BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE
MINUTES
Council Meeting: December 9, 2014
Ambridge Municipal Complex

I. Executive Session – Personnel Matters

II. The December 9, 2014 meeting of Ambridge Borough Council was called to order at 7:00PM within the Council Chambers of the Ambridge Municipal Complex.

III. Roll Call:

Present: Mr. Cafarelli,
Mrs. Caldarelli
Mrs. Drewnowski
Mr. McCoy
President Mikulich
Vice President Iorfio- Miller
Mr. Pucci

Absent: Mayor D'Ambrosio

Also Present: Borough Manager Kauer, Police Lt. Jameson, Fire Chief Drewnowski, Solicitor Start and Engineer Lemmon

IV. Invocation given by Ms. Barbara Cost of the Trinity Episcopal Church.

Mr. Mikulich thanked the Borough Electrician, Councilwoman Miller, the Fire Chief and everyone else who helped decorate the Gazebo and PJ Caul Park.

V. Pledge of Allegiance

VI. Citizen's Participation On/Off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)

1. **Mr. Ross McCoy, 1700 Duss Avenue,** expressed his gratitude to the Ambridge Police Department with the speedy apprehension of the suspect who stabbed two people on Merchant Street in November. He also expressed a desire to Council to consider having increased inspection services on site of street openings to ensure that restoration work is to the standards of the Ambridge Code of Ordinances and our Borough specifications.

VII. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

1. November 10, 2014 Council Meeting

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

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

Motion Carried.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

General Fund Analysis

$692,614.32	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of:	-December 9, 2014 -4:00 pm
$29,851.92	All Outstanding Checks as of:	-December 9, 2014 -4:00 pm
$662,762.40	**Available Balance as of:**	**-December 9, 2014 -4:00 pm**

Treasurer's General Fund Summary:	***Totals are as follows:***		
	Deposits:		**$134,636.31**
	Debits:		**$267,399.76**
	-which include the following:		
	66 Checks & Misc. Debits	*$114,412.27*	
	2 Payroll (s)	*$152,987.49*	

Other Fund Balances as of February 28, 2012 4:00 pm	
$135,555.16	**Grants/Special Funds**
$149,099.70	**Liquid Fuels Fund**
$55,618.13	**Escrow Disbursement Account**
$33,802.70	**Recreation Fund**
$334,402.74	**Sinking Fund (FEMA Grant)**
$708,478.43	***Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)***

IX. Borough Bills and Expenses

Motion to Pay the Bills was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mr. McCoy.

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion Carried unanimously.

X. New Business - Items for Discussion:

1. **Motion to authorize the advertisement and public display of the proposed 2015 Municipal Budget**. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mrs. Miller, a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Motion to authorize advertisement of Ordinance No. 1267,** an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, County of Beaver, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, levying a tax for the year 2015 of thirty-four and one-half mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of taxable property, setting discounts and penalties on collections. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mrs. Miller, a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Motion to authorize advertisement of Ordinance No. 1268,** an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, County of Beaver, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for collection of taxes by the locally elected tax collector between the period of January 15, 2015 and April 15, 2015 in accordance with the provisions of Act 169 of 1998 and its amendments. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Motion to authorize having a special meeting on December 23, 2014**, 12:30PM for the purposes of the adoption of the 2015 Municipal Budget, Ordinance No.'s 1267 and 1268, and other general business items. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Pucci; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Motion to authorize the appropriate Borough Officials to execute an agreement by and between the Borough of Ambridge and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,** Department of Transportation relative to the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank Loan for the 2015 Road Reconstruction Program. Motion was made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; Mrs. Drewnowski commented that by approval of the loan documents, the list of roads to be paved is not currently approved and will need to be subsequently discussed and approved by Council. A roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Motion to authorize the Solicitor to prepare an Ordinance to comply with the Local Government Unit Debt Act** in regards to the 2015 Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank Loan, and further authorizing the assistance of an outside Bond Counsel per the recommendation of the Solicitor. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Motion to accept Option Year 1 of the 2012 Ambridge Borough Waste Hauling Contract with Joseph Brunner, Inc.** Mr. Mikulich reported that Option Year 1 extends the current trash collection contract for one year, keeping the contract at 2014 values. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Miller; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-2,** a Resolution of the Borough of Ambridge naming Joseph Kauer as the Pension Plan Administrator, and subsequently authorizing Mr. Kauer to serve as the Borough's principal agent with MML Investors Services. Motion was made by Mr. Pucci, seconded by Mrs. Miller; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-3,** a Resolution of the Governing Board of the Borough of Ambridge, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, authorizing, empowering and directing the proper officers of the Governing Board to appoint a liaison (Joseph Kauer) between it and Berkheimer, the duly appointed collector of local taxes for the District, for the express purpose of sharing confidential tax information with the district for official purposes. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

10. **Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1266,** an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, County of Beaver, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania amending the Ambridge Borough Code of Ordinances, Article IV, Chapter 290, Section 34, entitled "Parking Prohibited at all times in certain locations," so as to prohibit parking or staging at all times on both sides of New Economy Business Park Drive from Merchant Street to Eleventh Street.
Motion was made by Mr. Pucci, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

11. **Motion to grant a Curb Cut Permit at 648 Duss Avenue per application dated 30 October 2014**, as reviewed by the Borough Engineer and Police Chief. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Pucci; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

XI. Committee Reports

i) **Administration and Finance:** Mrs. Drewnowski reported that the Committee met on December 4th, in attendance was Mrs. Caldarelli, Manager Kauer and Marilyn Sheleheda. It was reported that the Committee discussed possibly reducing the fees for Mechanical Amusement Devices, providing for a yearly Solicitation Fee and increasing the quarterly trash collection fees to cover actual costs. The Committee also discussed creating a Business Recognition Program to recognize long-time Ambridge Businesses.

ii) **Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported that the County Redevelopment Department is going to assist with the funding of the demolition of the fire damaged property at 537 Merchant Street, work is to begin shortly. She also reported that the County is also going to be assisting with the demolition of 621 Olive and 339 Locust in 2015. Mrs. Cladarelli informed the audience that all of the members of Council and Mayor have signed a letter of support seeking Aldi's to consider reuse of the 11th Street Bottom Dollar Grocery Store as another Grocery Store once the store closes on December 31st. Lastly, she reported that a Summary Appeals Hearing is scheduled for December 11th regarding the Park Road former American Bridge Building demolition project. She stated that with the guidance of the Solicitor's office, the Fire Chief and Code Enforcement Officer are to attend the hearing on the Borough's behalf.

iii) **Public Safety:** Mr. Pucci thanked the Borough Electrician for adding the additional lighting to the front of the Borough Building.

iv) **Public Works:** Mr. Cafarelli reported that the Committee met on November 25, present included himself, Mr. Pucci, Mr. McCoy, Public Works Foreman Ted Eberhardt, and Marilyn Sheleheda. He stated that the Committee discussed repairing and improving the parking meters on Merchant Street and hiring a fourth laborer. He also reported that the new Public Works pickup truck is in and in–service. Mr. Cafarelli also explained the repairs that were conducted to the street-sweeper. Lastly, he reported that leaf collection is still on-going; however, the DPW is only collected leafs now if they are bagged.

v) **Parks:** Mrs. Miller reported that she spent $1,910.02 of the $2,700 Christmas Decoration budget. She stated that much of that cost was born to the new banners on Merchant Street. She thanked everyone for hanging the wreaths and new banners. In regards to Christmas, she reported that Christmas on Merchant and Christmas in the Village is on Saturday, December 13th, parade is Saturday at 11AM. She asked everyone to attend. Lastly, she reported that construction of the new football practice field at Walter Panek Park is now complete and that the Engineer is working on advancing with property acquisition for the new Merchant Street Park.

Motion to authorize Free Metered Parking in the Merchant Street Business District from December 9, 2014 through January 8, 2015. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

XII. Other Unfinished Business

Mr. Mikulich invited the public to attend the Borough's annual Christmas Party and Meet and Greet for the new Borough Manager on December 23rd, from 1 to 4 at the Fire Station. He stated that the Council is to meet at 12:30 that day before the party to take action on adopting the 2015 Budget. Lastly, he is proud to report that 2015 will be the 11th year without a tax increase in Ambridge and that all of the staff has done a great job at keeping costs down in 2014.

Mr. William Grundza, Broker of Record, Investors Commercial Realty Group, approached Council with a desire to develop a 7,500SF retail development on Merchant Street and is interested in purchasing the public parking lot between 7th and 8th Streets. The Solicitor advised Mr. Grunzda that any sale of municipal property requires an appraisal to be completed and it is then applicable to sale via sealed bid if Council desires to dispose of the property.

Mr. Mikulich stated that Council is working actively with State Representative Robert Matzie to find a new Grocery Store to occupy the 11th Street Bottom Dollar Grocery Store that is to close at the end of 2014.

Mr. McCoy wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

XIII. Official Reports

1. **Motion to accept the Official Reports**; motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Pucci; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mr. Pucci	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. McCoy	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Engineers Report:** Engineer Lemon reviewed his submitted written report to Council.

XIV. Adjournment –

Mr. Mikulich wished everyone a Merry Christmas on the behalf of Council, Mayor and Staff. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mrs. Miller; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 7:50PM

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary

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