

**Borough of Ambridge – Workshop Meeting
Ambridge Municipal Complex
January 13, 2009 – 7:00 pm**

I. Call to order

Mr. McCoy called the meeting to order at 7pm.

II. Roll Call

Present: Tony Cafarelli, Bob Dunn, Orlando Gagliardi, Tina Iorfido Miller, Mike Mikulich, 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

Rev. Marsha King of Trinity School. Mr. McCoy commented also that Rev. King is responsible for Ambridge's Snow Angels.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Treasurer's Report: *Respectfully prepared & submitted by Marilyn Sheleheda, Treasurer.*
Mr. Mikulich read the following Treasurer Report as of 4pm January 13, 2009.

\$950,638.17	General Fund Bank Account Balance 01/13/2009 4:00 pm.
<u>\$6,895.42</u>	2007-2008 Outstanding Checks 01/13/2009 4:00 p.m.
\$943,742.75	Available Balance 01/13/2009 4:00 p.m.

Totals are as follows:

Deposits:		\$520,779.82
...which includes the following:		
T.A.N. Deposit	400,000.00	
<hr/>		
Debits:		\$896,641.54
...which includes the following:		
<u>73</u> Checks	\$300,375.53	
Includes reimbursement check to Ambridge School District for deposit into Ambridge Borough General Fund of \$41,248.80 made in error by Tax Collector on 11/5/2008		
<u>3</u> Payroll (s)	\$180,034.90	
<u>1</u> T.A.N. Payment	\$416,231.11	

Other Fund Balances as of 01/13/2009	
\$75,484.17	Grants/Special Funds (Insurance Proceeds - Garage Damage)
\$162,497.65	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$5,961.75	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$39,141.87	Recreation Fund
\$332,648.55	Sinking Fund (FEMA Grant)
\$615,733.99	Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)

VI. Boroughs Bills and Expenses

page B & M Truck Repair Service Inc. – he wanted to know if the two bill amounts were reversed – truck bed \$589.28 and snow plow \$61.00. Ms. Denne replied that they are reversed and she'll have it corrected.

No other questions. Motion to pay the bills made by Mr. Dunn, Mr. Pucci seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0

VII. Citizen Participation on Agenda Items Only. (3 minutes per speaker)

No one wished to speak.

VIII. Items for Discussion

1. Committee & Authority Appointments.

Water Authority applicants: One position available

David Bell-would like to remain on the board;

Tom Klinski: Robert Hare: Grady Gill.

Mr. Pucci makes a motion to reinstate Mr. Bell. Mr. Dunn seconds motion.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to reinstate Mr. Bell.

Municipal Authority applicants: One position available.

John Seresun: Mary Pat Ilko.

Mr. Cafarelli asked the solicitor if council needed a second for each applicant. The solicitor remarked that you do not need a second for appointments; however you can if you wish. Mr. McCoy commented that he would prefer it that way.

Mr. Gagliardi made the motion for Mr. Seresun. Mr. Cafarelli seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to place Mr. Seresun on Municipal Authority Board.

Authority are officially sworn in because they are dealing with budgets; he asked of council members if anyone objected to that proposal. No one objected. He asked that the president of each of those boards to have those people sworn in. Mr. Gagliardi asked a question that was inaudible. Mr. McCoy remarked that the applicants won't deal with cash, they just get sworn in.

Harb Board Applicants: Three positions available.

Joe Zemba: Paul Ilko: Steve Hallas

Mr. McCoy stated that he knows two of the three of these people and they are fine individuals and he would like to appoint all three people.

Mr. Mikulich made the motion to place Paul Ilko on the board. Mr. Cafarelli seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to place Mr. Paul Ilko on Harb Board.

Mr. Mikulich made the motion to place Mr. Joe Zemba on the board. Mr. Cafarelli seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to place Mr. Joe Zemba on Harb Board.

Mr. Mikulich made the motion to place Mr. Steve Hallas on the board. Mr. Cafarelli seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to place Mr. Steve Hallas on Harb Board.

Landlord Board: Three positions available.

that what council will have to do is to appoint for this position:

One for one year. One for two years. One for three years.

The applicants are: Linda Thomas: Millie Vukelic: Tim Kay:

Delmar Slappo: Phillip Kowalski

First appointment – one year term: Mr. Cafarelli asked about Ms. Vukelic sits on the HARB Board.

Mr. McCoy did not have that information. Mr. Cafarelli commented that it was on her application as a qualification. Mr. Cafarelli made the motion for Ms. Millie Vukelic, Mr. Mikulich seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to place Ms. Millie Vukelic on Landlord Board for a term of ONE YEAR.

Mr. Mikulich makes the motion to place Mr. Delmar Slappo to the two year term. Mr. Cafarelli seconded the motion.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to place Mr. Delmar Slappo on the Landlord Board for a term of TWO YEARS.

Mr. Mikulich makes a motion to place Mr. Tim Kay on the board for the three year term. Ms. Miller seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to place Mr. Tim Kay on the Landlord Board for a term of THREE YEARS.

Mr. Pucci asked about Mr. Joe Zemba eligibility for the HARB Board, his application shows that he resides in Sewickley. Mr. McCoy stated that he is an engineer. Mr. McCoy commented about Steve Hallas. He is currently in the military but his residence is Ambridge and we don't want to hold that against him. No other questions.

Mr. Mikulich asked if this was the same invoice that we approved last time. Mr. Lemmon commented that it is the same contractor but not the same bill. Mr. Mikulich made the motion to pay. Mr. Pucci commented that the contractor did an excellent job. Couple of council members agreed. Mr. Dunn seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0 to pay final payment.

3. Dumpster Ordinance.

Mr. McCoy commented that council moved from last meeting to this meeting. The solicitor commented that the draft that council received has been revised and hopefully has incorporated the concerns such as the name, addresses and phone of the owners of dumpster company and that the dumpsters are required to have reflective material permanently affixed because in the dark they are not easily seen. The permit process contemplates short and long term placement, and the people who want long term will have to provide satisfactory explanation for the request and they will have to pay for the extended time. The dumpster can not block any of the streets, there was an issue with that and it created a hazard to motoring and pedestrian traffic. One issue on page 3 paragraph 10, a long term placement of dumpsters small no larger than a (blank) cubic yards are permitted for yearly permits. Mr. Start stated that he is not familiar with what size (cubic yard) is typically used. We need to establish what that appropriate size is and specify this before it's finally published. Mr. Cafarelli asked Mr. Start about the length of time that it will be placed on our streets. The solicitor stated that generally it would be for one week, if they need more time, they will have to establish a reason. Mr. McCoy commented that if there is no other objection from council we will move this to the next agenda.

4. Funding Request from Ambridge Chamber of Commerce.

This is a request from the Chamber for \$500.00 that we give to the chamber yearly. Mr. Mikulich makes the motion to approve the chambers request. (The second was inaudible on tape) Mr. McCoy states that Mr. Gagliardi seconded.

All in Favor – Ayes ~ 7. Nays ~ 0.

Motion Passes 7 – 0.

5. Resignation of Patrol Officer April Martin.

Mr. McCoy comments on what a good police officer April Martin was for the Borough of Ambridge. He read aloud her resignation letter. He would like a motion with regret to accept her letter. Mr. Mikulich would also like a letter of appreciation and thanks to Ms. Martin and he also made the motion to accept her letter. Mr. Cafarelli seconded.

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

Motion Passes 7 ~ 0

losing good officers because we don't pay enough. Mayor Notarianni commented that he agreed with Mr. Gagliardi, we just lost 4 good cops and we can't keep the town safe if they are leaving all the time. Mr. McCoy commented that he didn't see anything on the agenda about hiring police officers. Mayor Notarianni states that it was in the packet. Ms. Denne commented that it was in packet with Chief Romutis reports, she just saw it today. Mr. McCoy mentioned that everything was to be turned into Ms. Denne on Thursday before the meeting. Chief Romutis commented that it was turned in on Thursday last week. Mr. McCoy asked the chief what he needed. The police chief asked that the part time police test be administered as soon as possible because of the resignation of Officer Martin and injuries of other officers. Those 3 officers were injured in mid-to late December within a week of each other. Mr. McCoy asked how many officers that the chief would like to hire. The Mayor responded: six. Mr. Mikulich made the motion to advertise for part time police officers. Ms. Miller seconded.

All in Favor – Ayes ~ 7. Nays ~ 0.

Motion Passes 7 – 0.

After the vote, Mr. Mikulich asked of the police chief concerning the citation to Officer Mann and McQuaide putting themselves in harms way to rescue fire victims on April 11, 2007. Police Chief Romutis read aloud the Citation from the Pa. House of Representatives and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Officer James Mann and Officer Michael McQuaide. Chief Romutis commented that both officers sustained injuries, smoke inhalation, and spent a day in the hospital. Mr. Mikulich asked if a letter of commendation was placed in their employment records. Chief Romutis replied that there was a letter already placed. Mr. McCoy commented that he feels that Council should send each a letter of appreciation. Mr. Mikulich makes the motion to send each officer a letter of appreciation and Mr. Dunn seconded.

All in Favor – Ayes ~ 7. Nays ~ 0.

Motion Passes 7 – 0.

Mayor Notarianni commented after the vote concerning the number of officer that we have, it's difficult to keep testing every few months. He didn't want to alarm the residents. Mr. McCoy remarked that he didn't think anyone was alarmed when the Chief mentioned it, but we are in need of police officers.

IX. Committee Reports

1. Administration & Finance – Mr. Mikulich

Mr. Mikulich reminded council that we get our financial report in on time, April 1st is the deadline; let's not repeat what we did last year.

2. Public Safety – Mr. Gagliardi.

Mr. Gagliardi commented that he spoke with the police chief and he would like to have these officers replaced as soon as possible.

3. Public Works. – Mr. Cafarelli.

Mr. Cafarelli commented that they had a meeting last Friday morning and he pulled in the whole public works department – all the employees and basically they met about moral in the department and talked about the outlook for 2009. He reported that each of the employees show more responsibility as far as the town. They shouldn't need him to come and give them directives. Snow removal has been great. He is more concerned about spring – line painting and in the fall – leave removal. He spoke to Mr. Kokoski today and he commented that Mr. Kokoski ordered more salt because we are supposed to get 2-4 inches. The meeting lasted about an hour and he thought it was productive. Mr. Gagliardi asked about the salt. Mr. Cafarelli commented that we blend it and it's been working. Mr. Gagliardi asked if we reuse it. Mr. Cafarelli remarked that no we don't because we had some rain and it washes away in our city sewers and we lose it, we can't pick it up. Mr. Cafarelli commented also that it's mostly used on our hills and when it rains, it runs along the gutters and we lose it. Mr. Mikulich commented that if we get some decent weather, like 45° -55°, can we go out and start to patch some of the potholes. Mr. Cafarelli commented that we were patching up to a week ago.

(Continued)

they have to blow dry it and then patch will stick. A big complaint was 11th Street. They put the patch down and after a couple of days of traffic, it comes right out.

4. Recreation – Mr. Dunn.

Mr. Dunn had nothing to report. Mr. McCoy commented that a fellow on his street, he thought his name was Kowalski, but he wasn't sure, anyway, he wanted to do some work, like the concession stand, with the boy scouts from Ambridge. Mr. Dunn commented that they do it every year. Mr. McCoy stated the he told Mr. Kowalski to set up a meeting with Ms. Denne himself and Mr. Dunn to discuss the project.

X. Citizen's Participation – 3 minutes per speaker.

Jerome Gill – 831 Glenwood Ave. Ambridge, Pa.

He commented that he has nothing against the recreation committee, but he doesn't see where anything has been done. There hasn't been anything for 4 or 5 months. Is there anything planned.

Mr. Dunn states that once the swimming pool is knocked down, we kept hearing that it was going to be knocked down before the high school, and then we heard that it was after the high school, and when you are getting the demolition for free, you have to wait your turn. Mr. Gill spoke to the Youth Program, they were excited, but they got disgusted with the last Council. Is there anything we can do to push this through? Mr. Dunn stated that he spoke to Mike, even before I (Mr. Dunn) got onto Council and he was promised three years ago and they keep changing the date. Mr. McCoy commented that he talked to them himself and since the guy that will be doing the work is doing it for free we have to wait until he has time. Mr. Gill also commented on the hiring of police officers, the tests are good for a year, and it depends on how many people apply, that's the biggest issue that he sees. He also wanted to know if Council planned to hire any people. Ambridge hasn't grown in the last 30 years. We keep planning all these things and the workers have to be exhausted at this point, you only have so many people to get things done. Mr. McCoy states that we get outside help from the county, thankfully. They have been helping us quite a bit. Mr. Gill commented that things are being said that we are going to do so much but it seems that you need more people and he wanted to know if we were going to hire for the Borough. Mr. McCoy stated that Council has not plans to hire in the near future. Mr. Gill also asked about the Board positions, how are the people picked for these boards, like what are the qualifications needed to be appointed, or do you need to know someone. Who merits what qualifications for that board? Mr. McCoy stated that different boards need different qualifications. Mr. Gill commented that he has a copy of a blank application for a board and it says who you are and what you want to do. Mr. McCoy states that there are not specific qualifications for any board. Mr. Gill commented that there should be qualifications because otherwise it leads to nepotism, and Ambridge has been known for that. Mr. McCoy commented the Ambridge Water Authority has been on the board and we just reinstated him. Also the Municipal Authority applicant was very experienced. Mr. McCoy replied that nepotism doesn't exist with this Council because we have reinstated some of the people that were appointed by the last council. Mr. Gill commented that he applied for a board previously and did not get the position, and he asked what qualifications he would need and no one could answer him. He stated that the applicant should have qualifications, not just be able to tie his shoes. Mr. McCoy commented that we want to appoint good people and we do look at the qualifications that the people put on the application.

Corky Mihalic – 728 -24th St. Ambridge, Pa

He wished everyone a Happy New Year. He asked about the dumpster ordinance, he wanted to know if this will cover the smaller dumpster (2 yard) that sits behind a restaurant that can be used for garbage. When you order a bigger dumpster the companies ask that you do not put garbage in it for the reason that animals will get into it. He commented that the ordinance should state that the dumpster should be in good condition and that the lid would fit tight. This would eliminate the argument against the company that those dumpster that have broken lids and eliminate the problem with rodents.

Mayor Notarianni commented about the dumpster for the county owned buildings. One dumpster that sits right on the street (First Street) –it’s over flowing. Mr. McCoy replied that he attend one of the county meetings. Mayor commented also on Mr. Kowalski being a good person and that the boys scouts do this for a merit badge. Mr. McCoy asked the Mayor to let us know where these dumpsters are over flowing and we will be more than happy to call the county.

Debbie Sylvester – 646 Glenwood Ave., Ambridge, Pa.

Ms. Sylvester asked permission to use the fire hall for a Girl Scout troop meeting. They presently meet at the Library and they are having issues with the Library people shutting off the lights and throwing them out 10 minutes before they meeting ends. She has to make sure each girl is safe until they are dismissed to their parents. Mr. Drewnowski commented that Wednesday and Thursdays are open at the present time and he has no problem with the girl scouts having their meetings there as long as council approves. Mr. McCoy asked them to pick a day. Mr. Mikulich asked them to pick a time. Ms. Misik, her co-sponsor, commented that Thursdays would be good and 5:30 to 6:30. Mr. Mikulich made the motion to allow the girl scouts to occupy the fire hall. Mr. Cafarelli seconded.

TAPE TURNED OVER.

Motion passed: Referenced Ms. Denne’s vote sheet. 7 ~ 0.

Ms. Misik commented that they stay with the girls until 6th or 7th grade and they would like to stay involved with the community more and if there is anything that they feel the girls can do to earn badges that would be good. Mr. Mikulich commented that she should stay in touch with the Borough Manager. Ms. Denne commented that they do a Borough clean up. Ms. Misik stated that they are not permitted to do clean ups or pick up garbage, that is a compliant issue. She did comment that they can plant flowers. Ms. Denne commented that she can work with that. Ms. Misik commented that March is prime time for girl scouts in the area and we can combine with all the girl scouts in the Beaver and Lawrence County areas and they can bring them all down. Council thanked them.

No other person wished to speak.

Mr. McCoy asked for Executive Session for personnel matters @ 7:50pm. Mr. Cafarelli moved to go into Executive Session.

Return from Executive Session @ 8:05pm. Concerning personnel matters.

XI. Engineer's Report –Mr. Frank Lemmon
Inaudible

XII. Borough Manager's Report – Ms. Kristen Denne
Inaudible

XII. Items not included in the agenda
Inaudible.

XIII. Adjournment
Inaudible – Referenced Ms. Denne's vote sheet. Mr. Cafarelli made the motion to adjourn, Mr. Dunn seconded.
Meeting adjourned 8:25pm.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

January 27, 2009 – 7PM

Respectfully submitted, by Kristen Denne, Borough Manager

I hereby certify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Workshop Meeting of the Borough of Ambridge Council for January 13, 2009.

Borough of Ambridge Seal