equipment and a Residential Parcel in the Township**

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to advertise the sale of excess equipment through Municibid or local paper and accept sealed bids. (Stevens) Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to obtain an appraisal of two parcels on Maplebrook Drive in Cambria Township to determine fair market value and then advertise to accept sealed bids for the two parcels per Borough Code requirements. (Stevens) Motion passed unanimously.

**5. PA Municipal League Appointment of Delegate to October Conference**

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to appoint Doug Tusing as delegate and Terry Carcella as alternate to PML for voting on 2026 PML resolutions. (Stevens) Motion passed unanimously.

**6. School Resource Officer Agreement with Holy Name School**

Ms. Stevens made a motion to approve a one-year agreement between Holy Name School and Ebensburg Borough for the 2026-2027 school year. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

**7. General Liability & Workers Comp Insurance**

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to have the Borough Manager approve the renewal of our insurance policies for General Liability and Workers' Compensation pending a quote from Ebensburg Insurance. Applications with Selective Insurance and PennPrime Trust were not available for action at the time of the meeting, and our current policy expires on August 1<sup>st</sup>. (Link) Motion passed unanimously.

**L. Human Relations & Diversity Committee – None.**

**M. General Business**

**1. Quotes for Extension of the Borough's Natural Gas Contract. Effective March 1, 2027.**

Mr. Carcella reported that staff recommends that we award a 36-month extension to the lowest responsible bidder for extending our burner tip price.

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to award IGS a 36-month extension for extending our burner tip price at a rate of \$3.990 per MCF starting March 2027 through February 2030. (Stevens) Motion passed unanimously.

**2. Part-time Facilities Maintenance Position**

Mr. Carcella reported that staff recommends hiring a part-time maintenance position to assist with cleaning and maintenance of all the borough sites.

Ms. Stevens made a motion to advertise the part-time facilities maintenance position at a rate of \$15 per hour. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Crossroads Meadows Settlement Agreement**

Ms. Jacoby made a motion to approve the proposed settlement of the real estate tax assessment appeal concerning Cambria County Tax Parcel UPI No. 26-020.-208.000, upon the terms presented to Borough Council, including fair market values of \$2,028,000 for 2022, \$2,268,000 for 2023, \$2,674,000 for 2024, \$3,155,000 for 2025 and \$3,220,000 for 2026, with the assessed land value remaining unchanged at \$97,200; to authorize the President of Borough Council to execute the settlement agreement of behalf of the Ebensburg Borough; and to authorize the Borough Solicitor to approve the agreement as to form, execute and file and stipulations, proposed orders, or related documents as counsel, and take all other actions reasonably necessary to effectuate the settlement. (Link) Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Police Pension and COLA Adjustment with 2026-2027 State Budget**

Mr. Carcella reported that effective August 1<sup>st</sup> police and fire fighter pensions were granted increases in the next pension checks depending upon the date and number of years the employee was retired. COLA payments from \$75 to \$300 must be paid to those retirees and funds to cover the expense will be reimbursed upon application to the State Auditor General from gaming revenues.

**4. Quarterly Transfers**

Ms. Stevens made a motion to approve the quarterly transfers. (Jacoby) Motion passed unanimously.

**N. Department Reports**

**1. Police Department** – Chief Loughran gave an update on department activities including no issues to report throughout the schedule of recent events, and an update on the regionalization report noting that he would like to continue to pursue a merger with Cambria Township.

**2. Public Works Department** – Public Works Director Jerry Poruban gave updates on department activities including the upcoming People's Gas project and changes to effected areas.

3. **Community Development Department** - Community Development Director Danae Koss reported on recent events including Wheels & Wings, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Downtown Shutdown and Homecoming weekend. She added that there is a current effort by JARI to establish a Keystone Opportunity Zone and that any owners of underdeveloped or underutilized commercial property within the borough should submit an interest form to be considered.
4. **Recreation Department** – Recreation Director Rebecca Williamson reported on activities including the success of the Why Drown Program held at the pool that had 99 children registered, consideration of new pool rates for the 2027 season, events at the Tennis Center and the return of the Halloween Vendor Fair to be held on Halloween at the YPCC.
5. **Building Permit Enforcement** - A monthly building permit report is included in Council's packet.
6. **Ebensburg Municipal Authority** - A copy of the minutes of the last municipal authority meeting is included in Council's packet.
7. **Ebensburg Planning Commission** – No report.
8. **Ebensburg Zoning Hearing Board** – No report.
9. **Codes Enforcement Property Violations Issued** – Warnings. Verbal report on code violations.
- O. **Media Comments/Questions** – Mr. Matt Churella, The Altoona Mirror, asked for clarification on the difference between the Prave Lot and the North Lot with regard to the borough and county parking lots.
- P. **Public Comment** – Mr. Pat Lauer, 313 E. Horner Street, reported on several violations in his neighborhood regarding weeds, vehicles parking on sidewalks and overhanging tree limbs.
- Q. **Executive Session** – Council entered into Executive Session at 8:24 to discuss real estate items. Council exited at 8:45 and Ms. Jacoby made a motion to once again extend a 6-month lease to RACRA through June 30, 2027. The motion died from lack of a second.

Ms. Stevens made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to draft and issue an RFP for operation of the Ebensburg Airport. (Link) Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Ms. Jacoby made a motion to adjourn. (Murphy) Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:47 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Danae Koss, Community Development Director