

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE

MINUTES

Council Meeting: May 9, 2017
Ambridge Borough Building



- **Executive Session – Personnel and Legal Matters**
- **The May 9, 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, and Engineer Suehr

Absent: Chief Mann

- **Invocation** – the invocation was conducted by Mrs. Barb Costa from the Trinity School for Ministry.
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Presentations**
 - 1) **Mr. Brent Lazar, A.M. Rodriguez Associates** - made presentation to Council regarding their proposed development of a 52 unit senior citizen apartment building that they are seeking State Tax Credits to build on New Economy Drive in the area across from the County 9-1-1 Operations Center. He stated that the building would be a green / sustainable building and is focused on provided much needed senior housing in the region. Mr. Lazar stated that if they receive tax credits this year, construction could start as early as 2018 with the building completed and occupied in 2019. Mr. Mikulich asked him what can the Borough do to help support the project to see it get funding. Mr. Rodriguez replied that support letters will be needed from the community. Mrs. Caldarelli questioned what requirements will be in place for eligibility to reside within the building? Mr. Rodriguez stated that residents would have to be of 62 years of age or older and that A.M. Rodriguez will be the building owner and manager. Mrs. Drewnowski questioned are these rental or owner occupied units? Mr. Lazar replied rental units with rents based off of income and market rates.
 - 2) **Merchant and Henning Street Park Donation** – Mr. Mikulich presented a thank you letter signed by all members of Council and the Mayor to Mr. William Sutton from the New Economy Business Park for their recent donation of the land at Merchant and Henning Streets to the Borough for a new playground.
 - 3) **Mr. John Orndorff, Ohio River Trail Council** – reviewed a proposal by the Ohio River Trail Council to mark an on-the-road bike trail from Glen Osborne Borough through Ambridge on Merchant Street to 11th Street over to Route 51 via the Ambridge-Aliquippa Bridge that would be marked out with signage and sharrows painted on the road. He stated that the Trail Council will be able to provide all of the signs, posts and pavement markings to the community if our Public Works Department could install and

maintain them into the future. It was discussed that Borough Council will review the proposal and get back in touch with Mr. Orndorff.

- 4) **Purple Heart Community Recognition – Military Order of the Purple Heart** – Mr. Mikulich presented a proclamation to Mr. George Di Francesco Coppola, Administrator of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart that declares Ambridge as a “Purple Heart Community” and also names the area in front of the Honor Roll within PJ Caul Park as Purple Heart Plaza. Mr. Mikulich stated that Ambridge is the first community in Beaver County to be declared a Purple Heart Community and this effort is an attribute of Ambridge’s dedication to our Veteran community. He stated that this designation is a special tribute and a unique way to show homage and respect to the area’s Purple Heart recipients. Five other Purple Heart recipients were in attendance to accept the proclamation with Mr. Coppola.

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

- 1) **Ms. Vernice Robertson, Glenwood Drive**, questioned Borough Council on what would be required to construct a fence at her residence. She was advised that a Fence Permit will be required and that she can visit the Borough Office for the permit application and requirements.
- 2) **Mr. Stanley Waivson, unknown address**, requested the Borough Council to consider repaving the alley that is behind Route 65 that connects 12th to 13th Streets. He stated that the alley is currently stone and needs to be paved. Mr. Mikulich stated that all of the roads that are to be paved this year have already been identified and that it could be possibly considered for our 2018 road program.

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2017, 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	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
May 8, 2017**

Marilyn Sheleheda - Treasurer

General Fund Analysis

\$1,027,032.17	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of: -May 8, 2017 -4:00 pm
\$38,589.83	All Outstanding Checks as of: -May 8, 2017 -4:00 pm
\$988,442.34	Available Balance as of: -May 8, 2017 -4:00 pm

Totals are as follows:	
Deposits:	\$1,022,299.43
Debits:	\$681,500.51
-which include the following:	
75 Checks	\$527,783.26 Includes repayment to Sinking Fund
2 Payroll (s)	\$153,717.25

Other Fund Balances as of May 8, 2017 4:00 pm	
\$3,433.51	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$63,630.22	Grants/Special Funds
\$223,309.53	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$48,372.75	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$27,417.37	Recreation Fund
\$335,688.82	Sinking Fund
\$23,486.41	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-WesBanco
\$2,373,460.06	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-PLGIT Account
\$8,353.08	Ambridge Borough Drug Investigation Fund
\$3,107,151.75	Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)

Motion to acknowledge receipt of the Borough Treasurer's Report was made by Mrs. Miller, 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.

- Borough Bills and Expenses**

Motion to Pay the Bills (General Fund Unpaid: \$96,502.84 / Paid: \$379,192.27; 2016 Capital Project Bond Fund Unpaid: \$22,126.74; Recreation Fund Unpaid: \$81.77; Paid: 1,492.86) was made by Mr. McCoy, 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.

- New Business - Items for Discussion:**

- Motion to hire Christina Phlegar as an Intern through the Local Government Academy 2017 Municipal Intern Program for the purposes of completing the development and implementation of the Ambridge Business Investment Strategy Plan. Mr. Mikulich stated that 50% of Intern's wages are paid by the Local Government Academy, 25% the Ambridge Historic District Economic Development Corporation, and 25% the Borough of Ambridge. Motion 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.

- Motion to adopt the job description for the position of Fire Captain / Code Enforcement Officer. 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	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried.

- Motion to promote Firefighter David Gorecki to the position of Fire Captain / Code Enforcement Officer. 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	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	

Motion carried.

4. Motion to authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare an Ordinance that would amend Section 290-36.1 of the Ambridge Code of Ordinances (Parking Prohibited of Type of Vehicles) to also include dump trucks, tow trucks and flatbed vehicles. Mr. Mikulich stated that the request is proposed by the Public Safety Committee. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, 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.

5. Motion to authorize payment of \$10,742.08 to CIM Investment Management, Inc., for second quarter pension investment services; payable from the following pension plans: Firemen's Fund: \$2,994.89, Service Employees: \$961.42, Police Pension Plan: \$6,785.77. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mr. McCoy; 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 to authorize the disbursement of \$500 from the Ambridge Recreation Fund to the Ambridge Fireworks Committee to help offset the costs of the 2017 Independence Day Fireworks Display. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, 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.

7. Motion to authorize the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to conduct roadway paving repairs on 24th Street (AKA: Britenstein Road), from Beaver Road to the eastern Borough Line during night hours of 7:00PM to 6:00AM and also allow for an exception to local noise regulations to complete this work. Motion was made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. McCoy; 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 a grant request to the Duquesne Light Company seeking \$13,451.97 to remove 13 utility poles, 26 street lights and associated equipment on Merchant Street between 4th and 8th Streets for the Merchant Street Streetscape Project. Motion was made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. McCoy; 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.

Manager Kauer informed Council and the public that today a contractor working for PENNDOT on Route 65 struck the water line that is attached to the Ambridge-Alliquippa Bridge; causing damage to the support structure. He stated that as a precaution Route 65 north-bound will be closed until the water line and its support structure can be repaired.

• **Committee Reports**

- **Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported that the Committee met on May 3rd, in attendance was herself, Mrs. Miller, Chief Gottschalk, Asst. Chief Larrick, Capt. Gorecki, and Manager Kauer. She stated that the Committee discussed multiple high grass issues around the community, and highlighted that a Certificate of Appropriateness was issued for 309 14th Street and that a guide to Building Permits was created.
- **Public Safety:** Mrs. Drewnowski reported that the new ladder truck is on its way to Ambridge from Alabama this week. She also stated that the new Fire Department squad has been received and is now in service. Mr. Mikulich questioned how long it will take to put the new ladder truck in service as well? Chief Gottschalk reported that once it is equipped, lettered and radio installed; he predicts two weeks. Mr. Mikulich thanked the Chief, Council and Mayor for seeing through the recent equipment upgrades within the Fire Department.
- **Public Works:** Mr. Cafarelli reported on the following:
 - Grass Cutting of Borough Properties, Lots, Right of Ways and Abandoned Properties are currently underway.
 - Street Sweeping Started on April 17th and is running as scheduled.
 - 2017 Road Program Preconstruction Meeting was held on May 3rd, Borough Engineer is to update Borough Council on start date of contractor.
 - Graham's Tree Service completed the 2017 Tree Contract Work on April 28th.
 - All About Concrete completed the concrete restoration work on Hill Alley, 10th and 9th Streets.
 - Restoration Work is underway within the Historic District by Columbia Gas Contractors. They repaved Church Street (14th to 16th Streets), 15th Street and 16th Street. The remaining section of Church and Henrici will be repaved once the sidewalk work is completed within the month.
 - Crew repainted the street trash cans on Merchant Street within the Historic District.
 - Crew attended a PA One Call Marking Class on April 21st in Aliquippa.
 - Ongoing maintenance has been dedicated to filling pot-holes and repairs to multiple alleys.
 - Crew assisted Committee to Clean and Beautify Ambridge and the Shade Tree Commission with the planting of 13 new street trees in the Historic District and one new tree in PJ Caul Park.
 - Park Maintenance:
 - Electrician is still working on the new lights at the H&H Basketball Courts – work is to be complete by May 4th.
 - Equipment Maintenance:
 - Truck 1 (new F-550 Dump Truck) – was at Barrel Ford for Warranty Work.
 - 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 thanked Manager Kauer for his efforts to get the land on Merchant Street donated to the Borough for the new playground in the Historic District. She stated that this Park means a lot to her and she looks forward to seeing it developed. Mr. Mikulich stated that Mrs. Miller worked diligently to get the land donated. Mrs. Miller stated that it took close to three years for it to come to

fruition. She stated that years ago there was a playground where the present-day Visitor's Center is on 16th Street and that once this new park is built a new generation of Ambridge citizens will once again have a park in their neighborhood. She expressed her thanks to Mr. Sutton and Mr. Nardelli for the donation and for Solicitor Start and Manager Kauer's efforts to make it possible.

- **Engineer's Report:**

Engineer Suehr reported that work on the 2017 Road Program should start by the end of May. He also reported that the Borough receive Army Corps of Engineers approval for the Ambridge-Aliquippa Bridge Storm Sewer Outfall Project and stated that he is still waiting on DEP approval. The Engineer also reported that he is actively working on our MS4 Permit renewal application with recent work focused on mapping. Mr. Cafarelli questioned who will be doing the concrete work that is proposed within the 2017 Road Program. Engineer Suehr stated that it will be a sub-contractor working for Youngblood Paving.

Mr. Mikulich stated that Columbia Gas Company opened up another opening on newly paved Church Street. He stated that he is very frustrated and that the community needs to do something to prevent the utility companies from opening up our new roads. He stated that he knows that the Solicitor and Engineer are working on a revision to our Street Opening Ordinance, but urged that the new requirements need to be strict.

- **Official Reports**

1. **Motion to accept the Official Reports;** motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. McCoy; 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.

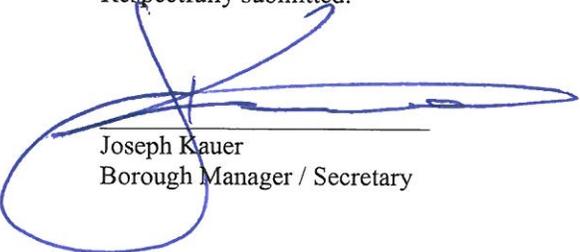
- **Other Unfinished Business**

Mr. Mikulich wished all mothers a Happy Mother's Day that was celebrated this past weekend.

- **Adjournment –**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary