



## MINUTES

**Borough of Ambridge – Meeting of Borough Council**  
Public Hearing 5:00 PM - Liquor License Transfer  
Council Chambers  
**Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 – 6:30 PM**

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

**Present:** Mr. Basalyga  
Mr. Cafarelli  
Mr. Dunn  
Mr. Gill  
Ms. Gilliam  
Ms. Tessaro  
Mayor Miller

**Also Present:** Mario Leone, Fire Chief Larrick, Police Chief DeLuca, Solicitor Chesney, James Brunner/NIRA

**Absent:** Ms. DeVincent

**II. Invocation** – Sr. Pastor Matt Klenk of Calvary Fellowship Community Church

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. Presentation**

Proclamation to Daniel Harrah for Gold Medal Award & Accomplishments in Karate-do

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

**Shaun Duguay – 511 Wilson Avenue** – Commented on the dog incident last week where Pastor Rick found the dog similar to the one that bit his daughter. The Department transported the dog that day to the Humane Society. Mr. Duguay spoke with Paul Anthony at Champion Canine, and he is interested in helping the Borough and the Department when working with the dogs. Mr. Duguay also commented about the Ambridge Crime Watch which was disbanded on August 9 and wants to know who to talk to start a new Crime Watch. Mayor Miller advised that Chief DeLuca and she would be starting up a new Crime Watch, directly involved with the Ambridge Police Department. If Mr. Duguay wants to start something else outside of that effort it is up to him. Mr. Duguay also spoke to Chief DeLuca and Mayor Miller last week regarding the Bridger Brawl. Mr. Duguay addressed Mayor Miller regarding the concussion protocol, and he didn't feel there was adequate medical representation.

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

- **August 8th-** Regular Meeting

**Motion** by Mr. Gill to approve the August 8<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes; seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Basalyga	Yes	Mr. Gill	Yes
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Ms. Gilliam	Yes

Ms. DeVincent		Ms. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes		
Mayor Miller		<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>

**VII. Approval to ratify and pay the Bills and Expenses:(For the month of September)**

1. General Fund	Unpaid: \$ 85,942.10	Paid: \$ 94,052.97
2. Grants / Special Project Fund	Unpaid: \$ 300.73	Paid: \$ 0.00
3. Recreation Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$ 0.00
4. 2021 Capital Note	Unpaid: \$105,602.46	Paid: \$ 0.00
5. ARPA Fund	Unpaid: \$ 4,925.00	Paid: \$ 0.00
6. Escrow Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid:
7. Police Grant Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid:
8. Drug Investigation Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid:
9. Fire Department Grant	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$ 2,450.62
10. Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid:

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve paying the bills and expenses for September; seconded by Ms. Gilliam.

Council	Vote	Council	Vote
Mr. Basalyga	Yes	Mr. Gill	Yes
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes	Ms. Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent		Ms. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes		
Mayor Miller		<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 5 Items listed on the Consent Agenda.**

1. Borough Financial Report - acknowledge receipt of the Borough Treasurer’s Report for **September** 2023.
2. Approve Handicap Parking Space for Jackie L. Yanko at 342 Pine Street as recommended by the Police Department.
3. Approve the observance of Halloween (Trick or Treat) on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> in accordance with the County FOP.
4. Authorize the approval of the Bicentennial Committee’s booking of the entertainment of Occasional Reign Band “ORB” for the New Years Eve Gala.
5. Authorize approval of the Rotary Club to hold a Halloween Parade on Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm with Parade line up starting at 5:00 pm on New Economy Drive. Parade will proceed from 11<sup>th</sup> St onto Merchant Street and ending at 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve 5 items listed on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

**Comment:** Mr. Gill asked if the Financial Report can be separated from the other items in the Consent Agenda. Ms. Tessaro indicated that it is usually grouped with the other items on the Consent Agenda. Solicitor Chesney added that it is just a report, and no decisions are based on that report. Ms. Tessaro asked about item 4 the entertainment, if the Borough is paying for the entertainment; Mr. Leone advised that these are separate funds from other accounts that the Borough administers on behalf of the Bicentennial Committee. There is no payment due

until the evening of the event. Ms. Tessaro asked about the Halloween Parade if the Police and Fire Departments. Mr. Leone added that some additional decisions will need to be made.

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

**IX: New Business**

1. Consider Action to approve the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligations MMO as prepared by the Borough’s Pension Consultant.

*Defined Benefit Plans: Police \$350,177.00 Fire \$7,711.00 Service \$82,273.00*

*Defined Contribution Plans: Fire \$44,071.00 Service \$17,312.00*

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMO) as prepared by the Borough’s Pension Consultant; seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

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

2. Consider Action to Adopt **Ordinance #1324** Amending Part II, Chapter 290, Article II Section 290-22 entitled “Stop Intersections Established”.

**Motion** by Mr. Cafarelli to adopt Ordinance #1324 Amending Part II, Chapter 290, Article II, Section 290-22 entitled “Stop Intersections Established”; seconded by Mr. Gill.

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

3. Consider Action to Adopt **Ordinance #1325** referenced as “Storm Water Ordinance”.

**Motion** by Mr. Cafarelli to adopt Ordinance #1325 referenced as “Storm Water Ordinance”; seconded by Mr. Dunn.

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

4. Consider Action to Adopt **Ordinance # 1326** amending Part II, Chapter 265, Article II, entitled “Street Openings and Excavations”.

**Motion** by Mr. Cafarelli to adopt Ordinance #1326 amending Part II, Chapter 265, Article II, entitled “Street Openings and Excavations”; seconded by Mr. Dunn.

**Comment:** Mr. Gill asked for an explanation of this Ordinance; Mr. Brunner advised that there are two big changes. There is a change to the definition of what is required of street openings. Previously

it stated that if there were two openings within 700 feet required repaving the entire street. Being altered to between two intersecting streets (no number on it). Also, adding a provision that any streets we've repaved, can't be reopened within five years, unless it's an emergency.

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

5. Consider Action to approve payment to State Pipe Services in the Amount of **\$37,130.00** for the Storm Sewer Repair on 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve payment to State Pipe Services in the amount of \$37,130.00 for the Storm Sewer Repair on 6<sup>th</sup> Street; seconded by Mr. Basalyga.

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

6. Consider Action to approve Payment #5 (Final) to Jet Jack, Inc. in the Amount of **\$89,066.71** for the 2022 Storm Sewer Improvement Project.

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve Payment #5 (final) to Jet Jack, Inc., in the amount of \$89,066.71 for the 2022 Storm Sewer Improvement Project; seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

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

7. Consider Action to approve Payment #2 (Final) to Avelli Corporation in the amount of **\$27,600.00** for the Salt Shed.

**Motion** by Mr. Cafarelli to approve Payment #2 (final) to Avelli Corporation in the amount of \$27,600.00 for the Salt Shed; seconded by Ms. Gilliam.

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

8. Consider Action to approve Payment to Avelli Corporation in the Amount of **\$12,100.00** for the Henning Park Pavilion Concrete Pad.

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve payment to Avelli Corporation in the amount of \$12,100.00 for the Henning Park Pavilion Concrete Pad; seconded by Ms. Gilliam.

**Comment:** Mr. Gill asked if there were any other bids for this work. Mr. Leone indicated that due to the amount, no other bids were required.

Council	Vote		Council	Vote
Mr. Basalyga	Yes		Mr. Gill	No

Mr. Cafarelli	Yes		Ms. Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent			Ms. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes			
Mayor Miller			<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>5-1</b>

9. Consider action to Award Bid to Avelli Corporation for Fitness Court concrete pad 40' x 40' in the amount of \$15,920.00.

**Motion** by Mr. Dunn to award bid to Avelli Corporation for Fitness Court concrete pad 40' x 40' in the amount of \$15,920.00; seconded by Mr. Basalyga.

**Comment:** Mr. Gill asked if there were any other bids for this project. Mr. Leone stated that there was another bid from Friend Surface Solutions for \$16,400.00. Mr. Leone also reached out to two other companies; one was higher than the Avelli bid and the other did not have the availability this month. Both Friend and Avelli were available to complete the work when requested. Mr. Gill asked if they were sealed bids. Mr. Leone indicated that since it was lower than \$22,000.00, sealed bids were not required.

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

10. Consider Action to accept the resignation of School Crossing Guard Marianne Chambers effective August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Motion** by Mr. Basalyga to accept the resignation of School Crossing Guard Marianne Chambers effective August 8, 2023; seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

**Comment:** Mr. Gill asked what we are going to do about crossing guards. Mr. Leone indicated that we have some applications for consideration. Chief DeLuca indicated that they are in the process of reviewing those applications. Mr. Cafarelli asked that since school has been open, is there someone there now. There is only one crossing guard. Discussion ensued about having a Police presence. Chief DeLuca advised that the burden is split between the Borough and School District. He also advised that the final decision is made by the School District. This is for both employees and volunteers.

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

11. Consider Action to accept the resignation of Part-Time Police Officer Nathan Sciaretta effective August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

**Motion** by Mr. Basalyga to accept the resignation of Part-Time Police Officer Nathan Sciaretta effective August 31, 2023; seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

**Comment:** Mr. Gill asked since Office Sciaretta is leaving, would Chief DeLuca provide him with a letter thanking him.

Council	Vote		Council	Vote
Mr. Basalyga	Yes		Mr. Gill	Yes
Mr. Cafarelli	Yes		Ms. Gilliam	Yes
Ms. DeVincent			Ms. Tessaro	Yes
Mr. Dunn	Yes			

Mayor Miller		<b>Motion Carried</b>	<b>6-0</b>
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12. Consider Action to place a Full-Page Ad in the Laughlin Memorial Library 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Autumn Celebration Program in the amount of \$100.00.

**Motion** by Mr. Cafarelli to place a full-page ad in the Laughlin Memorial Library 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Autumn Celebration Program in the amount of \$100.00; seconded by Mr. Basalyga.

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

13. Consider Action to Approve an Access License Agreement between Marlborough US Reality Holdings, L.P. and the Borough of Ambridge – (*This agreement provides for access over Borough property for Marlborough Reality to maintain and test their pond and perform outfall testing.*)

**Motion** by Mr. Basalyga to approve an Access License Agreement between Marlborough US Reality Holdings, L.P., and the Borough of Ambridge; seconded by Mr. Cafarelli.

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

### **Committee Reports**

1. Public Safety Committee – Mr. Dunn reported that he has nothing to add. There will not be a meeting on Monday September 18.
2. Mayor’s Report – Mayor Miller has nothing to report. Mr. Gill directed a question to Chief DeLuca regarding the incident at the Church. Received a report from the Mayor but can something more have been done. Chief DeLuca stated that the incident was largely blown out of proportion. At 7:00 a.m. reported a man with a gun; another call came in for another location. The suspect was apprehended within 26 minutes. If the incident had lasted any longer, the 911 Center would have been advised to issue a Swift 911 and residents would have been notified of the situation. Every protocol was followed.
3. Code Committee – Mr. Basalyga reported that in the Inspection Program 116 inspections were conducted; Code Sweeps 696 letters year-to-date; Merchant Street Project, 83 letters sent out year-to-date; Abandoned Vehicles 75 letters sent out year-to-date; and High Grass 647 high grass letters sent out this year; 66 early garbage warning notices placed on front door of properties. Fire Chief Larrick added that he and Mr. Leone are working on a demolition program for residential and commercial buildings in town. Mr. Basalyga added that the reason he became involved in Council is because he believes in this Council, the Police Chief, the Fire Chief, and Mr. Leone.
4. Public Works Committee – Mr. Cafarelli reported that he has nothing at this time.
5. Parks and Recreation Committee – Ms. Gilliam stated that they have a meeting recently, but there are a lot of things happening that have been well attended. The last Turtle Race of the season was this past Saturday. The book bag give aways at Park Road Pavilion and PJ Caul Park were successful and well attended. Also, meetings have been held for the Fall Festival of the Churches coming up on September 30<sup>th</sup>. We have a great lineup with a lot of participation from the churches here. We are looking for the community to be there. T-shirts are being sold for the event, so if anyone is interested, let her know.
6. Engineer’s Report – Mr. Brunner indicated that everything in his report has already been discussed.

7. Manager’s Report – Mr. Leone reported on a development today. There is a monument on 8<sup>th</sup> Street that reflects on the first Christian mass in Beaver County on August 9 275 years ago. It was erected by the Knights of Columbus. They are looking to have a memorial mass there with Bishop Zubic in attendance on August 9, 2024. Their intention is for it to be a community-wide event. Also, next year is the Bicentennial of Old Economy. The splash pad test will not occur tomorrow as planned because the electrical connection has not been made (not Duquesne Light’s fault). The new tentative date is October 2 or 3. The playground vendor has not been here to start construction. Mr. Brunner and I will check on that holdup. The Fitness Center equipment has arrived and is in storage with StorExpress. Once the pad is poured and given time to cure, the equipment will be installed. The Streetscape is still on projection to put it out for bid. Soofa Kiosks are in the works, and everyone should be excited. They are amazing pieces of equipment, able to push a lot of information. Fire & Ice is still up in the air, we should know more by the end of the month; requested we be advised by September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. If it doesn’t happen this year, they will probably pivot to Ambridge in 2024.

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

**Motion** by Mr. Basalyga to accept Official Reports; seconded by Ms. Gilliam.

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

**XI. Other Unfinished Business**

Glenwood Fire Properties – Moving forward; should be wrapped up before next meeting.

Ordinances: IPMC- ticketing for violations – working with Chief Larrick for updates to IPMC 2021 with changes we need to make it applicable to Ambridge.

**XII. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Mr. Basalyga to adjourn meeting at 7:30 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Dunn; all in favor.

**NEXT MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL:**

Workshop Meeting: September 26<sup>th</sup>

Regular Meeting: October 10<sup>th</sup>

**Announcements:**

JamBridge - September 23rd

Festival of Churches - September 30th