

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE
MINUTES
Council Meeting: August 14, 2018
Ambridge Borough Building



- **Executive Session – Personnel and Legal Matters**
- **The August 14, 2018 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:
 - Mrs. Caldarelli
 - Mr. Dunn
 - Mr. Flannery
 - Mr. McCoy
 - Mrs. Miller
 - Mr. Mikulich
 - Mayor Drewnowski
- Also Present: Borough Manager Kauer, Solicitor Start, Chief Gottschalk, Lt. Jameson and Engineer Suehr
- Absent: Mr. Cafarelli, Chief Mann
- **Invocation** – the invocation was conducted by Rev. Jason Cooley, pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church.
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Presentations** – none.
- **Citizen's Participation On/Off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)**
 1. **Mr. Jerome Gill, 831 Glenwood Avenue**, questioned what the Drug Enforcement Account funds could be used for. Manager Kauer explained that those funds can be used only for drug enforcement activities and equipment by the Police Department and that the District Attorney's office regulates what can and cannot be expended from that account. Mr. Gill then questioned how long can Chief Mann be on leave? Solicitor Start replied – indefinitely. Mr. Gill then questioned how is the Borough on Police overtime spending as result of the Chief being on administrative leave. Mr. Flannery stated that he will respond to that question in his committee report. Mr. Gill then questioned do we need to hire additional part-time officers? Mr. Mikulich responded back by saying no. Mr. Gill then questioned has the independent investigation into the Police Department started? Solicitor Start responded, no – not by his choice, but per the directive of the Pennsylvania State Police.
 2. **Mrs. Lorianne Burgess, President of Ambridge Crime Watch**, thanked the Borough Officials, Lt. Jameson and Police Department, Chief Gottschalk and the firefighters for their assistance with the National Night Out. She stated that as a business owner, she has not had any contact with Gordon Hancock regarding the streetscape project. Mrs. Burgess stated there is a lot of wrong information out there about the project and that the Borough should put out regular updates regarding the project. Mr. Mikulich thanked her for her suggestions.
 3. **Mrs. Bonnie Crover, 156 Maplewood Avenue**, questioned the status of a vacant house that is located next to her residence. She stated that pieces of this building are falling into her yard. Mr. Mikulich advised her to make contact with the Fire Chief, as he can address her concerns.

• **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2018, Council Meeting**

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

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

• **Approval to ratify and pay the Bills and Expenses:**

○ General Fund	Unpaid: \$103,371.16	Paid: \$61,431.49
○ 2016 Capital Project Bond Fund	Unpaid: \$8,086.66	
○ Grants / Special Project Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
○ Recreation Fund	Unpaid: \$885.00	Paid: \$0.00
○ Escrow Fund	Unpaid: \$616.00	
○ Police Pension Fund	Unpaid: \$7,159.44	
○ Service Employees Pension Fund	Unpaid: \$993.81	
○ Firemen's Pension Fund	Unpaid: \$3,050.89	

Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli, a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

II. Consent Agenda

Those matters included under the consent agenda are self-explanatory and are not expected to require further review or discussion. Items will be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired by any member of Council, that item must be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

Motion to approve Items 1 through 5 listed on the Consent Agenda was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. Dunn; motion carried unanimously.

1. **Borough Financial Report - acknowledge receipt of the Borough Treasurer's Report.**

Treasurer's Report August 14, 2018 Marilyn Sheleheda - Treasurer General Fund Analysis	
\$907,740.13	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of: -(August 14, 2018) -3:00 pm
\$8,509.13	All Outstanding Checks as of: -(August 14, 2018) -3:00 pm
\$899,231.00	Available Balance as of: -(August 14, 2018) -3:00 pm
Totals are as follows:	
Deposits:	\$279,785.66
Debits:	\$458,433.22
General Fund Summary:	-which include the foll
	76 - Checks & Debit \$229,949.27
	3 - Payroll (s) \$228,483.95
Other Fund Balances as of (August 14, 2018) 3:00 pm	
\$6,189.32	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$92,061.48	Grants/Special Funds
\$209,857.87	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$17,658.74	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$35,300.53	Recreation Fund
\$340,182.41	Sinking Fund
\$1,192,580.84	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-PLGIT Account
\$38,652.52	Ambridge Borough Drug Investigation Fund
\$1,932,343.71	Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)

2. Approval of a dedicated on-street handicap parking space at 825 Pine Street as per the recommendation of the Ambridge Police Department.
3. Denial of an application for an on-street handicap parking space at 528 Glenwood Avenue as the applicant has off street parking available.
4. Authorize Baden Academy Parent Teacher Partnership to use the parking lot at Walter Panek Park on Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 12:00PM to 4:00PM for their Trunk or Treat Event.
5. Accept the resignation of Jessica Whitacre from the Ambridge Planning Commission effective July 1, 2018 as she no longer resides within the Borough.

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

- A. Motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for structural repairs at 260-264 16th Street per the recommendation of the Ambridge Historical Architectural Review Board. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Dunn; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

- B. Motion to authorize the Solicitor to prepare an Ordinance that would amend Section 290-34 of the Ambridge Code of Ordinances, Parking Prohibited at all Times in Certain Locations, to include the prohibition of parking on Locust Street on the east side, from House Number 121 to the Terminus. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. McCoy; Mr. Flannery stated that the Public Safety Committee has reviewed and discussed this proposed change and all are in agreement including the Mayor and Police Lieutenant; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

- C. Motion to authorize the Solicitor to prepare an Ordinance that would amend Chapter 120 of the Ambridge Code of Ordinances, Curfew, per the recommendations of the Public Safety Committee. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. Dunn; Mr. Mikulich questioned what the changes are to be? Mr. Flannery replied that the curfew time will be changed from 11PM to 10PM, year-round, and that it will also clarify the definition of legal guardian. A roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

- D. Motion to authorize the execution of an agreement between the Borough of Ambridge and the Ambridge Area School District for the purposes of providing a School Resource Officer within the High School during the 2018-19 School Year. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. Dunn; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

- E. Motion to authorize the sale of surplus parking meters at a price of \$50 per single meter, \$75 per double meter. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; Mr. Mikulich questioned if the meter heads only were to be for sale, the Manager responded, "yes;" a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

- F. Motion to authorize the fund transfer of \$205,000 from the Liquid Fuels Fund to the General Fund. (Note: Fund transfer pays for street lighting, rock salt and costs of the street sweeper.) Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. Dunn; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

• **Committee Reports**

- **Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported that residential rental property inspections are underway and that commercial fire safety inspections are ongoing. She also reported that since last meeting, 11 citations have been issued for properties with high grass. Mrs. Caldarelli stated that the Code Officers are doing a great job.

Mayor Drewnowski questioned what is going on at 809 22nd Street. The Borough Manager responded that the property is subject to zoning violations for operating a use that is not permitted within the residential zoning district. He added that the property owner has until September 13th to comply.

- **Public Safety:** Mr. Flannery stated that the Committee met this past month and discussed multiple matters involving the police and fire departments. He stated that Engine No. 2 needed pump repairs and that it is out currently being fixed. Mr. Flannery also reported that the fire department now has surplus bulletproof vests from the police department that the firefighters will wear when they respond to police related emergencies. It was reported that the Fire Chief will prepare a guideline and policy for the vests. Regarding the AFD, it was reported that the old firehose door lock program with the school district is a success and that the Knox Box program is up and running. If your business would like to purchase a Knox Box, please see the Fire Chief.

Regarding the Police Department, Mr. Flannery reported that the Committee is currently developing a retirement strategy for the police dog that will soon be ten years old. Regarding staffing, he reported that the APD is doing a good job maintaining staffing while keeping overtime down as result of officers on vacation or out on leave. He also stated that the Borough Manager submitted a grant application to the Attorney General's office for drug prevention supplies. Mr. Flannery reported that within the Council packets is letters of acknowledgement / recognition from the police supervisors recognizing officers who recently go above and beyond. Lastly, he stated that all APD officers completed diversity training last year and this effort should be acknowledged.

Mrs. Caldarelli questioned if there is a plan to get another K9 once our current K9 retires? Mr. Flannery stated that there is funding put aside to care for our current dog in retirement and that the Committee is still evaluating the need if it should be replaced or not. Mrs. Caldarelli commented that she feels a K9 is necessary within the police department.

Mrs. Miller commended both the police and fire departments for their quick actions on August 4th when her neighbor's house caught on fire. She stated that the fire engine was on scene within seconds while she was still on the phone with the 9-1-1 center. She stated that her husband pulled the victim out of the burning house and that the firefighters were quick to give aid. Mrs. Caldarelli stated that Mr. Miller should be commended for saving his neighbor's life.

- **Public Works:** Mr. Mikulich stated that there is an Ordinance that prohibits placing signs on poles and within the right of ways. He stated that with the construction of the downtown streetscape now underway, he asked the public to not place any signs on the new poles. He stated that taping signs to the painted poles damages and defaces them.

Mrs. Miller questioned if Council is currently patching potholes in allies? Mr. Mikulich stated that upper alley in the 500 block needs addressed. He stated that Public Works is out patching these areas, but this section needs repaved soon.

Mrs. Caldarelli stated that if people do put up temporary signs, they need to take them down. She stated that many times they do not.

- **Parks:** Mrs. Miller reported that as of August 13th, \$675 in donations have been made for the Fall Festival's children's activities. She stated that they are looking for local crafters who may be interested in having a booth at this year's festival. They are being selective on who has booths, they do not want anything too commercialized. The Fall Festival is planned for September 29th from 11AM to 7PM at PJ Caul Park.
- **Engineer's Report:** Engineer Suehr reported that work on the Outfall Repair project started last Tuesday and should be completed by the end of next week. He stated that the project is moving fast, currently the pipe has been placed and that backfill is underway. The Engineer stated that he is pleased with the speed and skill by the contractor on this project so far. Regarding the Park Improvement's Project, he reported that he is waiting on submittals for the new playset.
- Mayor Drewnowski reported on Police Department activity for the month. He stated that Officer AJ Bialik recently completed training regarding specialized investigations. The Mayor stated that Officer Bialik will share his knowledge with his fellow officers. On July 19th, in conjunction with Felicia Mycyk both the Police and Fire Departments conducted a public safety day at the Borough Building for local youth. He stated that the APD gave presentations on the K9 Unit, the SWAT Team vehicle and passed out junior officer badges. The Mayor stated that officers this month have been very active with trying to create bonds with the children. Officers Korol and Jones have been playing basketball with kids in Crestview Village. He also stated that Officer Korol represented the APD in the recent Wounded Warriors 5K race.

On August 7th, Mrs. Verygood and Melrose Avenue residents had their annual National Night Out event. He thanked everyone who made that event possible and thanked them for including the Mayor in the event. He stated that this is a positive event that needs to be recognized. On August 9th, the Ambridge Crime Watch held their National Night Out event in PJ Caul Park. He stated that the event was a great success. He thanked the Crime Watch for their hard work and also thanked the police officers and firefighters who participated that night by being dunked in the dunk-tank.

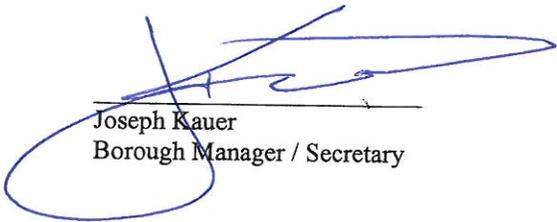
Mrs. Miller stated that Baden Academy goes back to school on August 15th, and encouraged everyone to pay attention for school buses and children at the bus stops.

- **Official Reports**
 1. **Motion to accept the Official Reports;** motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. Dunn; a roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

- **Other Unfinished Business** – none.
- **Adjournment** –
Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 7:46PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary