

# BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE

## MINUTES

Council Meeting: August 11, 2015  
Ambridge Municipal Complex



- **Executive Session – Personnel Matters**
- **The August 11, 2015 meeting of Ambridge Borough Council was called to order at 7:00PM within the Council Chambers of the Ambridge Municipal Complex.**

- **Roll Call:**

Present: Mrs. Caldarelli  
Mrs. Drewnowski  
Mr. McCoy  
President Mikulich  
Vice President Iorfido- Miller  
Mr. Pucci  
Mayor D' Ambrosio

Also Present: Borough Manager Kauer, Police Chief Mann, Fire Chief Drewnowski, Solicitor Start, Engineer Lemmon and Code Enforcement Officer Clark.

Absent: Mr. Cafarelli and Mayor D' Ambrosio

- **Invocation** given by Ms. Barb Costa, Trinity School of Ministry
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Presentations**
  1. Mr. Mark C. Turnley, CPA – review of the 2014 Borough Audit Report and Financial Statements.
- **Citizen's Participation On/Off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)**
  - **Mr. Mike Bradovich, 751 Merchant Street**, thanked the Borough Council and Mayor for assisting with and permitting the recent flea market that was held in the public parking lot in the 700 block of Merchant Street. He also stated that he is grateful for the Police Department business checks during the night.
  - **Mrs. Marilyn Sheleheda, 91 Valleyview Drive, Economy Borough (Borough Employee)**, informed Council that she is volunteering her efforts to raise funds and coordinate the efforts to bring back Independence Day Fireworks to Ambridge. She stated that she is having a community meeting on the topic on August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Fire Station and she invited the public to attend. She stated that fireworks will cost in excess of \$15,000 and they are going to discuss how to raise the necessary funds and where possibly to shoot them off from. It was also reported that she plans to partner with the Ambridge Volunteer Fire Department to coordinate this effort. Mrs. Miller thanked Mrs. Sheleheda for what she is trying to accomplish, and Mr. McCoy volunteered to help.
  - **Ms. Joanne Trella, 832 Glenwood Avenue**, stated that the tree she donated towards in front of the Borough Building is dying. She also made a complaint about motorists parking their vehicles on the sidewalks; she was advised to call the police when she sees such occurrences.

- Ms. Lorianne Burgess, 570 Merchant Street, requested the Police Department to frequent the Police Sub Station on Merchant Street to increase visibility, and also requested the Borough to contact the Dollar General Store on Merchant Street as their "No Left Turn" sign has fallen and needs reinstalled.
- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**  
**July 14, 2015 Council Meeting**

Mr. McCoy made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli. A roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- **Treasurer's Report:** Mrs. Drewnowski reported the Treasurer's Report:

<b>General Fund Analysis</b>
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\$1,181,027.97	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of: <b>-August 11, 2015 -4:00 pm</b>
\$11,139.04	All Outstanding Checks as of: <b>-August 11, 2015 -4:00 pm</b>
<b>\$1,169,888.93</b>	<b>Available Balance as of: -August 11, 2015 -4:00 pm</b>

<b>General Fund Summary:</b>	<i>Totals are as follows:</i>	
	Deposits:	<b>\$420,422.30</b>
	<hr/>	
	Debits:	<b>\$297,737.93</b>
	-which include the following:	
	71 Checks	\$172,845.67
2 Payroll (s)	\$124,892.26	

Other Fund Balances as of -August 11, 2015 -4:00 pm	
\$850.00	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$67,352.64	Grants/Special Funds
\$164,390.35	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$43,895.54	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$33,496.20	Recreation Fund
\$912,768.00	2015 Road Construction Fund
\$0.00	2015 PIB Note Sinking Fund
\$334,417.74	Sinking Fund
<b>\$1,557,170.47</b>	<b>Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)</b>

- **Borough Bills and Expenses**  
Motion to Pay the Bills (Unpaid: \$245,273.48 / Paid: \$91,182.00) was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; - a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

• **New Business - Items for Discussion:**

- 1) Motion to grant the closure of Maplewood Avenue between 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street on Saturday, August 22, 2015 for the purposes of a neighborhood block party. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; motion carried unanimously.

- 2) Motion to ratify the payment of \$4,800 to Feaster Pension Consulting, Inc., for 2015 services. (Note: Invoice is to be paid from the following applicable pension plans: Police Pension Plan - \$1,700, Firemen's Pension Plan - \$1,500, Service Employee's Plan - \$1,600.) Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mrs. Miller, a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- 3) Motion to ratify the payment of \$10,297.75 to CIM Investment Management for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2015 pension services. (Note: Invoice is to be paid from the following applicable pension plans: Police Pension Plan - \$6,543.19, Firemen's Pension Plan - \$2,796.87, Service Employee's Plan - \$957.69.) Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski, a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- 4) Motion to authorize the advertisement of the Request for Bids for the 2016-2020 Collection, Disposal and Processing of Municipal Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials from Residential Housing Units, Borough Facilities, and Small Commercial Establishments. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Miller; motion carried unanimously.

- 5) Motion to authorize the purchase of a replacement Snow Plow and Tailgate Salt Spreader for the Ford F-650 Dump Truck at a cost not to exceed \$8,782 from US Municipal. Motion was made by Mr. Pucci, seconded by Mr. McCoy; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- 6) Motion to approve and grant a curb cut permit at 819 16<sup>th</sup> Street (note: application has been reviewed and approved by the Police Department and Borough Engineer, and the property has been posted since July 20, 2015.) Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mr. McCoy; motion carried unanimously.

- 7) Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1274, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, County of Beaver, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacting into law restrictions and penalties for the depositing of substances on the streets of the Borough of Ambridge. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mrs. Miller; a roll call vote taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- 8) Consider action to authorize the advertisement and public display of Ordinance No. 1275, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, County of Beaver, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Ambridge Borough Code of Ordinances, Chapter 290, entitled "Vehicles and Traffic," Article II, entitled "Traffic Regulations," Section 290-15, entitled "Intersections where turn prohibited on red signal," so as to establish certain intersections that prohibit drivers from turning right on a steady red traffic signal during certain hours. President Mikulich, with the consent of the other members of Council, recommended that before any action is taken the Borough Manager is to contact PENNDOT for their approval and recommendation relative to the signals on Route 989. No action was taken.
- 9) Motion to approve and grant a dedicated on-street handicapped parking space in front of 271 15<sup>th</sup> Street as recommended by the Ambridge Police Department. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; motion carried unanimously.
- 10) Motion to authorize the testing for Part-Time Police Officers. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; motion carried unanimously.
- 11) Motion to authorize the hiring of Mr. Kevin G. O'Keefe as a School Crossing Guard. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli, a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- 12) Motion to authorize the hiring of Ms. Dixie Hosak as a School Crossing Guard, pending the clear and favorable results of a comprehensive background investigation. Motion was made by Mr. Pucci, seconded by Mr. McCoy; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- 13) Motion to increase the daily wage of the Ambridge School Crossing Guards from \$34 per day to \$40 per day. Motion was made by Mr. Pucci, seconded by Mrs. Miller, a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- 14) Motion to request the Ambridge Area School District to consider taking over full operation and responsibility of the Ambridge School Guards. Motion was made by Mr. Pucci, seconded by Mr. McCoy; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	Y
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- 15) Motion to authorize the Beaver County Human Society to place a banner on the fence of the H&H Sports-plex on 11<sup>th</sup> Street, advertising their upcoming Tails on the Trails Pet walk and Haunted House fundraisers. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Miller; motion carried unanimously.

- 16) Motion to authorize the Ambridge Regional Chamber of Commerce to use PJ Caul Park on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> for their Autumn in the Park event. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mrs. Miller; motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Miller reported that this event is being coordinated by the Ambridge REGIONAL Chamber of Commerce and not the Ambridge AREA Chamber of Commerce. This event is being held in concert with the Autumn event that is happening that weekend at Old Economy Village and is not the annual Borough Fall Festival that is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

17) Discussion:

- a. *Ambridge Municipal Authority – Ongoing Sanitary Sewer Improvement Projects.* Engineer Lemmon stated that Mr. Harry Deitzer, NIRA Construction Inspector for the project, has submitted a written update to Council regarding the ongoing project and that no additional roads are requested for closure this month.
- b. *Speed Limits on Borough Streets* – President Mikulich reported that currently not all of the Borough streets have speed limits that are codified. He stated that many years ago it was discussed establishing a speed limit of 25 MPH on all streets with alleys having a speed limit of 15 MPH. Mrs. Miller requested that Henrici Street be posted at 15 MPH.

Mr. Pucci stated that it should be uniform, with all streets having one speed limit. Mrs. Caldarelli requested that the current speed limit on Duss Avenue be enforced. President Mikulich advised Council that members should submit their speed limit recommendations to the Borough Manager in advance of next month's meeting so that they can be reviewed and considered for a draft Ordinance.

- **Committee Reports**

- **Administration and Finance:** Mrs. Drewnowski reported that the Committee met on August 7, 2015, those present included herself and the Borough Manager. She stated that they discussed the following:
  - Budget to Actual Review
  - Improvements made to the Borough's bookkeeping
  - Borough is still waiting on the 2016 Pension MMO calculations.
  - 2016 Debt Payments will be approximately \$660,000.00
  - 2016 Budget Process was explained and it was reported that the Manager has begun preparing the 2016 Budget.

- Tax Abatement Ordinance – it was discussed that the Borough already has a program on the books from 1990. It was suggested that to keep the program current the eligible zone should be amended.

Mrs. Drewnowski made a motion to amend the eligibility zone to participate in the Ambridge LERTA / Tax Abatement Program, seconded by Mr. McCoy; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Y	Mrs. Miller	Y
Mrs. Caldarelli	Y	Mr. Pucci	No
Mrs. Drewnowski	Y	Mr. Mikulich	Y
Mr. McCoy	Y	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion Passes			

- **Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported that the Public Works Department has been active cleaning up the Borough Parking Lots and line painting throughout the community. She also reported that the property owner at the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and Merchant Street that has outstanding property maintenance violations was fined by the District Judge \$9,300. It was also reported that notice was sent to the property owner at 341 Park Road to cease operations of a junk yard that is not a permitted use within that zoning district. Lastly, Mrs. Caldarelli reported that the Code Officer is increasing enforcement of the Property Maintenance Code on Merchant Street per the recommendations of the Downtown Development Committee.

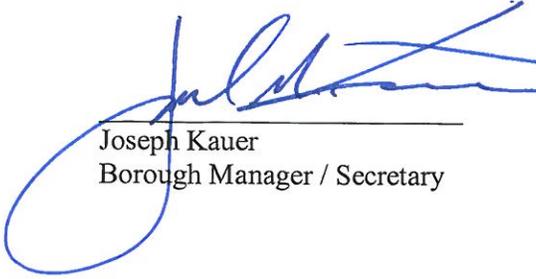
Mrs. Drewnowski thanked Judge Haladio for his recent action to affirm and issue a ruling against the property owner at 12<sup>th</sup> and Merchant Streets.

President Mikulich thanked the members of the Public Works Department for their recent efforts to paint all of the crosswalks, curbs, parking stalls and stop bars throughout the Borough. Much of the work was completed over the mid-night hours, and the work was done without any accrued overtime costs as the crew switched their scheduled around.

- **Public Safety:** Mr. Pucci reported that Civil Service Testing took place this past Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. He also reported that he will work with the Manager to get with PENNDOT to get the No Turn on Red recommendations reviewed and studied.
- **Public Works:** No report.
- **Parks:** Mrs. Miller reported that the Fall Festival is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11AM to 6PM in PJ Caul Park. She stated that this year there will be a parade thanks to the efforts of Felicia Mycik. It was reported that we are still looking for additional vendors, and she thanked Pat Ascoto for lining up all of the bands – all of whom are donating their time and talents that day. Lastly, Mrs. Miller congratulated Mr. Mikulich on his recent retirement from the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.
- **Engineer's Report:** Engineer Lemon introduced Chris Suehr to the Borough Council. The Engineer reported that he is planning to retire in January 2016 and is recommending Mr. Suehr to be his replacement. He stated that Engineer Sueher has been working with him at NIRA, working on projects in Ambridge since 1996. The Engineer reported that the PIB Inlet project is planned to start the last week of August and that the PIB Road Project is currently out to bid with a planned bid opening of September 1<sup>st</sup>. He stated that the project was bid at the 2016 Road Program, however it allows the contractor to do work this fall if it can be accommodated, otherwise it would be completed next spring.
- **Other Unfinished Business – None.**
- **Official Reports**
  1. **Motion to accept the Official Reports;** motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mrs. Miller; motion carried unanimously.
- **Adjournment –**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 7:55PM

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Joseph Kauer  
Borough Manager / Secretary

