

**BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE**  
**MINUTES**  
**Council Meeting: March 14, 2017**  
**Ambridge Borough Building**



- **Executive Session – Personnel and Legal Matters**
- **The March 14, 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:

Mrs. Caldarelli  
Mrs. Drewnowski  
Mr. Dunn  
Mr. McCoy  
Mrs. Miller  
Mr. Mikulich  
Mayor D’Ambrosio

Also Present: Borough Manager Kauer, Solicitor Start, Chief Gottschalk, Chief Mann, and Borough Engineer Suehr

Absent: Mr. Cafarelli

- **Invocation** – the invocation was conducted by Pastor Matt Klenk, First Baptist Church.
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Presentations**
- **Citizen’s Participation On/Off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)**  
**Mr. Steve Roberts, 1216 Church Street**, presented to Borough Council and Mayor information on the upcoming “Spring Fest” event in the Historic District on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the event will be held in conjunction with the grand opening of Rivertown Antiques in the 1300 block of Merchant Street and the Hands On History Event at Old Economy Village.

Mrs. Miller questioned when the annual Easter Egg Hunt will be at Old Economy Village; Mr. Roberts stated that it will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup>. He added that they are planning on 1,000 children to attend the event.

**Ms. Lorianne Burgess, 570 Merchant Street**, reported to Council that she recently took over the Ambridge Crime Watch Program. The group will continue to meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00PM. She also expressed concerns about the Dollar General Store on Merchant Street. She stated that their “No Left Turn” sign out of their parking lot onto Merchant Street is missing and that motorists do not yield to pedestrians crossing in front of their lot.

Mrs. Drewnowski invited Mrs. Burgess to attend the next Public Safety Committee Meeting. Mayor D’Ambrosio questioned if there is anything we can do to warn pedestrians of the cars using the Dollar General driveway. It was discussed that a corrective action could be incorporated into the streetscape design to help cure this issue.

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**  
**February 14, 2017 Council Meeting**

Mrs. Caldarelli 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
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  
(March 14, 2017)**

Marilyn Sheleheda - Treasurer

<b>General Fund Analysis</b>
------------------------------

\$613,086.22	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of: -(March 14, 2017) -4:00 pm
\$44,307.77	All Outstanding Checks as of: -(March 14, 2017) -4:00 pm
<b>\$568,778.45</b>	<b>Available Balance as of: -(March 14, 2017) -4:00 pm</b>

<i>Totals are as follows:</i>	
<b>General Fund Summary:</b>	Deposits: <span style="float: right;">\$519,985.05</span>
	Debits: <span style="float: right;">\$280,200.15</span>
	-which include the following:
	73 Checks <span style="float: right;">\$130,783.35</span>
	2 Payroll (s) <span style="float: right;">\$149,416.80</span>

Other Fund Balances as of (March 14, 2017) 4:00 pm	
\$3,220.46	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$63,619.59	Grants/Special Funds
\$222,995.82	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$48,364.68	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$29,453.45	Recreation Fund
\$654.49	Sinking Fund
\$41,258.03	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-WesBanco
\$2,401,675.95	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-PLGIT Account
\$7,879.00	Ambridge Borough Drug Investigation Fund
<b>\$2,819,121.47</b>	<b>Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)</b>

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

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	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: \$73,139.31 / Paid: \$59,238.69; 2016 Capital Project Bond Fund Unpaid: \$17,700; Recreation Fund Unpaid: \$15.21) was made by Mr. Dunn, 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
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion carried.			

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

1. Motion to award contract in the amount of \$668,580.15 to Youngblood Paving, Inc., representing the Base Bid and Alternate Bid No. 1 for the 2017 Road Program. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Miller; the Borough Manager explained that this bid is within our budget and that the alternate bid will restore the two intersections within Port Ambridge that are to be reconstructed as part of this contract in concrete versus asphalt; a roll call vote was taken:

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

2. Motion to authorize Paladin Sealcoating to seal and crack fill the Borough Building Complex Parking Lots and Fire Department Driveways at a cost not to exceed \$5,753. Motion was made by Mrs. Drewnowski, seconded by Mr. McCoy; Mr. Mikulich stated that this project represents routine maintenance work that would be paid from General Fund line item: 4096010; a roll call vote was taken:

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

3. Motion to authorize the purchase of a Cub Cadet Lawn Tractor at a cost not to exceed \$5,100 with the Public Works Department first checking with Do-It-Best Hardware to see if this tractor could be purchased there. Motion was made by Mr. Dunn, 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
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion carried.			

4. Motion to authorize Graham's Tree Service to perform the 2017 Shade Tree Maintenance and Removal work as outlined on their March 6, 2017 proposal in the amount of \$15,000. 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
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion carried.			

5. Motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior renovations at 285 14<sup>th</sup> Street within the Historic District. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; Manager Kauer explained that the Applicant is LAY Real Estate, LLC, and is seeking approval to install wood siding on the second story of this single family residence. The application has received Ambridge Historical Architectural Review Board approval on March 2, 2017. A roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	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 grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of rooftop mounted solar panels at 336 13<sup>th</sup> Street within the Historic District. Motion was made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; Manager Kauer explained that the Applicant is Mr. Phil McCaffrey and is seeking approval to add solar panels on the south (rear) side of the roof of this single family residence. The application has received Ambridge Historical Architectural Review Board approval on March 2, 2017. A roll call vote was taken:

Council	VOTE	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Absent	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 approve the biweekly 2017 Street Sweeping schedule that will start April 3, 2017 and end October 6, 2017. Motion was made by Mr. Dunn, 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
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion carried.			

8. Motion to authorize the 2017 Fireworks Spectacular in Walter Panek Park on Sunday, July 2, 2017. Motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; a roll call vote was taken:

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

9. Motion to ratify the investment of the 2016 Bond Funds in PLGIT Certificate of Deposits. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Miller; the Borough Manager explained that the CD will invest funds allocated for the 2017 Road Program and Streetscape Project at higher interest rates; a roll call vote was taken:

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

10. Motion to appoint Fire Chief Robert Gottschalk to the Ambridge Historical Architectural Review Board to serve in the capacity as the appointed Code Enforcement Officer representative with a term that is to expire December 31, 2021. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mrs. Drewnowski; a roll call vote was taken:

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

11. Motion to hire Ms. Cindy Orłowski as an alternate School Crossing Guard was made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mrs. Miller; Mrs. Drewnowski questioned how many applications were received? The Borough Manager reported four. Chief Mann stated that we have two crossing guards off this Friday and that police officers will have to be taken off of patrol duties to fill both posts – warranting the need to hire at least one alternate crossing guard this week. Mrs. Drewnowski questioned if Mrs. Orłowski has the appropriate clearances? Chief Mann confirmed she does. Mrs. Miller stated that it is not unusual for the Council to hire based on a Chief's recommendation. Mrs. Drewnowski agreed, but stated that Council should have received the applications of the other applicants before a recommendation to hire was made. A roll call vote was taken:

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

- **Committee Reports**

- **Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported the following:
  - 69 Ordinance Violations have been sent out since the last Council Meeting. The Firefighter / Code Officers are routinely getting out in the community and addressing issues before complaints are received. They have been following up on their notices; progress throughout the community is noticeable.
  - Commercial Fire Inspections have begun - Chief Gottschalk has got that program up and running again. Businesses inspected are identified on his report.
  - 2017/18 Rental Registrations will be going out the week of 3/20/17. Final additions to finding missing rental property are currently underway. Inspections from the 16/17 cycle are still ongoing.
  - One Commercial Occupancy Permit was issued this month for a new business at 536 Merchant Street, Dais Medical Supply Store. Since January, that represents permits issued for five new businesses in town.
  - Beaver County Times did a nice story on our new Code / Fire Department program on February 28th.
  - Zoning Hearing Board to meet on Thursday, 3/16/17, 6PM to hear a Zoning Appeal to operate what possibly could be a 1/2-way or 3/4-way house at 406 Glenwood Drive.
  - Historical Architectural Review Board is to meet on Tuesday, April 4, 6PM to hear a request to make improvements to 309 14th Street.

- **Public Safety:** Mrs. Drewnowski reported that the new Pierce Fire Engine is here and available for the public to see it after the meeting. The Fire Engine that the Borough purchased from Fair Oaks VFD is expected to be transferred to us next week; the new ladder truck has delivery expected in April. She also stated that the Fire Department will be renewing its status with the State Fire Commissioner's Participating Department Recognition Program; the goal is to acquire Gold rating with 90% or more certified firefighters.

In regards to the Police Department, Mrs. Drewnowski reported that based on the Uniform Crime Report, crime within Ambridge is down -12% comparing years 2015 to 2016. She also reported that the new police cruiser should be here within the month.

Chief Mann explained the crime rating decrease based on part 1 and part 2 crimes. He stated that part 1 crimes are down -9.5%, and part 2 are down -13.39%. The Chief credited the crime reduction to Council and Mayor's efforts to increase the full-time staffing of the Police Department with three additional full-time officers in 2015 and partnerships with the Attorney General's office.

Mr. McCoy asked the Chief and Mayor to promote this good news. Mrs. Caldarelli stated that the Chief and Mayor should be recognized for this accomplishment.

Mrs. Drewnowski stated that it is good news that crime is down, but disagreed that the reason crime is down is as result of the hiring of additional full-time officers. She stated of the three new hires, two are funded by the COPS grant. She referenced that use of part-time police officers continues to be over-budget each year. Chief Mann credited the overage to training of part-time officers and the large turn over we have with part-timers. Mayor D'Ambrosio stated that full-time officers are more experienced and allow for consistency to see complaints followed through. Mrs. Drewnowski stated that the Department has to look for ways to eliminate going over budget with the use of part-time officers.

Mr. Mikulich thanked the Chief and Mayor for getting crime down. He also reported that the former Engine 2 sold on Municibid.com for \$6,100 and Engine 3 sold for \$6,400. He stated that the sale of the two trucks for \$12,500 covered the entire purchase price of the new Engine 3 from Fair Oaks VFD. He added that the equipment upgrades in the AFD this year is the first time in 25 years that significant upgrades have been made within the Fire Department. Mr. Mikulich thanked the Fire Staff for their hard work this year making the upgrades.

- **Public Works:** No report.
- **Parks:** Mrs. Miller reported that the Borough Manager is working on two grant applications that will improve both 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Walter Panek Park. She stated that the grant will reconstruct the basketball courts at Panek Park and also add a picnic shelter and new playground equipment at 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

She also reported that on March 14<sup>th</sup>, she met with the President of the Chamber of Commerce to start the planning of the 2017 Fall Festival of Churches. She stated that they are planning on making the event bigger this year.

Mr. Mikulich commended the committee for their hard work to make community events and park improvements possible. He also stated that the dog park is currently closed as it was recently reseeded by Public Works Department to get the grass back for the season. It should be reopened by May.

- **Engineer's Report:** Engineer Suehr reported that he will send notice to proceed and contract documents to Youngblood Paving, and will let them know that we desire to be the first project they complete this season. He also stated that he is still waiting on DEP approval to make repairs to the outfalls under the Ambridge-Aliquippa Bridge. The Engineer stated that work continues on the renewal application of our MS4 permit. He stated that the Borough may need to incorporate a Pollution Control Plan for French Point Creek and the Ohio River.

The Borough Engineer reported that he is in the process of planning repairs of a landslide above French Point Creek at the north side of the Borough and he is working with the Municipal Authority to restore the asphalt patch around the sanitary manhole at 5<sup>th</sup> and Merchant Street. Lastly, he reported

that he worked with the Borough Manager to develop project scopes and estimates for the park grant applications.

- **Official Reports**

1. **Motion to accept the Official Reports;** 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
Mrs. Drewnowski	Yes	Mr. Mikulich	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mayor D'Ambrosio	
Motion carried.			

- **Other Unfinished Business**

Mr. Mikulich stated that there will be a town hall meeting to discuss the design of the Merchant Street Streetscape Project on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6PM at the Borough Building.

- **Adjournment –**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. McCoy; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Kauer  
Borough Manager / Secretary