

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE

MINUTES

Council Meeting: October 8, 2019
Ambridge Borough Building



- **Executive Session – Legal, Real Estate and Personnel Matters**
- **The October 8, 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, Solicitor Start, and Engineer Suehr

Absent: Mr. Cafarelli, Chief Romutis and Chief Gottschalk

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

- **Pledge of Allegiance**

- **Presentations**

Ms. Kelley Coey, Hudson Companies, proposed “Wayne Court,” 42 Unit Senior Housing Development. She presented to Council her company’s planned redevelopment of the former Anthony Wayne Elementary School on Lenz Avenue.

Mrs. Caldarelli questioned how would monthly rent be based? Ms. Coey stated that it will be off 60% median income and for only citizens 62 years old or older. Mrs. Caldarelli questioned how tenants are then selected; Mrs. Coey stated income first. Mrs. Caldarelli commented that she is happy to hear that the proposed building would be pet friendly.

Mayor Drewnowski questioned if the purchase agreement with the School District for the property is pending Hudson Companies receiving funding for the project, she stated yes. The Mayor questioned if the building would be taxable, she said yes it would be on the tax rolls as taxable real estate.

Mr. Mikulich questioned other than this project in Ambridge, is Hudson applying for financing for any other projects this year. Ms. Coey stated yes, they have two other projects seeking funding, but this was the only one in Beaver County.

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

1. **Mr. Frederick Rose, 818 Beaver Road**, inquired about the renovations of a single-family residence on Duss Avenue that is being converted into apartments. He stated that he has concerns about the off-street parking requirements necessary for the conversion. He also stated that there is a problem in the community with expired or unregistered vehicles parked on the streets. He also stated that there are numerous properties around his home that are in deplorable condition.

Mayor Drewnowski stated that the police officers just initiated a campaign to remove the expired or unregistered vehicles from the streets. He added that two officers are now assigned this duty with Sgt. Sovich leading this effort. The Mayor stated that these officers will be walking the streets and enforcing this regulation.

2. **Mrs. Tina Tessaro, 801 12th Street**, stated that there are multiple streets in the community including Kerr and 12th Street that are no longer street swept, however the signage restricting parking is still up. She suggested those signs be removed and used elsewhere.
3. **Mr. Ron Gulish, 828 11th Street**, made complaint about the children who live near Beaver Road and Kerr Street. He stated that they are causing property damage to the neighbors' homes and he is frustrated. He was advised to call the police when he sees them misbehaving.

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2019, Council Meeting**

Mrs. Miller 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. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. Flannery; a roll call vote was taken:

1.	General Fund	Unpaid: \$373,725.37	Paid: \$5,393.67
2.	2016 Capital Project Bond Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
3.	Grants / Special Project Fund	Unpaid: \$825.00	
4.	Recreation Fund	Unpaid: \$374.33	Paid: \$300.00
5.	Escrow Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
6.	Police Pension Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
7.	Service Employees Pension Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
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.

Items 1 through 2 listed on the Consent Agenda were accepted by unanimous vote; all were in favor.

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

Treasurer's Report

October 8, 2019

Marilyn Sheleheda - Treasurer

General Fund Analysis		
\$1,033,890.94	General Fund Bank Account Balance as of:	-10/8/2019 -3:00 pm
\$396,377.16	All (including today's checks) Outstanding Checks as of:	-10/8/2019 -3:00 pm
\$637,513.78	Available Balance as of:	-10/8/2019 -3:00 pm

General Fund Bank Summary:	<i>Totals are as follows:</i>	
	Deposits:	\$384,130.26
	Debits:	\$287,069.13
	includes the following:	
	67 Checks	\$136,358.09
	2 Payroll (s)	\$150,711.04

Other Fund Balances as of 10/8/2019 3:00 pm	
\$16,478.04	Ambridge Borough Drug Investigation Fund
\$321,070.07	Ambridge Capital Project Fund 2016-PLGIT Account
\$7.71	Ambridge Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund
\$11,491.49	Escrow Disbursement Account
\$6,541.33	Grants/Special Funds
\$219,631.86	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$36,565.81	Recreation Fund
\$418,039.50	Sinking Fund
\$1,029,825.81	Total Other Funds Balances (Restricted Use)

2. Authorize the dedication of an on-street handicap parking space at 1606 Duss Avenue as recommended by the Ambridge Police Department.

New Business - Items for Discussion:

- A. Motion to authorize sending a letter of support to Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency for the Wayne Court Development Project. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, 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.

- B. Motion to authorize the disbursement of \$21,602.47 to the Ambridge VFD Relief Association, funding is the 2019 state aid pass through. 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.

- C. Motion to authorize the disbursements for the 2019 Minimum Municipal Obligations to the following pension funds: Police - \$239,614, Service - \$66,532, Fire - \$16,206. 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 authorize the disbursement of \$188,126.20 to Youngblood Paving, Inc. for Pay Application No. 1 for the 2019 Road Program as recommended by the Borough Engineer. 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 applying for a Pennsylvania Humanities Council, Heart and Soul Program, Community Planning Grant. Motion was made by Mrs. Caldarelli, seconded by Mr. McCoy; Manager Kauer explained that this is a unique community-based planning program that could possibly work to update our 2004 Comprehensive 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.

- F. Motion to approve the fund transfer of \$208,000 from the Liquid Fuels Fund to the General Fund per the adopted 2019 Budget. 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.

- G. Motion to adopt Police Department Policy for the Automated License Plate Reader System. 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.

- **Committee Reports**

- **Code Enforcement Committee:** Mrs. Caldarelli reported that annual residential rental inspections are ongoing, 71% of commercial fire inspections for the year have registered, 89 pre-sale inspections for home sales have been completed this year, 30 high grass letters were sent out this month (totaling 407 for the year with 91% abated), and twenty ordinance violation notices sent (302 for the year.) She also reported that the community tire collection event was held this past Saturday at the Borough Building.
- **Public Safety:** Mr. Flannery reported that the Committee met this past month and discussed the following:
 - Fire Department was awarded a FEMA grant to add an exhaust ventilation system in the firehouse. They are still waiting on a decision for the regional air pack grant.
 - He also stated that this week is Fire Prevention Week and the firefighters have a busy week with school, daycare and nursing home visits.
 - Committee continues to work on the Autism Awareness Sticker program, possibly partnering with Allegheny County communities.
 - Borough awarded a \$1,000 grant to purchase Say No to Drugs handouts and school supplies that the Police Officers will pass out on Halloween.
 - Committee is reviewing the Solicitation permit ordinance and may have recommendations for Council shortly on this matter.

Mayor Drewnowski thanked the Borough Manager for working on the Halloween Say No to Drugs grant. He stated that on October 1st, the officers completed another drug raid in the Borough, totaling 12 for the year. The Mayor stated that he is upset about the abandoned, expired and unregistered vehicles in the town, and that they now have a plan to remedy this issue.

Mrs. Caldarelli questioned the status of getting body cameras for the police officers. She stated that the cameras protect both the citizens and officers. Mayor Drewnowski stated that they recently met with Representative Matzie about seeking grant assistance to purchase the body cameras.

- **Public Works:** no report.
- **Parks:** Mrs. Caldarelli thanked Mrs. Miller for her hard work and efforts in planning the Fall Festival of Churches. Mrs. Miller stated that the festival went very well and will have a final report on expenditures for the next meeting. She thanked everyone who helped that day.

Mr. Mikulich thanked Mrs. Miller and her husband for all their work to make the festival possible. He stated that many people don't realize that the Miller's decorate the park in advance of the festival and go and get and return all the tents and other supplies needed for the children's activities each year.

- **Engineer's Report:** Engineer Suehr reported that paving work of Merchant Street, Upper Alley and the two municipal parking lots is complete, and that a punch list has been provided to the contractor, retaining 5% of the contract until complete. He also stated that he submitted the Borough's MS4 permit application to DEP this month and that he assisted the Manager with a storm sewer manhole concern on Church Street. The issue there turned out to be a water break causing sinking in the road around the manhole.

- **Official Reports**

Motion to accept the Official Reports; 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.

- **Other Unfinished Business**

Mrs. Caldarelli stated that "Coffee with a Cop" has been a successful event and would like a similar event each month for Council, Mayor and the Manager.

- **Adjournment –**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mrs. Caldarelli; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned at 7:16PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary