

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE

MINUTES

Council Meeting: December 10, 2019
 Ambridge Borough Building



- The December 10, 2019 meeting of Ambridge Borough Council was called to order at 6:30PM 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, Chief Romutis, Chief Gottschalk, Engineer Suehr and Solicitor Start

Absent: Mr. Cafarelli

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

- Pledge of Allegiance**

- Presentations**

Recognition of Councilman Duke McCoy and Councilwoman Janet Caldarelli. Both were presented with a plaque and thanked for their service. Mr. McCoy served for 16 years on Council and Mrs. Caldarelli served for 12 years.

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

1. **Ms. Cathy Holler, 824 11th Street**, questioned how recycling was paid for within the Borough and if the Borough receives any funding for it. Manager Kauer explained that besides the charge for service including in the refuse fee, the Borough receives a recycling performance grant each year from the state based off of collections. Mrs. Holler asked how the collections are reported and the Manager explained the process of annual reports received from the haulers.

2. **Stanley Williamson, 15th Street**, stated that that money citizens earn from recycling scrap metal is theirs and not taxable.

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

November 12, 2019, Council Meeting

Mrs. Flannery made the motion to accept the minutes, 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.

• **Borough Bills and Expenses**

Motion to pay the bills was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; a roll call vote was taken:

1.	General Fund	Unpaid: \$73,405.17	Paid: \$33,041.75
2.	2016 Capital Project Bond Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
3.	Grants / Special Project Fund	Unpaid: \$910.00	
4.	Recreation Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$0.00
5.	Escrow Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
6.	Police Pension Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
7.	Service Employees Pension Fund	Unpaid: \$555.39	
8.	Firemen's Pension Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
9.	Drug Investigation Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
10.	Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	

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.

• **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 accept items 1 through 4 listed on the Consent Agenda; all were in favor.

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

Treasurer's Report

December 10, 2019

Marilyn Sheleheda - Treasurer

General Fund Analysis		
\$511,930.81	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of:	-December 10, 2019 -3:00 pm
\$104,489.74	All (including today's checks) Outstanding Checks as of:	-December 10, 2019 -3:00 pm
\$407,441.07	Available Balance as of:	-December 10, 2019 -3:00 pm

General Fund Summary:	Totals are as follows:	
	Deposits:	\$311,500.25
	Debits:	\$369,198.64
	-which include the following:	
	89 Checks \$192,244.33	
2 Payroll (s) \$176,954.31		

Other Fund Balances as of December 10, 2019 3:00 pm	
\$16,524.97	Ambridge Borough Drug Investigation Fund
\$30,527.67	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-PLGIT Account
\$0.00	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$24,412.68	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$5,377.29	Grants/Special Funds
\$11,749.21	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$35,824.20	Recreation Fund
\$419,263.34	Sinking Fund
\$543,679.36	Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)

2. Authorize the creation of a dedicated on-street handicap parking space at 154 Maplewood Avenue as recommended by the Ambridge Police Department.
3. Authorize the Committee to Clean and Beautify Ambridge to use the fire station for the annual Chili and Pierogi Cookoff on Sunday, April 26, 2020 from 8AM to 4PM.
4. Authorize the creation of a dedicated checking account for the 2024 Bicentennial efforts.

New Business - Items for Discussion:

- A. Motion to adopt the 2020 Municipal Budget. Motion was made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mrs. Miller; Mr. Mikulich commented that this is the 15th year without a tax increase, he thanked everyone for their help and consideration to make this possible. 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 adopt Ordinance No. 1314, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, County of Beaver and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, levying a tax for the year of 2020 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. 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.

- C. Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1315, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, County of Beaver and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for collection of taxes by the locally elected tax collector between the period of January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 in accordance with the provisions of Act 169 of 1998 and its amendments. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, 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.

- D. Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1316, an Ordinance amending the existing Borough of Ambridge Service Employees Pension Plan, in order to amend the plan to revise the defined contribution features. 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.

- E. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-7, a Resolution of the Borough of Ambridge providing for installment payments of the tax levy for the year 2020 on each dollar of the assessed valuation of taxable property. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, 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.

- F. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-8, a Resolution of the Borough of Ambridge fixing the salaries and wages to be paid to the non-union personnel for the calendar year 2020. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. McCoy; 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.

- G. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-9, a Resolution of the Borough of Ambridge establishing fees for the filing of applications, permits and licenses for the Borough. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, 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.

- H. Motion to authorize the execution of an agreement by and between the Borough of Ambridge and Township of Harmony relative to the collection and distribution of non-resident earned income tax currently held and future collected non-resident earned income tax for the non-resident employees of TMK IPSCO. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. McCoy; 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.

- I. Motion to authorize the disbursement of \$201,223.26 to Baiano Construction for Pay Application No. 14-final of the Merchant St. Streetscape Project. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, 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.

- J. Motion to enter into agreement with the Beaver County Humane Society to provide Animal Control Services for the year 2020. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. Flannery; Manager Kauer explained that there is no change in scope of work or increase in fees; 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.

- K. Motion to appoint Middle Department Inspection Agency (MDIA) as the Borough's third-party Uniform Construction Code inspector and enter into agreement with them for the purposes of providing Uniform Construction Code / Building Inspection services to the Borough of Ambridge. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli, Manager Kauer explained that NIRA provided the Borough notice on November 18th stating that they will no longer be provided UCC inspection services. We solicited for proposals, received five responses, interviewed them and check references. MDIA performs work in a lot of communities in the county, their fees were lower than NIRA and had positive reviews from the communities they service. 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.

- L. Motion to authorize the advertisement of the biannual reorganization meeting of Borough Council for Monday, January 6, 2020 at 4:00PM within Council Chambers. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, 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.

- M. Motion to accept the resignation of Mrs. Lois Guido from the Historical Architecture Review Board effective November 1, 2019. (Note: Mrs. Guido recently moved out of the Borough.) Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. McCoy; 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 thanked Chief Gottschalk and the firefighters for their hard-work. She commended the fire staff for their great work with code enforcement. Chief Gottschalk stated that it has been a pleasure to work with Mrs. Caldarelli. Mr. Mikulich thanked Mrs. Caldarelli for her dedicated service with this committee. He stated that the Committee made a positive impact on the Borough during her tenure.

- **Public Safety:** Mr. Flannery stated that the Committee will be meeting later this month.

Mayor Drewnowski reported that there were two drug busts this month, one including a significant heroin confiscation. He stated both arrests and raids were as result of tips from the community. The Mayor stated that this is the 16th drug raid this year in the Borough.

Mr. McCoy commented that it was a great move to bring back Chief Romutis. He stated that he is an excellent asset to the community. Mrs. Caldarelli commented that she agrees.

- **Public Works:** Mr. Mikulich stated that Merchant Street is once again decorated for the Christmas holidays, no longer dark. He added that the DPW crew did an outstanding job getting the town ready for the Christmas parade. Mr. Mikulich thanked Mrs. Kim Villella, the Chamber of Commerce and Mrs. Miller for making the Christmas on Merchant Street parade and event possible. He added that it was well attended, and that our DPW crew of four guys does the work of twenty.
- **Parks:** Mrs. Miller reported that the Christmas parade was excellent and stated that Kim Villella deserves all the credit. She stated that a tourism grant helped pay for the parade and that the Borough collaborating with the Chamber of Commerce is making a positive difference in the Borough.

Mr. Mikulich stated that the Police and Fire Departments did an excellent job that night with the parade as well.

Mrs. Miller thanked Mr. Dunn for his service in the community as Santa. She stated that his work is appreciated and really brings the Christmas spirit to Ambridge.

Mayor Drewnowski thanked Mrs. Miller and said that it was a great parade, a lot of people attended – a really nice event.

- **Engineer's Report:** no report.

- **Official Reports**

Motion to accept the Official Reports; 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.

- **Other Unfinished Business**

Mr. Mikulich reported that the Beemac Trucking Zoning Hearing scheduled for December 17, 2019 has been continued until January 15, 2020. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, and thanked Mr. McCoy and Mrs. Caldarelli for their service on Borough Council.

Mr. McCoy stated that there have been disagreements between members of Council over the years but acknowledge that everyone was looking out for what was best for the town. He stated that he never held a grudge and that it was a pleasure working with everyone. Mr. McCoy added that he appreciates the citizens who attend the meetings each month. Lastly, he wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

- **Adjournment –**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 7:06PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary