

# BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE

## MINUTES

Council Meeting: July 11, 2017

Ambridge Borough Building



- **Executive Session – Personnel and Legal Matters**
- **The July 11, 2017 meeting of Ambridge Borough Council was called to order at 7:00PM within Council Chambers of the Ambridge Borough Building, 600 11<sup>th</sup> Street.**
- **Roll Call:**  
Present:
  - Mr. Cafarelli
  - Mrs. Caldarelli
  - Mrs. Drewnowski
  - Mr. Dunn
  - Mr. Mikulich
  - Mayor D'Ambrosio
- Also Present: Borough Manager Kauer, Solicitor Start, Chief Mann, Chief Gottschalk, and Engineer Suehr
- Absent: Mr. McCoy and Mrs. Miller
- **Invocation** – the invocation was conducted by Rev. Rick Thornhill from the New Hope Community Church.
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Presentations**  
On behalf of Borough Council and Mayor, Mr. Mikulich presented Dennis and Rose Mary Lopic with a proclamation for their efforts to preserve Harmonist Buildings within Ambridge and for winning the 2016-17 Renovation Inspiration Contest Award.
- **Citizen's Participation On/Off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)**
  1. **Mrs. Kathy McCombie, 638 Maplewood Avenue**, expressed concerns to Council about motorists driving the wrong way on Lower Alley and motorists speeding on Maplewood Avenue. She requested that Maplewood Avenue have a 15 MPH speed limit. She also stated that one-way signs are missing on Lower Alley at multiple intersections.
  2. **Pastor Rick Thornhill, New Hope Church – Beaver Road**, commended the Ambridge Police Department for addressing recent drug activity in the neighborhood. He thanked the officers for being so attentive and aggressive to take action.
  3. **Mrs. Marlene Verygood, 652 Melrose Avenue**, questioned if proposed Ordinance No. 1295 included prohibiting tractor trailers from parking on the street. Mr. Mikulich informed her that such regulations are already in place.
  4. **Mr. Doug McCombie, 638 Maplewood Avenue**, expressed concerns to Council to again lower the speed limit on Maplewood Avenue to 15 MPH. He stated that he is concerned about children playing in the street with speeding motorists. Solicitor Start stated that there is a state statute that will only allow 15 MPH Speed Limits in school zones.

5. **Mr. Stanley Williamson, 70 15<sup>th</sup> Street**, expressed his desire for Council to consider paving Beech Alley. Mr. Mikulich stated that Beech Alley is not in bad shape, even though it is made of stone. He stated that Old Economy's Maintenance Crew routinely keeps up on this alley for the Borough.
6. **Mr. Dennis Lopic, Church and 15<sup>th</sup> Streets**, informed Council that recently he donated a half ton of gravel to dress up Beech Alley; he stated that Old Economy's Maintenance Crew spread out the new stone.

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**June 13, 2017, Council Meeting**

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

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mr. McCoy	Absent
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Absent
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  
(July 11, 2017)**

Marilyn Shelehedra - Treasurer

<b>General Fund Analysis</b>
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\$980,092.09	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of: -(July 11, 2017) -4:00 pm
\$40,566.77	All Outstanding Checks as of: -(July 11, 2017) -4:00 pm
<b>\$939,525.32</b>	<b>Available Balance as of: -(July 11, 2017) -4:00 pm</b>

<i>Totals are as follows:</i>	
<b>General Fund Summary:</b>	Deposits: <span style="float: right;"><b>\$217,643.06</b></span>
	Debits: <span style="float: right;"><b>\$240,522.93</b></span>
	-which include the following:
	79 Checks <span style="float: right;">\$98,842.51</span>
	2 Payroll (s) <span style="float: right;">\$141,680.42</span>

Other Fund Balances as of (July 11, 2017) 4:00 pm	
\$4,476.93	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$63,640.85	Grants/Special Funds
\$233,671.19	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$47,955.81	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$31,120.29	Recreation Fund
\$336,232.49	Sinking Fund
\$22,695.50	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-WesBanco
\$1,868,854.08	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-PLGIT Account
\$9,369.06	Ambridge Borough Drug Investigation Fund
<b>\$2,618,016.20</b>	<b>Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)</b>

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

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mr. McCoy	Absent
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Absent
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: \$133,039.57 / Paid: \$33,285.22; 2016 Capital Project Bond Fund Unpaid: \$21,488.96) was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. Dunn; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

- New Business - Items for Discussion:**

- Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1295, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, amending the Ambridge Borough Code of Ordinances, Article IV, Chapter 290, Section 36.1, entitled "Parking Prohibited by Type of Vehicle" so as to prohibit parking of dump trucks, tow trucks and flatbed vehicles. Mr. Cafarelli questioned if this Ordinance included trailers? Mr. Mikulich stated that our current regulations already include prohibiting trailers. 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	Absent
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Absent
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried.

- Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1296, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, amending the Ambridge Borough Code of Ordinances, Article II, Chapter 265, Sections 3-14, entitled "Street Opening and Excavations." Motion was made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; Manager Kauer explained that this Ordinance is a rewrite of our current street opening policy and now includes degradation fees and governs street openings of new roadways. Mr. Mikulich thanked the Solicitor, Engineer and Manager for their efforts to prepare this new Ordinance. A roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

- Motion to authorize entering into agreement by and between the Borough of Ambridge and Job Training of Beaver County to participate in their work site program that will supply staff to assist with Public Works duties with all wages and costs paid for by Job Training of Beaver County. Motion was made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

4. Motion to authorize execution of an agreement by and between the Borough of Ambridge and the Ambridge Area School District for the School Resource Officer Program for the 2017-18 School Year. 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	Absent
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Absent
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried.

5. Motion to appoint Mr. Nicholas Schroeder to the Ambridge Planning Commission with a term that is to expire December 31, 2020. 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	Absent
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Absent
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried.

Mr. Schroeder introduced himself to the audience and thanked Council for the appointment.

6. Motion to authorize the Ambridge Regional Chamber of Commerce to use PJ Caul Park on Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00AM to 5:00PM for their Antiques and Art in the Park event. Motion was made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; a roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

7. Motion to authorize the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) to submit to PENNDOT the traffic signal removal study for the removal of the traffic signal at the intersection at Merchant St., Duss Avenue and Third Street. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli; the Borough Manager explained that a traffic study was done by the SPC and this signal does not meet any of the necessary warrants to have a traffic signal at this location. A recommendation was made in the study that this be replaced by an all-way stop sign intersection. A roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

8. Motion to authorize the submission of a grant application to Kaboom that would fund and construct a playground at the corner of Henning and Merchant Streets. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. Dunn; Manager Kauer explained that this grant would fund the construction of a playground at the new park lot, anticipated cash match for this grant is \$8,500. A roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion carried.

- Committee Reports**

- Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported that multiple permits were issued this past month and that the firefighters have sent out many notices for high grass.
  - Public Safety:** Mrs. Drewnowski reported that Captain Gorecki was successful in obtaining a \$1,200 grant from FM Global Insurance Company for fire prevention supplies. She also stated that all of the new fire equipment and apparatus that was purchased with the 2016 bond is in and in-service.
  - Public Works:** Mr. Cafarelli reported the following:
    - Grass Cutting of Borough Properties, Lots, Right of Ways and Abandoned Properties are currently underway.
    - Installed Gabion Baskets / Mattress and restored the banks of French Point Creek behind 995 Hazel Avenue.
    - Rebuilt the catch-basin and storm sewer pipe at the corner of Pugar Place and Route 65.
    - Rebuilt water shut off vault in PJ Caul Park.
    - Crew prepared and cleaned up Panek Park for and after the Independence Day Fireworks Event.
    - Cut down / removed downed tree on Kennedy Drive on June 26<sup>th</sup>.
    - Street sweeping continues biweekly.
    - Ongoing maintenance has been dedicated to filling pot-holes and repairs to multiple alleys.
    - State OVR Employment Program Help: two guys are now assisting and working on the Road Crew as part of the OVR program. Both guys started June 13<sup>th</sup>, and will work a minimum of three months. Their wages are 100% reimbursed by the State.
    - Equipment Maintenance:
      - Truck 1 – was at Barrel Ford for check engine light on – warrant work.
      - Tractor was at Town and Country for small engine repair.
      - Street-sweeper was repaired by A&H Equipment for crack in gear housing – A&H warrantied the repair.
    - Sign maintenance is on-going, replacing missing signs and repairing damaged locations.
    - Foreman responded, marked and reported multiple PA-One Call requests.

Mrs. Caldarelli thanked the Ambridge Public Works Department for getting the park ready and cleaning up after Independence Day Fireworks.

Mrs. Drewnowski recognized the Ambridge Fireworks Committee and Mrs. Marilyn Sheleheda for their efforts to make the Independence Day fireworks and event in the park possible.

- Parks:** Mr. Mikulich stated that Movies in the Park at PJ Caul Park, put on by the Ambridge Crime Watch Committee is every Thursday at dusk. He also stated that the Rotary Club has Concerts in the Park, at PJ Caul Park on Sunday evenings at 2PM.
  - Engineer's Report:** Engineer Suehr reported that work on the 2017 Road Program is underway, many of the concrete aspects of the project have been completed around town. Work in Port Ambridge should start next week and last two weeks. He stated that he is still waiting on DEP approval for the permits necessary to make repairs to the Ambridge-Aliquippa Bridge storm sewer outfalls.

The Engineer also reported that the Pollution Removal Plan for the MS4 Renewal Application has been made available for public inspection and comment. He also stated that he attended the most recent streetscape design meeting and was working with the property owner of the Social Security Building on Merchant Street to coordinate the disconnect of their parking lot drains from the sanitary sewer system to discharge out into the street gutter.

- **Official Reports**

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

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Mr. McCoy	Absent
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Absent
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. Drewnowski, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Joseph Kauer  
Borough Manager / Secretary