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**Borough of Ambridge**

**MINUTES**

**Council Meeting: November 10th, 2020**

**Live Meeting – Council Chambers**

**\****Minutes typed without use of audio tape\**

* **The November 10th, 2020 meeting of Ambridge Borough Council was called to order at 6:30PM in Ambridge Council Chambers.**

Mr. Mikulich announced that the Council met for an executive session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

* **Roll Call:**

Present: Mr. Cafarelli

Mr. Dunn

Mr. Flannery

Mr. Gill

Mrs. Miller

Mr. Mikulich

Mrs. Tessaro

 Mayor Drewnowski

Also Present: Borough Manager Leone, Chief Gottschalk, Chief DeLuca, Borough Engineer Chris Suehr and Solicitor Start via phone call.

Absent: None.

* **Invocation** – the invocation was conducted by Mrs. Barbara Costa, Trinity School for Ministry.,
* **Pledge of Allegiance**
* **Presentations - Chief DeLuca for Narcan**
* **Citizen’s Participation On/Off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)**
1. **Reverend ?**

Commented about the Ambridge-Aliquippa Bridge.650 Page Report and the bridge was built in 1920 and a section on the Aliquippa side seems to be in disrepair.

1. **St. Mary’s Coptic Church on Melrose**.

Asked if anything could be done about the alley behind the church? Young children coming out the back door and there are vehicles speeding down the alley.

Mr. Mikulich wanted to thank all the Veterans for their service.

* **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**October 13, 2020**

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



* **Borough Bills and Expenses**

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

1. General Fund Unpaid: $112,024.05 Paid: $28,119.51

2. Grants / Special Project Fund Unpaid: $375.00

3. Recreation Fund Unpaid: $0.00 Paid: $0.00

4. Escrow Fund Unpaid: $0.00

5. Police Pension Fund Unpaid: $0.00

6. Service Employees Pension Fund Unpaid: $.000

7. Firemen’s Pension Fund Unpaid: $0.00

8. Drug Investigation Fund Unpaid: $0.00

9. Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund Unpaid: $0.00

 

* **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 3 items on the Consent Agenda; all were in favor.**

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



 **New Business - Items for Discussion:**

**A.** Motion to approve the Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Bid from Waste Management for the Borough for a 5-year contract 2021-2025.

Motion made by Mrs. Miller – seconded by Mr. Dunn.

Roll call was taken:



1. Motion to appoint borough Manager Mario N. Leone Jr as the Borough Zoning Officer made by Mr. Flannery and second by Mrs. Miller.

Roll call vote was taken:



1. Motion to advertise the sale of a 1981 American LaFrance 100ft Ladder Truck on Municibid made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Flannery.

Roll call vote was taken:



1. Motion to authorize Borough’s insurance company to settle a lawsuit filed by Carlos Smith. Motion was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mrs. Tessaro;

Roll call vote was taken:



1. Motion to ask John McCreary to open the current collective bargaining agreement with the police and fire fighter’s uions to negotiate an early retirement window permitting employees with 20 or more years of service to retire with an unreduced pension. Motion made by Mr. Flannery and seconded by Mrs. Miller.

Roll call vote was taken:



1. Motion to authoize an Actuary Cost Study for police and fire department pension plans to preform an Act 205 cost study to determine the cost to the Borough to amend the employees pension plan to provide for an early retirement window permitting employees with 209 or more years of service to retire with an unreduced pension. The cost of this study will be paid by the pension plans. Motion was made by Mr. Gill, seconded by Mrs. Miller;

Roll call vote was taken:





1. Motion to Schedule a Special Meeting on November 23, 2020 at 4:00pm to take action upon matter(s) of personnel. Motion made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

Roll call vote was taken:



* **Official Reports**

 **Public Safety –** No report

 **Mayor –** No report. He wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Veterans Day.

 Mrs. Miller commented to Chief DeLuca that he is doing a good job.

**Public Works –** No report. Mrs. Miller commented on how nice the decorations look on Merchant St.. Also, it was mentioned that the Rotary will be decorating the new Merchant St. Gazebo on Nov. 21st.

**Parks & Recreation –** No report. Mrs. Miller did state that the Christmas Parade will be on Friday December 4th.

**Engineer’s Report –**

**1. Merchant Street (and Municipal Lots) Resurfacing:**

* Information provided by Hancock regarding spot sinkage on Merchant at 8th indicates this was a pre­existing condition of which they informed the Borough at the time of observation. Record of pre-construction meeting with Youngblood confirms this. Field Observation during Youngblood resurfacing project indicates this area did not show evidence of sinkage after milling, and therefore no additional work was called for beyond the specified resurfacing.
* At this point, it appears that any work to repair the sinkage would have to be performed at the Borough's expense.
* Further discussion is required with the Borough regarding the probable cause of the sinkage, how best to effect a repair, probable costs, etc...I am available for discussion at the Borough's convenience.

**2. 2020 Road Program:**

* Received, reviewed and recommended payment of Progress Payment No. 2 (FINAL) for the paving of Public Works Yard and 10th Street. Borough should receive my letter by the time of monthly meeting.
* This payment represents the 3% retainage that was previously withheld until we received a response regarding additional sealing requested in Public Works Yard. It should be noted that the sealing was not a specified item of work, and the Contractor is not obligated to perform the additional work requested but was asked to do so in good faith to address concerns of the Public Works Supervisor. The Contractor has indicated that they will perform this minor amount of additional sealing.

**Miscellaneous:**

* After questions arose during DEP's annual MS4 field inspection regarding location and ownership of storm sewers on Panek Park property, and a separate unrelated inquiry was directed to the Borough regarding legal access (easement) to the Panek Park property for purposes of conducting required testing on the retention bond in that area, I reviewed information related to Panek Park which could be useful to both situations. I will have forwarded to Borough Manager before monthly meeting.
* Reviewed Curb Cut Application for #712 19th Street. Application was recommended for denial due to failure to meet dimensional requirements of Borough Zoning Ordinance.

**Pending:**

* Follow up with Manager and Public Works regarding MS4 requirements. Specifically, regarding inlet filter bags and sediment reporting, etc...

**Motion to accept the Official Reports**; was made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli;

Roll call vote was taken:



* **Other Unfinished Business:**

Mr. Cafarelli commented about 8th and Merchant St. sink hole. He would like to see dowel rods put in.

Mr. Mikulich commented on the water & gas repairs that are ongoing –

 Gas on Church St and Kennedy Dr. and water repairs on First St.

* **Adjournment –**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Flannery, seconded by Mr. Dunn; motion carried unanimously – meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

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Mario Leone, Jr.

Borough Manager / Secretary