

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE
MINUTES
Council Meeting: April 11, 2017
Ambridge Borough Building



- **Executive Session – Personnel and Legal Matters**
- **The April 11, 2017 meeting of Ambridge Borough Council was called to order at 7:00PM within Council Chambers of the Ambridge Borough Building, 600 11th Street.**

- **Roll Call:**

Present:

Mr. Cafarelli
Mrs. Caldarelli
Mrs. Drewnowski
Mr. Dunn
Mr. McCoy
Mrs. Miller
Mr. Mikulich
Mayor D' Ambrosio

Also Present: Borough Manager Kauer, Solicitor Start, Chief Gottschalk, Chief Mann, and Dan Jovanovich representing the Borough Engineer

Absent: None.

- **Invocation** – the invocation was conducted by Mrs. Barb Costa from the Trinity School for Ministry.

- **Pledge of Allegiance**

- **Presentations**

- **Citizen's Participation On/Off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)**

Mr. Larry Nobile, 605 Pine Street, presented an issue to the Borough Council and Mayor of a neighbor who has been burning in their backyard and stockpiling wood pallets in their yard for the fires. He stated that he has called the police and no action was ever taken. He stated that he is concerned that the burning is close to his property and trees and could potentially cause damage and loss. Mr. Mikulich asked for the Fire Chief to investigate this matter and notify the home owner to stop burning. Mr. Cafarelli questioned why the wood pallets are even there, they should be removed by order of the Code Enforcement Officer. He stated that the person burning should be given a warning and then cited if they burn again

Mr. Don Mrozski, 1204 Church Street, stated that he has concerns with the Ambridge Police Department regarding two recent issues that have occurred at his property on Church Street. He stated that someone over a year ago broke into his home and stole copper piping and fixtures. He stated that the Police Department did not follow up with him or question his neighbors regarding the incident. Recently, he stated that a trespasser was sleeping on his front porch and was intoxicated. He again called 9-1-1 for the Police Department; the Police removed the man from his property and again never followed up with him if charges were pressed against the trespasser. He stated that he doesn't believe charges were ever pressed.

Mayor D' Ambrosio stated that he only received notice of this complaint this afternoon. He stated to Mr. Mrozski that he wished that he called him earlier with his concerns versus waiting over a year.

Chief Mann stated that he pulled the reports for both of the incidents today, and they occurred over a year and a half ago. He stated that Sgt. Sovich was the reporting officer for both calls and is on shift tonight and could answer concerns about the incidents. The Chief also stated that the man who was trespassing is currently in the Beaver County Jail. The Mayor stated that he welcomes the opportunity to meet to discuss the issue and concerns.

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

March 14, Council Meeting

Mrs. Caldarelli made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

- **Treasurer's Report:**

Mr. Mikulich reviewed the Treasurer's Report with Borough Council:

Treasurer's Report
April 11, 2017

Marilyn Sheleheda - Treasurer

General Fund Analysis

\$684,824.58	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of: -April 11, 2017 -4:00 pm
\$21,896.54	All Outstanding Checks as of: -April 11, 2017 -4:00 pm
\$662,928.04	Available Balance as of: -April 11, 2017 -4:00 pm

General Fund Summary:	Totals are as follows:	
	Deposits:	\$367,170.16
	Debits:	\$295,431.80
	-which include the following:	
	73 Checks	\$148,997.90
2 Payroll (s)	\$146,433.90	

Other Fund Balances as of April 11, 2017 4:00 pm	
\$3,220.73	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$63,624.99	Grants/Special Funds
\$223,143.18	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$48,368.77	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$29,440.74	Recreation Fund
\$654.92	Sinking Fund
\$23,560.95	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-WesBanco
\$2,401,957.43	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-PLGIT Account
\$7,884.20	Ambridge Borough Drug Investigation Fund
\$2,801,855.91	Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)

Motion to acknowledge receipt of the Borough Treasurer's Report was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mrs. Miller; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

- Borough Bills and Expenses**

Motion to Pay the Bills (General Fund Unpaid: \$162,709.65 / Paid: \$51,935.69; 2016 Capital Project Bond Fund Unpaid: \$28,876.46; Recreation Fund Unpaid: \$532.91) was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Miller; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

- New Business - Items for Discussion:**

- Motion to authorize All About Concrete to perform concrete road-slab and sidewalk restoration for sites where the Public Works Department completed storm sewer repairs at a cost not to exceed \$5,300. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli; Mr. Cafarelli stated that the quote is a fair price for the work proposed. A roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

- Motion to accept the resignation of Kathleen Sabol from the Ambridge Zoning Hearing Board. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Mikulich requested a letter be sent to Mrs. Sabol thanking her for her service.

- Motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a new metal roof at 309 14th Street with the color and seam style approved by the Ambridge Historical Architectural Review Board. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. Dunn; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

4. Motion to accept the donation of Parcel No. 12-0050600-002-1 (vacant lot at the corner of Merchant Street and Henning Street) from New Economy Business Park for the purposes of constructing a playground at this site. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Mikulich thanked Mrs. Miller for staying committed to see this land donation for a future park become possible.

Mrs. Miller stated that she has been on the Parks and Recreation Committee for a long time, advancing many programs including new community events and improvements to the parks. She stated that growing up in Ambridge there was a playground in the Fourth Ward and when the Old Economy Visitor's Center was built, the playground was removed. She stated that the Recreation Committee is finalizing plans to make the remaining repairs and improvements to our current parks before this new park at Henning Street is built. She stated that the park will be built with grants and funds raised by the Recreation Committee. Mrs. Miller also stated that once this park is built, it will be fenced in to protect the children from vehicles on Merchant Street.

Mrs. Caldarelli applauded Mrs. Miller for getting this land donated for a new park. She suggested the Recreation Committee to consider possible naming rates of the new park to help build it.

5. Consider action to adopt Resolution No. 2017-2, a Resolution of the Borough of Ambridge authorizing the submission of a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant to make improvements to 8th Street Park and Walter Panek Park. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dunn. Manager Kauer explained that the grant will fund 50% of the costs to reconstruct the basketball courts at Walter Panek Park and at 8th Street Park it will upgrade playground equipment, construct a picnic shelter and ADA accessibility improvements. A roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

6. Motion authorize Advanced Auto Parts to close Merchant Street between 8th and 14th Streets and use PJ Caul Park on May 20, 2017 from 11AM to 8PM for a car cruise that will benefit the It's About the Warrior Foundation. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

7. Motion to authorize the Ambridge Rotary Club to conduct Concerts in the Park at PJ Caul Park on Sunday afternoons in July and August, with dates still needing to be finalized. Motion was made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

8. Motion to authorize entering into agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry to participate in their Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Program that will provide temporary employees to assist with public works activities and clerical work. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; Manager Kauer explained that this program would make available to the Borough staffing for the office and public works that has wages paid 100% by the state with the Borough responsible for social security, Medicare and workers compensation costs. The State would hire for the positions from a list of eligible clients who participate in the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. A roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

9. Motion to direct the Ambridge Civil Service Commission to test and create eligibility lists for the position of Police Sergeant. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

10. Motion to authorize the Ambridge Rotary Club the use of PJ Caul Park on July 15th for the Community Car Cruise and Festival and subsequently close Merchant Street between 8th and 14th Streets for the event. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

11. Motion to authorize the Ambridge Eagles Club to close Fourth Street between Park Road and Maplewood Avenue on June 25th for their "Beat of Life" fundraiser. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

- **Committee Reports**

- **Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported the following:
 - (1) Since the last Council Meeting, the Fire Department sent out 95 Ordinance Violation Notices for quality of life issues (Trash, Debris on Porches, Expired Vehicles, Property Maintenance)
 - (2) One Commercial Occupancy Permit was issued for the 6th new business since January - 1307 Merchant Street, Rivertown Antiques - their Grand Opening will be May 6th.
 - (3) 2017/18 Rental Registrations were finalized and mailed out to landlords the last week of March - responses are coming in, inspections have been started.
 - (4) Commercial Fire Inspections are continuing - the Fire Chief is currently inspecting the bars and eateries.
 - (5) HARB Board met on 4/4 to review an application for 309 14th Street to replace the roof on a historic Harmonist building.
- **Public Safety:** Mrs. Drewnowski reported that the Committee Met on April 6th, present included: Chief Mann, Mayor D'Ambrosio, Bob Dunn, Joe Kauer, herself, Chief Gottschalk received a fire call and had to leave, and Lorianne Burgess from the Crime Watch.

She stated that Ms. Burgess asked what Crime Watch can do to help the Police Department, Fire Department and Code Enforcement. She stated that they are going to begin fundraising.

Suggestions from Chief Mann:

1. AED (Automated External Defibrillator) for the police Department
2. Less than Lethal Shotguns-some of the department's older shotguns would be converted to Less than Lethal shotguns.

Less-Lethal weapons are weapons or any devices that are intended to be less likely to kill a living target than are traditional weapons. Such weapons are also termed as non-lethal weapons, less-than-lethal weapons, non-deadly weapons, compliance weapons, or pain-inducing weapons. Non-lethal weapons may be used in circumstances where conventional weapons are restricted or lethal force is prohibited or undesirable.

Less-Lethal weapons are commonly used by police forces in self-defense, riot control, prisoner control, crowd control, and refugee control.

"Less lethal weapon" means any device that is designed to or that has been converted to expel or propel less lethal ammunition by any action, mechanism, or process for the purpose of incapacitating, immobilizing, or stunning a human being through the infliction of any less than lethal impairment of physical condition, function, or senses, including physical pain or discomfort.

Ms. Burgess asked if the Borough has a Tip Line, which we do not at this time.

Mrs. Drewnowski suggested that Ms. Burgess submit an article for the next edition of the Borough Newsletter to let everyone know that Crime Watch is active and looking for participants.

Chief Mann reported the new car will be done soon; there was a defect in the paint and a fender had to be repainted. Manager Kauer initiated the discussion of installing a kennel for stray dogs beside the police station. This would be a holding pen until they can be picked up by the Humane Society. This is on the agenda as the concrete work to pour a concrete slab.

She stated that a discussion ensued about the possibility of adjusting our ordinance to prohibit dump trucks and flatbed trucks that are under the weight limit from parking on the street and using them for storage. Will be referred to the solicitor for further research. Chief Mann brought up the subject of impounding overweight trucks until the fines are paid. He will investigate further what has to be done and if this is possible.

Manager Kauer gave a brief update on the fire department since Chief Gottschalk had to respond to a fire call:

The truck purchased from Fair Oaks Fire Department is now detailed and our firefighters did a great job mounting all the equipment on it. It is now in service.

The truck purchased from Brindlee Mountain had new tires and brakes installed courtesy of Brindlee Mountain and is now in service.

The Aerial delivery is delayed, possibly because of the upcoming Easter holiday, but Chief Gottschalk wants to make sure everything is alright with it before it gets here, hopefully next week.

- **Public Works:** Mr. Cafarelli reported on the following:
 - Ted Eberhardt and Tim Hillard attended a Tree Tender Class on March 10th – they learned how to prune and care for street trees.
 - Crew trimmed the street trees along Merchant Street in the Historic District
 - Ongoing maintenance has been dedicated to filling pot-holes and repairs to multiple alleys.
 - Park Maintenance:
 - Crew added new playground mulch under all of the playground equipment at 8th Street and Panek Parks
 - Reseeded the Dog Park and areas of the football practice field – Dog Park is currently closed until May for grass to grow.
 - They refurbished the American Bridge Historical Marker that is at the corner of 8th St. and Route 65.
 - Electrician is still working on the new lights at the H&H Basketball Courts – work should be done by the first week of May.
 - Electrician upgraded the lights within the DPW Garage to LEDs – they are much brighter and will save energy within the garage.
 - Crew has been busy with multiple snow call-outs in March; treating streets and public sidewalks.
 - Equipment Maintenance:
 - Truck 1 (new F-550 Dump Truck) – truck was lettered and is now in service.
 - Street sweeper has been at A&H Equipment – needed the upper gear box rebuilt, seals replaced on the side broom motor and was serviced for the season. Work is estimated at \$8,000.
 - Sign maintenance is on-going, replacing missing signs and repairing damaged locations.
 - Foreman responded, marked and reported multiple PA-One Call requests.
- **Parks:** Mrs. Miller reported that the Committee met today, present included Mrs. Drewnowski, Mr. Dunn, Joe Kauer and herself. She reported that the playgrounds have been recently mulched, trees are on scheduled to be trimmed within 8th Street Park this week and that the DCNR Grant to improve both 8th Street and Panek Parks is to be submitted tomorrow by the Borough Manager.

Mrs. Miller also reported that new swing seats have been ordered and will be replaced at all of the parks.

- **Engineer's Report:** Engineer Jovanovich stated that Engineer Suehr submitted his monthly report and that he can answer any questions.

Mr. Mikulich stated that he is not satisfied with Columbia Gas Company recently digging up Kennedy Drive after it has just been repaved. He stated that they have made multiple openings on our new streets and have known about the gas leaks and our intent to pave these streets for a long time now and they shouldn't be digging up these new streets.

Solicitor Start suggested that the Engineer, Manager and he meet to discuss possibly updating our street opening ordinance to review the policy to see if any amendments could be made to prohibit the utility companies from opening up the new streets in the future.

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

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

- **Other Unfinished Business**

None.

- **Adjournment –**

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

Respectfully submitted:



Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary