

**MINUTES**  
**Borough of Ambridge – Regular Meeting**  
**Ambridge Municipal Complex**  
**February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – 7:00pm**

**I. Call to Order**

President McCoy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Present: Tony Cafarelli, Bob Dunn, Orlando Gagliardi, Mike Mikulich, Tina Iorfido Miller, Joe Pucci and Gerald C. McCoy

Administration and Staff Present: Mayor Carl Notarianni, Borough Manager/Secretary Kristen Denne, Borough Solicitor Rick Start, Borough Engineer Frank Lemmon, Police Chief Mark Romutis, Fire Chief David Drewnowski and Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer James Ivancik.

**III. Invocation**

Mr. Patrick Donny, a senior from Trinity School of Ministry.

**IV. Pledge of Allegiance**

**V. Chief Drewnowski & Fireman Gottschalk.**

Mr. Mikulich wanted to commend Chief Drewnowski & Fireman Gottschalk for duties above beyond the call of duty for the search of a drowned man in January. He remarked that after calling off the search for this man because the weather got so bad, Drewnowski & Gottschalk took their own boat on their own time and kept searching the river until they found the man. Because they are so humble no one even knew they did it. He feels that this should be put into their service record and be commended. Mr. McCoy asked for a motion. Mr. Mikulich made the motion and Mr. Cafarelli 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**VI. Citizen's Participation on Agenda items only (3 minutes per speaker)**

No one wished to speak.

**VII. Presentation by Tom Patrician of the Ambridge Chamber of Commerce.**

Mr. Patrician was not in the audience and Mr. McCoy suggested that we come back to this when Mr. Patrician arrives.

**VIII. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes of Sept. 25, 2007 made by Mr. Pucci, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Dunn.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Abstain	Mayor Notarianni	

Motion to approve minutes of October 9, 2007 made by Mr. Dunn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Pucci

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Abstain	Mayor Notarianni	

Motion to approve minutes of November 28, 2007 made by Mr. Dunn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Cafarelli.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Abstain	Mayor Notarianni	

Motion to approve minutes of December 12, 2007 made by Mr. Cafarelli, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Gagliardi

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Abstain	Mayor Notarianni	

Mr. Mikulich asked if the minutes could be turned over to council in a more timely manner and Mr. McCoy agreed. Ms. Denne stated she would take care of the matter.

**IX. Treasurer's Report** –Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Sheleheda

As of 4pm, February 26, 2008

General Fund balance	\$ 542,078.53
Outstanding checks	<u>\$ 17,799.03</u>
Available General Fund Balance	\$524,279.50
Total other funds	\$460,384.95
Deposits	\$ 316,027.51
Deductions	\$ 532,651.13
Which includes:	
91 checks	\$361,462.65
3 payrolls	\$171,188.48

**X. Boroughs Bills and Expenses**

? Mr. McCoy asked if there were any additions or corrections. Mr. Mikulich asked about the Staples invoices. Ms. Denne explained that there was two accounts, an in store account and an internet account, all the monies were going to the in store account by mistake (we don't use the in store account). This has been corrected. We are receiving a refund.

? Ms. Miller asked about the police vehicle 301 – \$2,477.27 repair. The chief replied that it was a collision and it was actually paid for by the other driver's insurance that ran the stop sign and hit the police car.

Motion to accept the bills and expenses made by Ms. Miller and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Cafarelli.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 - 0*

**XI. Executive Session concerning Personnel.**

? Mr. McCoy asked the Mayor and the Police Chief to join them. Motion made to go into Executive Session made by Mr. Mikulich at 7:16pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Cafarelli.

? Motion made to come out of Executive Session made by Mr. Dunn and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Cafarelli at 7:36pm.

**XII. New Business**

**1. ? Request for Proclamations: Outstanding Community Service. Vocelli Pizza**

- Mr. McCoy explained that Vocelli's supplies free food to volunteers at every charitable event.

**? Committee to Clean & Beautify Ambridge.**

- Mr. Mikush and Ms. Scholie are the leader in this committee and they go out every Sunday and clean the streets of debris.

Motion to have a plaque made for each of these entities and present it to them made by Mr. Mikulich and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Dunn.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 - 0*

**2. Motion to accept resignation of Gerry Vukovcan Sr.**

Mr. McCoy remarked that Mr. Vukovcan is an outstanding gentleman and has worked extremely hard for the Borough: Mr. McCoy read the resignation aloud. Council thanked him for his hard work. Motion to accept the resignation made by Mr. Mikulich and to send him a letter thanking and recognize him for his dedication to the community and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Gagliardi.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 - 0*

**3. Application for vacancies on Boards/Commissions :**

a. Erica Wachtel – Planning Commission

Motion to accept Ms. Wachtel made by Mr. Cafarelli, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Mikulich

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 - 0*

b. Shirley Pipchock – Board of Health

Motion to accept Ms. Pipchock made by Mr. Cafarelli, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Dunn.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 - 0*

c. Tom Patrician – Code of Appeals Board

Motion to accept Mr. Patrician made by Mr. Dunn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Pucci

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 - 0*

d. Joe Hlista – Board of Appeals

Motion to accept Ms. Hlista made by Mr. Gagliardi, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Mikulich

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 - 0*

e. Millie Vukelic – HARB Board

Motion to accept Ms. Vukelic made by Mr. Mikulich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Cafarelli

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 - 0*

f. Cora Pucci – Municipal Authority

Motion to accept Ms. Pucci made by Mr. Dunn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Cafarelli

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	N*
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Abstain
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Abstain	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 4 – 1*

*Abstains -2*

\* Mr. Mikulich explained the reason for his no vote. He felt that Ms. Pucci would do an outstanding job on the board, however, he felt because she had a relative on council that it was against the “nepotism rules” that the Borough had adopted. Mr. Cafarelli interjected that this is a not a paid position and would have no affect on her performance. Mr. McCoy remarked that we would look into the matter.

**4. Part Time Police Testing**

Ms. Denne referred to the police chief. Chief Romutis wants to advertise as soon as possible. It’s a great urgency. Mayor asked if we could advertise in the Post Gazette. Ms. Denne replied that the ad would cost the Borough between 1500.00 and 2,000.00 for a Sunday ad. Council discussed the cost of the ad. Mr. McCoy suggested if it’s cost effective, we’ll do it, if not we’ll put it on the internet. More discussion.

(continued)

Mr. Start suggested that we send a notice to Leetsdale Boro and they may have some officers that need work, son of the chief and assist chief. These guys are qualified and are working part time somewhere else. Mr. McCoy also suggested the Beaver & Allegheny Times. Ms. Denne said that the Post Gazette is the most expensive. We spend \$300.00 just to advertise a meeting, and for a \$10.00 an hour job –we should consider where we are spending our money.

Motion made to test for part time police officers made by Mr. Dunn  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Miller.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 – 0*

Mr. McCoy asked if those two police officers from Leetsdale would have to take the test since they are already police officers.. Chief Romutis asked the solicitor about this because the part time police is not considered a civil service job. Mr. Start commented that they must take the test. Ms. Denne stated that it is a requirement of our insurance carrier that they take the test. Mayor commented on a previous officer who worked in Ambridge Joe David who is working in Hopewell Twp and is a Beaver County Deputy. Some council discussion concerning Officer David taking the test. Chief Romutis suggested that he could not find a resignation by this individual anywhere and he understands that this officer and the past chief had some issues and the chief just quit putting him on the schedule. The solicitor added then he is qualified to be scheduled. Mr. Mikulich asked if we need to rehire him, and the solicitor remarked that is not necessary – he has just been off the schedule. Mr. McCoy interjected for the chief just to put him back on the schedule.

**5. Participation in Beaver Valley Regional Council of Government  
Some discussion on COG...**

Tabled until next meeting.

**6. Street Sweeper.**

Ms. Miller asked if the council ever looked into getting bids to repair old sweeper. Mr. Cafarelli and Mr. Gagliardi made comments about 3 or 4 years ago they did look into repairing it – the cost was astronomical because there was so much wrong, such as hydraulics, rusting parts, repairs would be over \$20,000.00 and only carry a one month guarantee. Mr. McCoy commented that they could not get anyone who would fix it for us. Mr. McCoy commented that they have tabled this purchase on a street sweeper for over 4 consecutive years. The cost at that time was \$175,000.00 for new street sweepers. Ms. Miller asked if we ever put a bid out for “used” street sweepers. Ms. Denne said no. Mr. Cafarelli stated that this street sweeper has no hours on it and the cost will save our tax payers over \$40,000.00. Mr. McCoy said that there were over 50 pieces of equipment that we looked at –and we narrowed it down to 6 and this is one that we chose.

(continued)

Ms. Miller said that she was looking on the internet and she found used sweepers for \$75,000.00. Mr. Pucci said that the used ones for \$150,000.00 or \$75,000.00 have no guarantee. Ms. Miller said that when she looked into this used machine they would give her a one year guarantee. Mr. Start stated that 1 year warranty is the industry standard. Mr. Pucci explained that you can purchase extended warranty for about \$35,000.00. Mr. McCoy asked for a motion to purchase the Elgin street sweeper with auto lube. Mr. Pucci made the motion, Mr. Cafarelli 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. Denne stated that we need a separate vote for the lease agreement with Dollar Bank. Mr. Gagliardi suggested that we check into the extended warranty. Ms. Denne agreed and said she would.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	N
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	N	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 5 – 2.*

Mr. McCoy asked for a motion to accept the financing (copies in front of you) for Dollar Bank Leasing for down payment of \$40,000.00 and a four year term of \$25,510.88 each year, and after the 5<sup>th</sup> year, we can purchase it for \$1.00. Mr. Cafarelli made the motion to accept the financing and Mr. Dunn 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. McCoy made a comment that this is a good deal as we paid \$20,000.00 to “rent”, and now we can run the street sweeper as we feel necessary to keep this Borough clean.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	N
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	N	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 5 – 2.*

**7. Handicapped Parking Space.**

929 Beaver Rd – Nancy Savie. Motion made by Mr. Dunn and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Mikulich.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 – 0.*

## 8. Feaster Consulting for Pension Plans.

Ms. Denne explained the need for this consulting firm: we made over payments in the past, our auditor Mark Turnley said that we need an outside agency reconciliation and watching our statements and this person from Feaster is previously an auditor from state auditor general. Mr. Mikulich mentioned that it meets the requirements for the state pension bureau, under the pension program we had many errors and this would help clear up these glitches.

(TAPE TURNED OVER)

\*Motion made by Mr. Mikulich to approve Feaster Consulting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Pucci.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 – 0.*

\*Motion and vote taken from Kristen's hand written pages – tape was not available for audible vote.

## XIII. Other Unfinished Business

\*\*First part of this audio unavailable\*

Mr. McCoy states that they got nasty with him over the phone when he called to ask a simple question concerning tax payments. He also said that they want their taxes paid before the 15<sup>th</sup> and that Central will cause them problems if not paid before the 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. McCoy suggested that they should have someone from their office available to take payments and answer question here at the Borough building at least two days a week –they could be in room 105- if not we should strongly consider getting rid of them. Mr. McCoy asked if the council is in favor of getting them to come down or getting rid of them. Mr. Mikulich remarked that he would like to get rid of them altogether, he is not happy with them. Mr. Mikulich said he thinks it should go back to Park Road where it was before Central Tax took it over and that he spoke to someone last week and the ladies down there are really receptive to taking it back. Mr. McCoy said those women are willing to take it back, but the school board is not. Discussion among council members concerning Mr. McCoy suggested that we will lose money if we fire them, however, if we can get them to accommodate us and get them to come down here two days a week, the citizens won't have any objections. If Central Tax is not willing to do this, we should get rid of them. Mr. McCoy said that it's the manner in which they deal with our residents. All council members agreed that they could use Room 105.

## 2. Nationality Days.

Mr. McCoy stated that Mr. Patrician submitting an approval from council dates that he needs for 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Nationality Days –May 16 thru May 18<sup>th</sup>, use of the Borough picnic tables and wooden horse and the use of the Borough Police for that weekend. Mr. Mikulich suggested that council pass it now instead of waiting until next meeting.

(continued)

Mr. Gagliardi asked if they paid their bill from last year. Ms. Denne said yes they did, about two weeks ago. Mr. McCoy states that they were told to pay it months ago. Mr. McCoy remarked that we can approve it this year, but they need to pay their bill earlier. Mr. Mikulich mad the motion to approve Nationality Days and Mr. Cafarelli 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 – 0.*

**3. Telephone System.**

Mr. Mikulich suggested a reverse telephone system, such as Monaca has, it costs \$2,500.00 and it lets all the residents know about street closings, power outages, any problems that the Borough might want the residents to be notified about. Mr. McCoy asked Ms. Denne to look into this system but not only with Monaca, but with any other Boroughs. Mr. Gagliardi asked about the 911 calls, if we pay for those calls. Mr. McCoy states that residents pay \$1.00 on their telephone bills and cellular phones pay \$1.00, and that’s thru the county. Mr. Mikulich explained that it’s a one time system and he feels it’s worth the money.

**XIV. Citizen participation (3 minutes per speaker)**

Ms. Costa: 699 Melrose Ave, liaison from the Trinity School of Ministry. She made some copies of some articles pertaining to Ambridge and the Ministry school and the buildings that they bought. This year the Ministry is celebrating 30 years in Ambridge. They are sending out a newsletter to 14,000 people who will read about Ambridge. She came to Ambridge to go to school and fell in love with the Borough; she sold her house of 50 years and moved here. She just wanted to mention that they pray for Ambridge over at the ministry school and at the end of the prayers when they do the innovation –they say “We thank God for Ambridge”. Council thanked her.

Mr. Pash–Value Properties -2301 Duss Ave.

Previously meetings Value Properties offered to house the equipment for Forensic Center – his insurance company wants him to have a lease for the \$10.00 per year, he needs to know if the Ambridge wants their name on the lease or since the County owns the equipment if they should get the County’s name on the lease. He would like to have council consider this for the next meeting. Also May 2008 Value Properties is celebrating 20 years in Ambridge. He would like to have the area referred to The Ambridge Regional Center instead of Armco. Finally, he read aloud a few letters left by Sgt Major Al McMichael who spoke to the ROTC cadets at the Ambridge High School. Mr. Pash went on to tell some interesting & inspiring history on Sgt Major McMichael. Council thanked him.

Mr. Firich – 804 -24<sup>th</sup> St. –

He made comments on the street sweeper. His thoughts are that there is nothing wrong with buying a new street sweeper, as long as the Borough maintains it properly. He would suggest an outside maintenance program to keep the sweeper in good condition. Secondly, the telephone system for \$2,500.00 – he thinks it's a good idea because the water authority is connected to the Borough and they are asking for phone numbers from residents because of issued that they may have to call.

Mr. Johnson -230 Ambridge Ave. –

He called several banks because people were afraid to use the ATM machines on Merchant Street. New Alliance Credit union hung up on him, National City Manager responded to his concerns and said they would install better lighting- he wanted to thank them for their quick response. Huntington has not returned his call yet. Also there are ATM machines available at the gas station on Merchant Street and Duss Ave. He also commented on the street sweeper being a good idea, and that it was embarrassing to have to borrow the sweeper from Leetsdale.

No others wished to speak.

#### **XV. Official's Reports.**

Mr. McCoy asked for a motion to accept official reports. Mr. Mikulich made the motion to accept the reports, and Mr. Gagliardi 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mr. Gagliardi	Y	President McCoy	Y
Ms. Iorfido Miller	Y	Mayor Notarianni	

*Passed 7 – 0.*

#### **XVI. Adjournment.**

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Cafarelli and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Dunn.  
Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm

Respectfully submitted, by Kristen Denne, Borough Manager

*I hereby certify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough of Ambridge Council for February 26, 2008.*

---

**Borough of Ambridge Seal**