



MINUTES

Borough of Ambridge – Meeting of Borough Council Council Chambers EXCUTIVE SESSION 6:00

Tuesday, November 12^h, 2024 – 6:30 PM

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Present: Mr. Gill, Mr. Prentice, Mr. Cafarelli, Mr. Basalyga, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Gilliam, Mayor Iorfido, Borough Manager Mr. Leone, Borough Solicitor Mr. Askar, Borough Engineer, Mr. Slagle, Police Chief DeLuca, Fire Chief Larrick

Absent: Ms. Tessaro

II. Invocation – Rick Thornhill, Senior Pastor, New Hope Community Church Ambridge

III. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Robert Jones – Did not realize the prior workshop meeting was canceled. It was canceled at the previous council meeting and posted on the Borough Facebook page.

Lisa McGowan from Fred’s Divot asked when the streetscape project would be completed. Mr. Cafarelli stated that there was a delay with Columbia Gas replacing some lines to the businesses. Mr. Leone added that there was a problem with the ramps blocking Columbia Gas from accessing the lines. The contractor came in on the weekend to move the ramps which was a limited delay. They are trying to complete the sidewalks by the end of the year. Ms. McGowan also mentioned that they are having a flooding issue in their basement. Mr. Leone stated that is a sewage issue and that would be handled by the municipal authority. Ms. McGowan also said revenue is down because of the sidewalks. Mr. Leone stated part of the delay was the difficulty contacting the business owners for Columbia Gas to gain access to the properties to change the lines.

Vince Pisano asked how to get a streetlight on Henrici Street. There used to be a light around 1619 Henrici Street, but it was removed and never replaced. Mr. Leone said we can get the pole number, contact Duquesne Light, and see why the light was not replaced.

V. Approval of Previous Meeting’s Minutes

October 8th Regular Meeting

Motion by Ms. Gilliam. Second by Mr. Dunn.

Mr. Basalyga	Y		Ms. Gilliam	Y
Mr. Cafarelli	Y		Mr. Prentice	Y

Mr. Dunn	Y		Ms. Tessaro	NA
Mr. Gill	Y		Mayor Miller	

Motion carried 6-0.

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

1. General Fund	Unpaid: \$261,445.40	Paid: \$ 469,863.22
2. Grants / Special Project Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$ 2,910.00
3. Recreation Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$ 1,607.50
4. 2021 Capital Note	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$ 465,283.31
5. ARPA Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$0.00
6. Escrow Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$0.00
7. Drug Investigation Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$0.00
8. Police Grant Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$ 17,000.00
9. Fire Department Grant Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$0.00
10. Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$0.00
11. Bicentennial Fund	Unpaid: \$0.00	Paid: \$0.00

Motion by Mr. Basalyga. Second by Mr. Prentice.

Mr. Gill had some questions on a few bills. Several Firefighters' health insurance was reimbursed for overpayment for their health insurance. Checks paid were to reimburse them for the overpayment.

Mr. Basalyga	Y		Ms. Gilliam	Y
Mr. Cafarelli	Y		Mr. Prentice	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y		Ms. Tessaro	NA
Mr. Gill	Y		Mayor Miller	

Motion carried 6-0.

VII. 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 2 Item listed on the Consent Agenda.**

1. Borough Financial Report - acknowledge receipt of the Borough Treasurer's Report for **November, 2024.**
2. Consider action to approve the Handicap Parking Space to Robert D. Cox 920 Beaver Road as recommended by the Ambridge Borough Police Department.

Motion by Mr. Basalyga. Second by Mr. Prentice.

Mr. Basalyga	Y		Ms. Gilliam	Y
Mr. Cafarelli	Y		Mr. Prentice	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y		Ms. Tessaro	NA
Mr. Gill	Y		Mayor Miller	

Motion carried 6-0.

IX: New Business

1. Consider/Discuss Action to Approve **Resolution 2024-5**

Motion by Mr. Basalyga. Second by Ms. Gilliam.

Mr. Leone explained that this is a request for a grant for funds to complete the remaining portion of the streetscape project from 11th to 12th Street.

Mr. Basalyga	Y		Ms. Gilliam	Y
Mr. Cafarelli	Y		Mr. Prentice	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y		Ms. Tessaro	NA
Mr. Gill	Y		Mayor Miller	

Motion carried 6-0.

2. Consider/Discuss Action to Approve payment request #6 from Bronder Technical Services in the amount of **\$432,933.31** for the Merchant Street Streetscape project.

Motion by Mr. Basalyga. Second by Mr. Dunn.

Mr. Basalyga	Y		Ms. Gilliam	Y
Mr. Cafarelli	Y		Mr. Prentice	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y		Ms. Tessaro	NA
Mr. Gill	N		Mayor Miller	

Motion carried 5-1.

3. Consider/Discuss the Approval of Parking Service Agreement with Municipal Parking Services. Inc to deploy “NO-Parking” enforcement equipment referred to as **Sentry Safety Sticks** that are bollards equipped with cameras that will assist the Borough Police Department with enforcing No- Parking Zones such as Fire Hydrants, Bus Stops, crosswalks, loading zones. This technology is being recommended by the Police Chief.

Mr. Leone stated due to many complaints about illegal parking issues throughout the borough, Mr. Leone and Chief DeLuca reviewed the technology with the Sentry Safety Sticks. In addition, they had a zoom call with the company. Chief DeLuca said he and Councilman Basalyga still has some questions with the billing/insurance costs with the technology. Mr. Askar stated the insurance issue would fall under the Borough insurance policy, but the billing questions still need to be answered. Chief DeLuca requests to table the issue until further questions are answered. Mr. Leone added that this was brought to council to discuss as a possible solution to the illegal parking situation. It's good to have these discussions to work together to come up with the best solution.

Item tabled.

4. ADDED MOTION: Issue with the Trinity Episcopal Trophious Center and water pressure issues with their sprinkler system. Trinity requested a hearing with the Board of Appeals to obtain a temporary occupancy permit. Currently, the Boroughs Board of Appeals is not a full board. A few board members no longer reside in the community, and no one has stepped up to fill the vacant seats. Solicitor Askar suggested that this issue be referred to Beaver County. The county has a board that will hear the case, free of charge to the borough. This hearing would be for a temporary variance until a permanent resolution can be obtained.

Motion by Mr. Basalyga. Second by Mr. Prentice.

Mr. Basalyga	Y		Ms. Gilliam	Y
Mr. Cafarelli	Y		Mr. Prentice	Y
Mr. Dunn	Y		Ms. Tessaro	NA
Mr. Gill	N		Mayor Miller	

Motion carried 5-1.

Committee Reports

1. Public Safety Committee – Meeting was postponed due to emergencies with both the police and fire departments
2. Mayor’s Report – Nothing to add this month.
3. Code Committee – Code was busy with inspections, high grass and abandoned vehicles.
4. Public Works Committee – Public Works poured the concrete pad for the chess board and tables at the 5th Street Park. Mr. Cafarelli added they did an incredible job.
5. Parks and Recreation Committee – The Mural is being completed at Henning Street Park.
6. Engineer’s Report – Design for the two parking projects is completed. Working with the power company for the new charging stations. Also looking at a curb cut request for the Trophious Center.
7. Solicitor’s Report – Completed final version of Harkin Mill Wines Lease Agreement.
8. Manager’s Report – The chess set was paid for by a grant. The only expense was the public works labor. The chess set and tables cost the Borough zero dollars. They will arrive next week. Restated the contractors are in the final stages of the sidewalks on the streetscape. He has been working with Ambridge Wholesale Tire for completion of their driveway and they have been very accommodating and a pleasure to work with. If winter is mild, the contractors will continue with the other side.

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

Motion by Mr. Basalyga . Second by Ms. Gilliam

Motion carried 6-0

XI. Other Unfinished Business

Mr. Gill wants on record that the Splash Pad company should fix the leak this year instead of next year. Solicitor Askar and the Borough Manager stated that if the work is done now, the warranty would start now instead of in May. The contractor has a performance bond that he must fix the issues, and by having the contractor come back in May, the warranty will not expire until 2026 instead of 2025. We will gain approximately 6 months on the warranty. Mr. Gill disagreed with the Solicitors and Borough Managers advice and said he would rather have it fixed now.

XII. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Basalyga. Second by Mr. Prentice.

Motion carried 6-0.

NEXT MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL:

Workshop Meeting: **Tuesday, November 26th, 2024 at 6:30 PM**

Regular Meeting: **Tuesday, December 10th, 2024 at 6:30 PM**

Announcements: