



# MINUTES

**Borough of Ambridge – Meeting of Borough Council**  
 Executive Session 6:00 Personnel  
 Council Chambers  
**Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 6:30 PM**

**I. Call to Order / Roll Call**

**Present:** Mr. Cafarelli  
 Ms. DeVincent  
 Mr. Dunn  
 Mr. Gill  
 Ms. Gilliam  
 Mrs. Tessaro

**Also Present:** Mr. Leone, Fire Chief Larrick, Lt. Chickos, James Brunner/NIRA, Solicitor Chesney  
**Absent:** Mrs. Miller, Mayor McCoy

**II. Invocation – Rev. Rick Thornhill, New Hope Community Church**

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. Presentations – Center for Hope – Food Pantry -- Sue Otto & Joe Battisti**  
**Proclamation: Valley Realty – Presented by Mr. Gill**

**V. Public Comment on/off Agenda Items (5 minutes per speaker)**

**VI. Approval of Previous Meeting’s Minutes**

**September 27<sup>th</sup> - Workshop Meeting**

Motion by Mr. Dunn to accept the meeting minutes from the September 27, 2022, Workshop meeting; seconded by Ms. DeVincent.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes	Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes		
Mayor McCoy		<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

**October 8<sup>th</sup> - Regular Meeting**

Motion by Mr. Dunn to accept the meeting minutes from the October 8, 2022, Council meeting; seconded by Ms. DeVincent.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes	Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes		

Mayor McCoy		<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>
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**VII. Approval to ratify and pay the Bills and Expenses:(For the month of November)**

1. General Fund	Unpaid: <b>\$337,269.88</b>	Paid: <b>\$500,497.30</b>
2. Grants / Special Project Fund	Unpaid: <b>\$13,598.88</b>	
3. Recreation Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	
4. 2021 Capital Note	Unpaid: <b>\$17,525.82</b>	
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	

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to ratify and pay the bills and expenses for the month of November; seconded by Ms. Gilliam.

**Discussion:** Mr. Gill questioned some of the bills. Regarding Turnley invoice, was the audit completed; Mr. Leone confirmed that the audit is complete and would be presented at next month’s meeting. Invoice for police negotiations. Mr. Gill asked about an invoice for Fall Festival of Churches for the Police Department, electrical materials and supplies (may be for Tom Patrician instead). Monthly contract for software maintenance, are you looking to change to new vendor? Mr. Leone stated that he is pursuing this item. Mr. Gill also had a question on unpaid bills: who is Stromberg, Garrison & Associates; Mr. Leone advised they are the Streetscape consultants. Mr. Gill asked about the physical for Officer Cody Reese for \$160.00, shouldn’t that be \$100.00? Mr. Leone advised that was for Officer Reese’s physical required for employment; it was billed to us at \$160.00 Mr. Gill asked about the Department of Labor charge; Mr. Leone advised that is a Worker’s Compensation surcharge that we pay once per year. Mr. Gill asked about the payment to ProAm Safety by Chief Larrick’s department \$240.20; Chief Larrick advised it was for the breathing apparatus regulator repair. Mr. Gill asked about the invoice for shipping. Chief Larrick reported that it related to a grant item that didn’t arrive until a later date; the freight fee of \$70.00 was for \$3,000.00 worth of materials.

<b>Council</b>	<b>Vote</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes	Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes		
Mayor McCoy		<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

**VIII. 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 approve 6 Items listed on the Consent Agenda.**

1. Borough Financial Report - acknowledge receipt of the Borough Treasurer’s Report for November 2022.
2. Consider action to Approve the Curb cuts for Creekside Spring parking lot on the corner of Park Road & 4<sup>th</sup> Street as approved and recommended by the Borough Engineer.
3. Consider Action to approve the request from the Ambridge Fireworks Committee to hold a firework celebration at Walter Panek Park on Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup>.

4. Consider Action to approve the Road Closure Request for the Old Economy Village Christmas on Saturday December 3, 2022 from 10:00am to 10:00pm on Church Street from 14<sup>th</sup> Street to 15<sup>th</sup> Street.
5. Consider Action to approve the request for the Chamber of Commerce to host their annual Christmas Parade on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm and close Merchant Street from 4<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Street.
6. Consider Action to approve a donation for Christmas Parade / Ice Sculpturer at P.J. Caul Park (two carvings 5 pm – 6 pm and 7 pm – 8pm) Total fee - \$1,500.00

**Discussion:** Mr. Leone acknowledged there are a lot of items on the Consent Agenda and asked if Council wanted them addressed individually and he can answer any questions. Item 6 for the Ice Sculpturer for \$1,500.00, Heart and Soul has a meeting on November 10 and may authorize \$500.00 to put towards that fee. Mr. Leone recommended that Council approve \$500.00 donation and Mr. Leone and the Chamber of Commerce will solicit for another vendor to donate the remaining \$500.00. Mr. Gill asked if the money could come from the filming funds received. Mr. Leone advised that thought was put most of those funds to the Fire Department since they were most impacted by the filming. Mr. Gill also had a question for the Engineer; why was there no physical visit to the site for the request for curb cut? Mr. Brunner advised he used the Google Streetview from 2022 and was able to see what he needed to see. The utility pole has already been removed. Mr. Cafarelli asked about the curb cuts being 20 feet; Mr. Brunner responded that at that particular site it will be used as commercial use which would allow for 40 feet, but they are only asking for 20 feet. Will sidewalks be replaced from 4<sup>th</sup> and Park up to the alley? Mr. Brunner stated he didn't think they would be replacing the entire sidewalk, just the 20 feet coming off the alley.

**Motion** by Mr. Cafarelli to approve six items on Consent Agenda; seconded by Mr. Dunn.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes	Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes		
Mayor McCoy		<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

## IX: New Business

1. Consider Action to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligation MMO for the Borough 2023 Pension Funds as prepared by the Borough's Pension Consultant for the following Defined Benefit Plans; Police \$298,963.00 Fire \$7,968.00 Service \$91,268.00, for the following Defined Contribution Plans; Fire \$22,284.00 and Service \$17,303.00.

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligation MMO for the Borough 2023 Pension Funds as prepared by the Borough's Pension Consultant for the following Defined Benefit Plans; Police \$298,963.00 Fire \$7,968.00 Service \$91,268.00, for the following Defined Contribution Plans; Fire \$22,284.00 and Service \$17,303.00; seconded by Ms. DeVincent.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes	Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes		
Mayor McCoy		<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

2. Consider Action to approve the transfer of State Aid Funds for the Fire Relief in the amount of \$23,892.88.

**Discussion:** Mr. Gill requested an explanation of what the State Aid Funds are; Mr. Leone advised that every year the State provides funds that are deposited into the Borough General Fund and then are transferred to the Volunteer Firefighters organization.

**Motion** by Mr. Cafarelli to approve the transfer of State Aid Funds for the Fire Relief in the amount of \$23, 892.88; seconded by Mr. Dunn.

Council	Vote		Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes		Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes		Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes		Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes			
Mayor McCoy			<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

3. Consider Action to approve Resolution 2022-11 related to the \$600,000.00 DCNR Grant for P.J. Caul Park requiring a 50% Borough Match in the amount of \$300,000.00.

**Discussion:** Mr. Leone provided additional detail regarding what would be covered by the Grant funds in conjunction with the Streetscape Project. Would put in new sidewalks, plant some new trees, and sprucing up the Honor Roll area.

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve Resolution 2022-11 related to the \$600,000.00 DCNR Grant for P.J. Caul Park requiring a 50% Borough Match in the amount of \$300,000.00; seconded by Ms. Gilliam.

Council	Vote		Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes		Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes		Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes		Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	No			
Mayor McCoy			<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>5-1</b>

4. Consider Action to approve the amended Site Plan of Sunbelt as reviewed and recommended by the Borough Engineer.

**Discussion:** Mr. Leone stated that the amended Site Plan had been reviewed by Mr. Brunner who didn't see any issues. Mr. Brunner stated that the primary change is they are proposing a new building rather than an addition on the existing building.

**Motion** by Ms. DeVincent to approve the amended Site Plan of Sunbelt as reviewed and recommended by the Borough Engineer; seconded by Mr. Dunn.

Council	Vote		Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes		Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes		Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes		Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes			
Mayor McCoy			<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

5. Consider Action to approve a \$10.00 daily rate increase for the School Crossing Guards of which the School District will pay \$5.00 (50%) of this daily rate increase.

**Discussion:** The rate will be reviewed again prior to the next school year (July 2023). This increase will begin on the next pay period. Back pay was not discussed with the School District.

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve a \$10.00 daily rate increase for the School Crossing Guards of which the School District will pay \$5.00 (50%) of this daily rate increase; seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

Council	Vote		Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes		Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes		Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes		Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes			
Mayor McCoy			<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

**Committee Reports**

1. Public Safety Committee – Mr. Dunn reported that they did not meet last month. There will be a meeting on Monday, November 14, 2022. The time will be at 5:00 p.m.
2. Mayor’s Report – Mayor was not in attendance.
3. Code Committee – Nothing to report from the Code Committee.
4. Public Works Committee – Nothing to report this month from the Public Works Committee. Leaf pickup continues.
5. Parks and Recreation Committee – Escalating Henning Park waiting on final approval from DCNR on grant money; Councilwoman Miller would like to see a ribbon-cutting on Memorial Day 2023 which we will try to make that timeframe. Mr. Brunner reported that a survey team was at the site today. Eagle Scout Toby has rehabilitated two sets of bleachers and painted the concession state at Walter Panek Park. They did a fantastic job.
6. Finance Committee
7. Engineer’s Report -- Mr. Brunner reported that the catch basin project is to start the week of November 21.
8. Solicitor’s Report – No report from the Solicitor
9. Manager’s Report – Mr. Leone stated that he has provided an email to Council reporting all of the amazing things happening in the Borough; there’s a lot happening. The Borough was the recipient of a \$4.5 million RCAP Grant earmarked for a Senior Community Center that Mayor McCoy has been advocating for the Borough coupled with an indoor/outdoor sports complex. We are looking to construct this on a portion of the Centria Steel site and 8 acres of the former Beemac property. This would not have been possible without the assistance of KSA (grant consultants) and the hard work and fight of Representative Matzie in obtaining \$4 million from the Democratic Caucus and Senator Vogel got \$500,000 through the Republican Caucus. Mr. Leone thanked the Council for their trust in supporting the decision to pay \$3,500/month for the grant consultant.

**X. Official Reports - Motion to accept Official Reports.**

**Motion by Mr. Dunn to accept the Borough’s Official Reports; seconded by Ms. DeVincent.**

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Ms. Jones-Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent	Yes	Mrs. Miller	
Mr. Dunn	Yes	Mrs. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes		
Mayor McCoy		<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

**XI. Other Unfinished Business**

Mr. Cafarelli had a phone call on a situation on Duss Avenue heading south near 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Streets regarding the truck trailers that are sitting along the business. There is one trailer sitting too close to the corner and you cannot see the stop sign. Mr. Cafarelli recommends they eliminate at least one trailer so you can see the sign. Lt. Chickos agreed it is a hazard. Mr. Leone agreed that it is illegally parked. This should be discussed further with Creekside that this presents a hazard. Mr. Leone will take another look at the situation and will speak to Creekside Springs to make sure it is taken care of.

**XII. Adjournment**

**Motion by Mr. Cafarelli to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Dunn.**

**NEXT MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL:**

Workshop Meeting: **November 22<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:00 PM**

**Announcements:**

**Library Fundraiser Taste of Ambridge is November 12th**