

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE MINUTES

**Council Meeting: March 13, 2018
Ambridge Borough Building**



- **Executive Session – Personnel and Legal Matters**
- **The March 13, 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, Chief Mann and Engineer Suehr
- **Absent:** Mr. Cafarelli
- **Invocation** – the invocation was conducted by Pastor Matt Klenik, First Baptist Church of Ambridge.
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Presentations** – Ambridge Fire Chief Rob Gottschalk and Asst. Chief Don Larrick presented a plaque from the Ambridge Volunteer Fire Department to Mr. Larry Charlton for his donation that purchased a Thermal Imaging Camera.
- **Citizen’s Participation On/Off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)**
 1. **Rev. James Hamilton, 1134 Maplewood Avenue**, representing the Committee to Protect the Ambridge Reservoir, encouraged everyone to attend a series of upcoming meetings with DEP regarding a proposed natural gas pipeline that is to be built within the vicinity of the Ambridge Reservoir. He encouraged everyone to attend this meeting so that the public drinking water of 30,000 people could be protected from possible environmental issues.
 2. **Mr. Fred Alexander, 401 Merchant Street**, invited members of Council to call a meeting to work out his code enforcement issue before it goes to Common Pleas Court. He also reported that both he and his wife recently purchased 405 Merchant Street; he has renovated this building, received the necessary permits, inspections and now has a new tenant living in this space.
 3. **Mrs. Pat Sposaro, 1008 Kristufek Avenue**, made complaint about multiple property maintenance issues in her neighborhood including trash being put out at the curb all days of the week, rubbish on porches and yards, and trash being placed out not in cans. She then distributed pictures of the issues to Council.
 4. **Ms. Pat Parra, 398 Wilson Avenue**, wanted to confirm with Council a second letter from the Fireworks Committee sent to Council today retracting their request to install a second electric service within Panek Park was received. She stated that donations for fireworks have been overwhelming

and stated that the Committee will be back to Council in the coming months with an updated request for assistance with the electric request.

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2018, 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	Absent	Mr. McCoy	Yes
Mrs. Caldarelli	Yes	Mrs. Miller	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Flannery	Yes	Mayor Drewnowski	
Motion carried.			

- **Treasurer's Report:**

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

Treasurer's Report

March 13, 2018

Marilyn Sheleheda - Treasurer

General Fund Analysis	
\$614,453.76	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of: -March 13, 2018 -3:00 pm
\$104,099.70	All Outstanding Checks as of: -March 13, 2018 -3:00 pm
\$510,354.06	Available Balance as of: -March 13, 2018 -3:00 pm

Totals are as follows:	
General Fund Summary:	Deposits: \$538,419.53
	Debits: \$316,350.06
	-which include the follow
	80 Checks \$174,363.33
	2 Payroll (s) \$141,986.73

Other Fund Balances as of March 13, 2018 3:00 pm	
\$5,130.91	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$82,054.29	Grants/Special Funds
\$230,708.86	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$13,820.06	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$29,711.74	Recreation Fund
\$38,403.43	Sinking Fund
\$1,179,364.15	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-PLGIT Account
\$9,615.73	Ambridge Borough Drug Investigation Fund
\$1,588,809.17	Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)

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

Mr.
Mrs
Mrs
Mr.
Mot

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 (General Fund Unpaid: \$136,137.92 / Paid: \$64,748.65; 2016 Capital Project Bond Fund Unpaid: \$0, Recreation Fund Unpaid: \$0 / Paid: \$0) 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.

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

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1302, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, relative to the establishment and maintenance of the police employees' pension, annuity, insurance and benefit fund or funds, to amend certain provisions of the Pension Plan or Program applicable to the police employees of said Borough. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; Mr. Mikulich stated that this Ordinance will establish a Deferred Vested Benefit for full-time Police Officers. 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.

2. Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1303, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, establishing and maintaining a municipal Police Pension Plan and to amend certain provision of the Pension Plan applicable to the Police of Ambridge Borough to add a deferred retirement option plan ("DROP"). 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.

3. Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1304, an Ordinance of the Borough of Ambridge, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, amending the Pension Plan applicable to certain firefighters of the Borough. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, 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.

4. Motion to authorize the advertisement and public display of Ordinance No. 1305, an Ordinance amending the existing Borough of Ambridge service employees' pension plan ("plan"), Beaver County, Pennsylvania, in order to amend the plan to add defined contribution features and to comply with the Federal and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania laws and regulations in effect as of January 1, 2018. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. Dunn; Manager Kauer explained that this Ordinance would create a 401K style retirement savings plan for the full-time administrative staff that currently is not eligible to participate in the Borough's Defined Benefit Pension Plan. 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.

5. Motion to authorize the disbursement of \$22,374.50 from the Liquid Fuels Fund to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation for final payment due for the 2018 Traffic Signal Improvement 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.

6. Motion to appoint Dr. Richard A. Schollaert, MD, to the Ambridge Board of Health with a five year term that would expire December 31, 2022. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Flannery; 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.

7. Motion to authorize Graham's Tree Service to perform the 2018 Shade Tree Maintenance Contract at a cost not to exceed \$15,000 per their proposal dated February 13, 2018. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, 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.

8. Motion to authorize the Ambridge Fireworks Committee to have the Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks Display in Walter Panek Park on July 1, 2018, with a rain date of July 7, 2018. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, 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.

9. Consider action to authorize the disbursement of \$2,318.66 from the Ambridge Service Employees Pension Plan to Rhoades Law, LLC, for work associated with the creation of the Administrative Employees Defined Contribution Plan. 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.

10. Motion to authorize the submission of a second priority Community Development Block Grant request to fund the 6th and Melrose Municipal Parking Lot Improvements Project. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. McCoy; Manager Kauer explained that this grant request seeks approximately \$43,000 to repave the current parking lot at this location and to expand it to the area of where the building to be demolished on the corner is. 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.

11. Motion to terminate the agreement with Anago Cleaning Services for janitorial services at the Ambridge Borough Building, effective April 30, 2018. 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.

12. Motion to enter into agreement with Refreshed Properties at a price of \$580 per month for janitorial services at the Ambridge Borough Building, effective May 1, 2018. Motion was made by Mrs. Miller, 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.

13. Motion to authorize the closure of Merchant Street between 13th and 14th Streets on Saturday, May 12, 2018, between the hours of 9AM and 5PM for Springfest in the Historic District. 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.

14. Motion to accept the resignation of part-time Patrolman Patrick Jennings, Jr., effective February 21, 2018. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Miller; Mayor Drewnowski stated that

Mr. Jennings was hired last month and has never worked a day. He resigned upon hiring as he got another job elsewhere; 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.

15. Motion to accept the resignation of part-time Patrolman Lucas Seder effective March 3, 2018. Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Dunn; Mr. Flannery requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Officer Seder for his 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.

• **Committee Reports**

- **Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported that the Committee met on March 6th. At the meeting they reviewed and made recommendations to finalize Ordinance No. 1297 and a possible amendment to Ordinance No. 1226. She also stated that the Committee discussed the possibility of creating a Knox Box - Key Safe program for commercial buildings within town. In review of code enforcement activity this month, Mrs. Caldarelli reported that for the month: 363 rental registration notices have been mailed, 12 new rental properties added to the rental database, 57 commercial properties registered for their annual fire inspections, code officers attended three hearings and 37 Ordinance Violations notices have been sent out for property maintenance issues.
- **Public Safety:** Mr. Flannery reported that he has met with both the Police and Fire Chiefs this past month; a Committee Meeting will be forthcoming in the daylight hours so all staff can attend.
- **Public Works:** No report.
- **Parks:** Mrs. Miller reported that the Borough received a letter from PENNDOT agreeing to install a guiderail along Route 65 at the 8th Street Park. She also reported that the Engineer is working to finalize construction drawings and bid documents for the Park Improvements Project at 8th Street and Panek Parks. Lastly, she reported that Old Economy Village will be having its annual Easter Egg Hunt later this month.

Mr. Mikulich thanked the Recreation Committee for making the guiderail request to PENNDOT. He also stated that the Borough is still waiting on a response from PENNDOT regarding the second request to install overhead signage on 8th Street to identify the dual turning lanes onto Route 65.

- **Engineer's Report:** Engineer Suehr reported that he and the Borough Manager will be having a conference call with DCNR tomorrow regarding the Park project's design. The goal is to have the project under construction this summer.

In regards to the storm sewer issue under the Ambridge-Aliquippa Bridge, he stated that he is working on developing project specifications and that he is looking at all options to make this repair. Since last month the scale of this project got much bigger. He did confirm that a geotechnical Engineer has looked at the site and doesn't believe that any retaining walls will be needed. He did deliver a message of urgency to Council to make this repair very soon.

Mr. Mikulich reported that the Community Development Program has informed the Borough that the Streetscape Project is planned to be put out for bid and advertisement this month; project looks to be one month behind schedule.

- **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	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 stated that there has been an ongoing conversation by members of Council to possibly considering implementing a consent style agenda. He explained that a consent agenda is formatted that issues that are typically administrative that traditionally doesn't warrant any controversy be lumped together and voted on by one single vote. This would reduce the amount of roll call votes taken and make more time to discuss matters and reports. He stated that he will get more information on Consent Agendas for Council to review before any action is taken.

Mayor Drewnowski reported that on March 23rd he will be attending a meeting of the State Association of Mayors in Zelienople. He stated that he hopes to meet Mayors for other towns similar Ambridge to learn how they addressed issues similar to ours.

Mayor Drewnowski updated Council and the public on that status of his efforts to bring a grocery store to Ambridge. He stated that late last year, along with Manager Kauer, he met with the owners of Safrin's Shop N Save about the possibility of them building a new grocery store to Ambridge or reusing the existing Bottom Dollar location. He stated that the Safrin's completed a Market Study and from the data of this study it didn't support the Safrin's relocating to Ambridge; mainly due to the number of existing grocery stores in the vicinity of town including Walmart, Aldi's, two Giant Eagles and their Shop N Save. He added that the former Bottom Dollar was under performing, and the study also showed that the Northern Lights Giant Eagle and Walmart are under performing currently as well. The Mayor stated that the Grocery business is very tough and competitive. Mayor Drewnowski reported that he has sent a package to Trader Joe's to consider the former Bottom Dollar store as it is currently being leased by Trader Joe's parent company – Aldi's.

Mrs. Miller stated that this proposal to Trader Joe's is the second proposal sent to Trader Joe's. She stated that she appreciates the Mayor's enthusiasm, but stated that Council has tried this before and has done everything it possibly could have done since 2015 to bring a new grocery store to Ambridge. Mayor Drewnowski stated that he went above by meeting face to face with a grocery store.

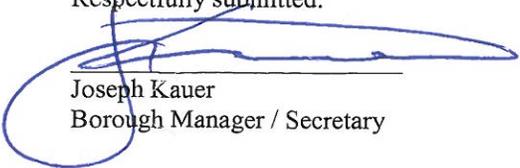
Mr. McCoy stated that he met face to face with the Safrins four years ago about bringing their store to the former Bottom Dollar, and the price was too high as well then.

Mrs. Caldarelli wished everyone a happy and blessed Easter.

- **Adjournment –**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dunn; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted:



 Joseph Kauer
 Borough Manager / Secretary