

The regular monthly meeting of the Ebensburg Borough Council was called to order on Monday, April 27, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ebensburg Municipal Building, 300 W. High Street, Ebensburg, by Council Vice President Doug Tusing.

Present: Doug Tusing, Vice President
Joe Lutz
Joseph Miller
Susan Barber
Dave Kuhar
Christopher Vella, Junior Councilor

Others: Charles Moyer, Mayor
Daniel Penatzer, Borough Manager
Christine Strugala, Community Development Director
Terry Wyland, Police Chief
Blair Pawlowski, Solicitor
Jeff Evans, Maintenance Supervisor
Bernie Kozlovac, Plant Manager
Suzanne McCombie, Mountaineer-Herald

Absent: Deborah Nesbella, President
Terry Illig

Audience: 10

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. **Public Comments** -None

3. **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve the consent agenda containing the following items:
(Miller) Motion passes unanimously.

- A. Approve minutes of the regular meeting of March 23, 2009.
- B. Update on COPS grant.
- C. Advertisements have been placed for a Junior Council Member for the next term.
- D. Approve attendance of Borough Manager to the Government Finance Officers Conference on May 4-6 in State College; Borough Manager to PA/NJ Joint Managers Conference May 19-21 in Cape May; and Mayor and Borough Council to League of Cities Annual Conference June 24-26 in Lancaster.
- E. The May meeting of Borough Council will be on Monday, May 18th due to the holiday.
- F. Receipt of codes enforcement monthly report.
- G. Receipt of Municipal Authority monthly minutes.
- H. A variance and special exception has been granted to Nick Damin for his property at 320 North Julian Street. This would allow the home to be occupied by four unrelated persons or by a professional office.
- I. Receipt of Central Cambria Coalition monthly minutes.
- J. The next meeting of the coalition will be Thursday, May 7th at the Cambria Township office.
- K. Approve financial statement and fund transfers.
- L. Approve payment of Bills List #1.

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

5. Mayor's Report

Mayor Moyer reviewed the police report. He said he accepted the 2009 1st place award for municipal websites from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs at their annual conference. In addition, Mayor Moyer said the borough is the recipient of the Cambria County Conservation District's Soisson Public Recreation Achievement Award for 2009.

6. Council President – None.

7. Ordinance #216 Permit

Mr. Lutz said Ordinance #216 of 1953 prohibits the keeping of livestock or fowls within the borough. Jessica Gelormino of 308 South Phaney Street was in attendance and asked for permission to raise two ducks in her yard. She gathered letters from neighbors in favor of her project and assured council that they would be well taken care of. Mr. Lutz visited her home to see where they would be kept. Mr. Lutz made a motion to grant special permission to Ms. Gelormino to raise the ducks at her home and said that periodic checks would be made to ensure there are no problems. (Miller) Motion passes unanimously.

8. Water/Wastewater Committee

A copy of Severn Trent's monthly operations report was distributed. Mr. Kozlovac said there were no excursions and the average flow for the month was .92 mil gallons/day. He said 12.4 dry tons of solids were processed; 7.5 were from outside sources. Annual inspections have been completed.

9. Recreation Committee

- A. Ms. Barber said the application for the swimming pool project was submitted to DCNR on April 8th. She said the earliest any work could begin would be spring 2010. The pool will need to be painted this year and is scheduled to open on Saturday, May 30th. The Friends of the Pool committee have already begun fundraising efforts.
- B. Ms. Barber said the summer playground program has not been well attended over the last few years and the recreation board would like to cancel it for this year; they would replace the program with a basketball league. The league would be run by Ron Stempka at the Memorial Field courts on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10am – noon for five weeks. If the weather is bad, the YPCC will be used instead.

10. Street Committee

- A. Mr. Penatzer said the sidewalk and curb project along West Ogle Street began on March 30th. A retaining wall was necessary between the sidewalk and Swope's law office and required a footer and removal of two trees. Work is expected to progress faster once the first block is completed.
- B. K.F. Construction has completed installation of the new stormwater line and basins on Triumph Street. The contract price of \$11,750 will be increased to \$14,750 due to deeper excavation that was expected and more basins. Borough crews had to relocate a water line as well.
- C. Mr. Penatzer said borough crews have completed installation of a new stormwater line and basins on West Ogle and South Marian Streets. Only a catch basin at Beech Street still needs installed.
- D. Topnotch Logging has completed the tree removal project at a cost of \$4,762 due to the additional trees at the Swope legal office.

E. The 2009 paving project will include the entire length of West Ogle Street, the 700 and 800 blocks of West Triumph Street, and South West Street between Lloyd Street and Lovell Avenue. The estimated project cost is \$97,340 and will be paid from Liquid Fuels, county allocations, and borough funds. Mr. Miller made a motion to authorize bidding for resurfacing of certain streets. (Kuhar) Motion passes unanimously.

11. Administration Committee

A. Mr. Lutz said no applications were received for the position of summer maintenance at Memorial Field. Nick Schaffer of East Lloyd Street was contacted to see if he would be interested since he does similar work on Central Cambria's fields. Mr. Lutz made a motion to hire Nick Schaffer for maintenance of baseball fields at Memorial Field at the rate of \$7.15/hr. (Barber) Motion passes unanimously.

B. Sixteen applications were received for summer lifeguard positions. Mr. Lutz said a meeting will be scheduled to inform all lifeguards that the head guard is in charge. Mr. Lutz made a motion to hire Kristin Bowman as head lifeguard at the rate of \$8.25/hr. (Barber) Motion passes unanimously. Mr. Lutz then made a motion to hire the following at a rate of \$7.15/hr.: (Barber) Motion passes unanimously.

	Monica Rudolph	Tanner Street	5 th yr.
	Charles Marcinko	East Highland Avenue	4 th yr.
	Ashley Archangelo	Tanner Street	4 th yr.
	Emily Hansen	East Crawford Street	4 th yr.
	Dominick Risaliti	East Highland Avenue	3 rd yr.
	Sarah Marcinko	East Highland Avenue	3 rd yr.
	Renee Risaliti	East Highland Avenue	3 rd yr.
	Brianna Gillin	North Julian Street	3 rd yr.
	Mallory Winn	West Crawford Street	3 rd yr.
*As needed	Aubrey Tucker	Tracy Lane	2 nd yr.
*As needed	Mariah Seymour	East Horner Street	2 nd yr.
*As needed	Kyrah Nagy	Margaret Street	1 st yr.

C. Fifteen applications were received for summer maintenance positions. Mr. Lutz made a motion to hire Ron Jacobs as the summer work supervisor at the rate of \$11.00/hr. (Miller) Motion passes unanimously. Mr. Lutz then made a motion to hire Brian Springer, Corey Faish, Jordan Paterson and Luke Caroff for maintenance at the rate of \$7.15/hr. (Barber) Motion passes unanimously.

D. Staff was unable to secure an intern for the summer months to help in the front office and with community development. Mr. Lutz made a motion to hire Carly Bozella as a summer office worker at the rate of \$7.15/hr. (Miller) Motion passes unanimously.

E. The summer landscaping position entails 30 hours/week of taking care of the YPCC, tennis center, swimming pool, Kimball Park, Penn Eben Park, Lake Rowena and all playgrounds. Mr. Lutz made a motion to hire Charmaine Aurandt as part-time landscaper at the rate of \$7.35/hr. (Barber) Motion passes unanimously.

F. Ms. Barber said Mike Murphy resigned from the public works department and since applicants were interviewed for a vacancy only two months ago, the position was not advertised again. Ms. Barber made a motion to hire Erik Grove of East High Street as full-time public works, effective 4/27/2009. (Miller) Motion passes unanimously.

G. Ms. Barber said refinancing of the streetscape loan at a different institution requires Unit Debt Act compliance involving calculation of an updated debt statement and borrowing base certificate and adoption of an ordinance. Tentative adoption of the refinancing with First National Bank took place at the March meeting. Ms. Barber made a motion to grant final approval to Ordinance #564 authorizing refinancing of non-electoral debt in the amount of \$94,500. (Kuhar) Motion passes unanimously.

12. Old Business

- A. Mr. Penatzer explained the Voice over Internet Protocol “VoIP” phone service that is used instead of a regular phone line. He recommended changing to this type of service because of the cost-savings from eliminating the expense of conventional hardwire and separate long distance charges. VoIP is now available through Cambria County’s new wireless network. The cost of the new system would be less than \$10,000 and would include 27 telephone handsets at all borough owned facilities. It is expected to save approximately \$7,200 annually, or a return of investment in 1.2 years. The system would allow for calls to be transferred between facilities, interoperability with cell phones and email, and provide all customary business functions such as voicemail, auto attendant, caller ID, etc. The following proposals were received:

Precision Business Solutions	\$ 9,999.00
Empire Communications Systems	\$15,509.00
Link Computer Corporation	\$60,526.00

Mr. Penatzer said if the telephone system would not function as we had expected, then we would not have to pay for it; there is no risk. In the event of the system going down, one line will always be operational. Mr. Lutz made a motion to award a contract to Precision Business Solutions for implementation of a VoIP telephone system at a cost of \$9,999.00. (Barber) Motion passes unanimously.

- B. Mr. Penatzer discussed the Stimulus Funds and said that there is little funding available for small municipalities. He said most of the funding has been appropriated by formula and he detailed where the money is going to be spent. Ebensburg is unable to obtain CDBG funds because we have less than 4,000 people and do not satisfy low-income criteria. Of the projects for Ebensburg, the only ones with a possibility to receive funding would be for a hangar project at the airport or for the proposed water system project.

13. New Business

- A. Mr. Penatzer said the Keystone Opportunity Zone designation is scheduled to expire at the end of 2010. Resolutions were approved last year to grant a temporary extension of the tax exempt status and DCED is now accepting resolutions for the full extension of seven years as allowed by Act 79 of 2008. Mr. Miller made a motion to adopt Resolution #2009-03 extending the KOZ designation through 2017. (Lutz) Motion passes unanimously.
- B. The owner of the residence at 614 West Ogle Street has offered to sell the house to the borough because it is situated on Memorial Field. It was the consensus of council to not purchase the home.
- C. The berm of North Center Street across from the former DEP building has been worn from parked cars. It has been suggested that the area be signed “No Parking” and that it be graded and seeded again. Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve the signs to be installed along this portion of North Center Street. (Miller) Motion passes unanimously.
- D. Mr. Penatzer said the old borough pick-up truck needs replaced. Mr. Lutz made a motion to acquire a new truck at the state bid price. (Miller) Motion passes unanimously.

14. Department Reports

A. Police

Chief Wyland said ENRADD will be here May 12th and recommended that 1-2 more part time officers be hired in the future. They have joined the Cambria County Task Force and are working on ordering a new vehicle.

B. Public Works

Jeff Evans thanked council for hiring a full-time public works employee.

C. Community Development

Mrs. Strugala showed council the new Ebensburg business directory. 172 pieces of artwork will be on display for Art in Bloom.

D. Recreation

A report was distributed.

15. Payment of Bills List #2

Mr. Tusing made a motion to approve payment of bills list #2. (Miller)

Barber	ABSTAIN	Kuhar	YES
Tusing	YES	Miller	YES
Lutz	YES		

Motion passes.

16. Press Conference – None.

17. Residents' Comments

Thomas Bortel asked about the status of the streetscape lawsuit.

There being no further business, Mr. Miller made the motion to adjourn. (Barber) Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned: 7:44 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by:

Christine M. Strugala
Community Development Director