

**MINUTES**  
**Borough of Ambridge – Workshop Meeting**  
**Ambridge Municipal Complex**  
**September 9th, 2008 – 7:00 pm**

**I. Call to order**

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

**II. Roll Call**

Present: Mr. Cafarelli, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Pucci, Mr. McCoy

Absent: Mr. Gagliardi, Ms. Miller, Mr. Mikulich.

Administration and Staff Present: Borough Manager/Secretary Kristen Denne, Borough Solicitor Rick Start, Police Chief Mark Romutis.

**III. Invocation**

Ms. Barb Costa, Trinity Episcopal School of Ministry

**IV. Pledge of Allegiance**

**V. Treasurer’s Report-** respectfully submitted by Marilyn Sheleheda

Mr. Cafarelli read the following report:

\$1,384,073.48 General Fund Bank Account Balance 09/09/2008 4:00 pm.

\$6,149.52 2007-2008 Outstanding Checks 09/09/2008 4:00 p.m .

**\$1,377,923.96 Available Balance 09/09/2008 4:00 p.m.**

<b><i>Totals are as follows:</i></b>		
<b>Deposits (General Fund):</b>		<b>\$114,996.06</b>
Includes Transferred from Escrow acct.	<i>\$5,000.00</i>	
<b>Deposits: ( Liquid Fuels Fund-)</b>		<b>\$152,147.08</b>
<b>Debits:</b>		
<b>-which include the following:</b>		
<u>85</u> Checks		\$83,738.28
<u>1</u> Payroll (s)		\$52,497.42
<u>1</u> Re-imbusement ck. fire demolition Completion.		\$5,000.00
		<b>\$141,235.70</b>

\$75,383.25	<b>Grants/Special Funds (Insurance Proceeds - Garage Damage)</b>	
\$162,280.37	<b>Liquid Fuels Fund</b>	
\$5,961.75	<b>Escrow Disbursement Account</b>	
\$39,089.52	<b>Recreation Fund</b>	
\$332,203.75	<b>Sinking Fund (FEMA Grant)</b>	
<b>\$614,918.64</b>	<b>Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)</b>	

**VI. Boroughs Bills and Expenses**

Mr. McCoy requested at this time anyone having any questions. Mr. Dunn asked about the Tree Service for Merchant Street: \$1,500.00 – Ms. Denne remarked that it was the remainder of the balance due on the tree trimming. Mr. Cafarelli asked if Hudson tree service continues thru the fall. Ms. Denne commented that he does our service all year round. No other questions. Motion made by Mr. Dunn, and Mr. Cafarelli seconded.

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

The motion to approve the boroughs bills and expenses  
*Passed 4 - 0.*

Executive Session motion made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. Dunn at 7:07pm  
*(Discussion for a legal matter)*

Return from Executive Session motion made by Mr. Dunn, seconded Mr. Pucci 7:16pm

Mr. McCoy read aloud the direction that council asked the Solicitor to motion to direct the Labor Relations Board filed by Councilwoman Tina Iorfido Miller for the recent charge of Unfair Labor Practice was filed without the knowledge or consent of Borough Council and the Borough of Ambridge is not a party this matter and will not participate in the litigation.  
 Motion to accept made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

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

The motion not to participate in litigation.  
*Passed 4 - 0.*

**VII. Items for Discussion**

1. Request for Proclamation

a.) 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ambridge Regional Distribution Center

Mr. McCoy asked for this proclamation because Mr. Gene Pash has been an outstanding citizen for the past 20 years and council likes recognize outstanding people in our area and their longevity, and as well Rook’s Tavern, which has also been here for 20 years.

Motion made to recognize these two businesses with a proclamation made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. Dunn.

All in Favor – Ayes 4 – Nays 0

Motion *Passes*.

2. Triangle Pet Contract

Ms. Denne remarked concerning the meeting she had with Mr. McCoy & Mr. Pucci in addition with official from Triangle Pet and aired some of the issues the were previously questioned. In the meeting they got the surcharge reduced to a flat 5% versus 5% on each dollar: with the fuel costs in the US today surcharges are popping up on a lot of our contracts. They have not raised our costs since 1999 and this is only increasing \$150.00 per month. This is a profession service and does not need to be bid, this was a letter of request and I am passing it on to council. Mr. McCoy commented that Triangle seems to do a pretty good job and they keep excellent records should we need to challenge a particular record, we have a right to challenge those records. Mr. Dun asked if we have to have a dog catcher, because next year, the way prices are going we may have to pay \$10,000.00. Mr. McCoy commented that in his neighborhood he hardly ever sees a dog running loose, and the ones that you see loose the owners are walking with them. This contract is strictly up to council. Mr. Cafarelli asked how long have we employed Triangle Pet, Ms. Denne commented that the existing contract was 5 years old, and she was unsure of previously. Mr. McCoy suggested it was at least since 1999. Mr. Cafarelli asked if there was another service out there. Ms. Denne said there were probably 2 or 3 in the entire region. She went to the “Animal Friends” website and this is where she found 2 or 3 in the entire region and Triangle Pet was one of those listed. Ms. Denne suggested that we table this vote until next meeting since this is workshop meeting, we can investigate this further.

All were in agreement to move to the next meeting.

3. Banner Request

Holy Ghost requested a banner to be posted across 8<sup>th</sup> St from Sept 29 thru Oct 18.

Mr. Dunn made the motion to permit the banner, Mr. Pucci seconded.

All in Favor – Ayes 4 – Nays 0

Motion *Passes*.

4. Handicapped Parking Requests

453 Duss Ave. Application approved by the doctor and the Police Chief.

Motion made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

All in Favor – Ayes 4 – Nays 0

Motion *Passes*.

1211 Beaver Rd. Application approved by the doctor and the Police Chief.

Motion made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

All in Favor – Ayes 4 – Nays 0

Motion *Passes*.

**VIII. Citizen’s Participation (citizens are limited to 5 minutes per speaker)**

*Barb Costa* – Trinity Episcopal Church.

She wanted to announce the installment of new Dean and wanted to invite the citizens of Ambridge as well as council members.

*Mike Moose* – no address given.

He suggested a curfew should be 10pm on week nights and 11pm on weekends. He stated that there still is a lot of vandalism going on after 11pm.

(continued)

About a year ago he brought in pictures of garbage that nobody believed him. He complained mostly at that time about the rodents that the garbage would bring and they did come. He was told that he went about it the wrong way and he then went about it your way and now he has rodent in his yard, his 3 neighbors' yards and more down the block and more towards Beaver Rd. He spoke to Beaver County control like he was told to and he was told that it's a code enforcement problem. The county guys first words were there: open sewers: was there uncollected garbage: uncut weeds: dog feces: abandoned/vacant close by the area, all of these questions are yes. Mr. Firich asked what the action plan is going to be now that the county said it was Ambridge code enforcement. Mr. Firich asked for the councilmen to take a ride in their cars and take a look. Mr. McCoy commented that the construction area on the sewer line map ends on 16<sup>th</sup> Street and doesn't go anywhere near 24<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Firich continued to try and to utter an impertinent rejoinder. Mr. McCoy asked Mr. Firich to take his seat; his time was over and also asked the Police Chief to remove Mr. Firich if he continued to speak.

*Ken Kubia - 799 -23<sup>rd</sup> St.*

He asked the council if they reached a decision on his paying refuse collection for his unoccupied house. The Solicitor commented that he just a legal opinion to Borough Manager and council has not yet had a chance to review it, but he will get a copy mailed to him of this legal opinion before next council meeting.

## **IX. Committee Reports**

Administration and Finance: Mr. Cafarelli spoke for Mr. Mikulich who was absent commenting that Mr. Mikulich did not have a meeting.

Public Safety: Mr. Gagliardi is absent this evening.

Public Works: Mr. Cafarelli – commented that we are still line painting, the new street sweeping signs have been ordered by not received, we are tarring and patching, Ms. Denne asked if we signs will be following the same street sweeping schedule, Mr. Cafarelli replied yes.

Recreation: Mr. Dunn – nothing.

## **X. Engineer's Report**

Ms. Denne commented that Mr. Lemmon will come to the Regular council meeting because he is away at a conference this week.

## **XI. Borough Managers Report**

Ms. Denne commented we received a \$30,000.00 grant for Public Works Equipment & we signed the contract and will be sending back to the state this week. We want to buy what's known as a work mule to haul around things such as paint, small tools, small equipment, so they don't have to take out the big trucks, it will save on gas mileage. She also commented that she got a small grant to replace some of the needed traffic lights. Many of these traffic lights were purchased by Mr. Gagliardi used while he was still Fire Chief – so you know how old some of these lights are. She also wants to write a grant to get a new public works vehicle. The construction on Maplewood will start Sept 22 because the contractor got held up on another job. Next week the 18<sup>th</sup> & Pine (North Walnut) will be starting. A new contract with the school for the resource officer – our solicitor and the school solicitor will get together and work it out. No signage has been received yet, and the council will probably have to take legal action because the sign distributor is no longer returning any phone calls or emails from the county.

Ambridge Events: Arts Fest will be Sept 27. 10-4:30

Mr. McCoy asked about the abandoned police vehicles. Ms. Denne remarked that Mr. Gary Gross spoke to her about this and since he teaches auto mechanics at Votech, he would like to take those vehicles, let the kids fix them up and donate them back to the Borough. Members commented they had not problem with this. Ms. Denne said he is willing to do this with the both police vehicles and the public works vehicles. Mr. McCoy suggested having Mr. Gross do a presentation to council so that they could have motion and a vote.

**XII. Items not included in the agenda**

Mr. McCoy asked Ms. Denne about the 5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Merchant Street traffic light ordinance. Ms. Denne stated that the ordinance was being advertised this week and it's being prepared to be adopted at the next regular meeting. Mr. McCoy would like to get the stop signs in place. He commented that as he drives through Sewickley, he noticed that they have many side streets and they only have two traffic lights on their main street and it's pretty busy. Also, it's better for the citizens, everyone will have to stop in addition to saving Ambridge money in the maintenance of those traffic lights. Mr. Cafarelli commented that according to Penn Dot guidelines you have to for a short period of time you have to have some kind of "blinking indicator" for a new stop sign or traffic light.

**XIII. Adjournment – 7:50pm**

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Pucci, Mr. Cafarelli seconded.

All in favor. Ayes 4 – Nays 0.

Motion *passes*.

Next council meeting: September 23, 2008

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 September 9, 2008.*

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**Borough of Ambridge Seal**