

**REGULAR SESSION \*\* ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL \*\* FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

Council President Ronald R. Rock called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Economy Municipal Building to conduct business of general purposes.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Larry Googins, Arthur Mutschler, Audrey Mutschler, Renee Raymer, Donald Sivy, John C. Thomas, Ronald R. Rock

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor David N. Poling (7:13) , Dale M. Fouse, Esq., Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager, Earl Fitzgerald, Road Foreman

James J. Sas, Chairman, Economy Borough Municipal Authority (EBMA), came before Council with the following annual summaries regarding the status of the Economy Borough Municipal Authority:

**Economy Borough Municipal Authority  
Summary of Financial Operations  
2008 and  
2009**

	<b><u>2008 Budget</u></b>	<b><u>2008 Actual</u></b>	<b><u>2009 Budget</u></b>	
Income				
4100 - Sewer Billing Charges	\$ (2,478,929)	\$ (2,491,894)	\$ (2,572,276)	(A)
4200 - Manual Billings	\$ (241,750)	\$ (194,227)	\$ (316,316)	(B)
4300 - Miscellaneous Charges	\$ (40,372)	\$ (42,323)	\$ (21,183)	
4400 - Extraordinary Income	\$ (112,500)	\$ (42,930)	\$ (40,000)	
Total Income	\$ (2,873,551)	\$ (2,771,374)	\$ (2,949,775)	
4500 - Interfund Transfers	\$ 2,329,213	\$ 2,247,504	\$ 2,121,193	
Income Available for Operations	\$ (544,338)	\$ (523,870)	\$ (828,582)	
Expenses				
5000 Operations & Maintenance				
5100 - General Operations	\$ 212,775	\$ 254,198	\$ 206,760	(C)
5200 - Personnel - Operations	\$ 103,670	\$ 120,514	\$ 145,132	(D)
5300 - Treatment & Maintenance	\$ 195,750	\$ 155,189	\$ 139,384	
5400 - Damages Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total 5000 Operations & Maintenance	\$ 512,195	\$ 529,901	\$ 491,276	
Total 5500 - Administrative Expenses	\$ 307,143	\$ 313,193	\$ 326,991	
Total 5800 - Extraordinary Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 819,338	\$ 843,094	\$ 818,267	
Net Ordinary (Income)/Expense	\$ 275,000	\$ 319,224	\$ (10,315)	
Interest and Developer Fee Income		\$ (280,526)	\$ -	(E)

	(275,000)			
Capital Expenditures	\$ 397,457	\$ 374,942	\$ 136,315	(E)
Net Debt Service	\$ 2,191,679	\$ 2,206,232	\$ 2,115,193	
Interfund Transfers		\$ (2,247,504)	\$ (2,121,193)	
	(2,329,213)			
Total Capital (Income)/Expense	\$ \$	53,144	\$ 130,315	
	(15,077)			
Net Cash (Surplus)/ Deficit	\$ 259,923	\$ 372,368	\$ 120,000	

	<u>2007 Actual</u>	<u>2008 Budget</u>	<u>2008 Actual</u>	<u>2009 Budget</u>
Estimated EDU's as of December 31	3,508	3,538	3,555	3,580

**Notes:**

- (A) Reflects increase in monthly billing from \$60 to \$62. Previous increase done 1/1/05
- (B) Reflects the budget assumption of approximately 25 new EDU's in 2009
- (C) Reflects new union wage contractual cumulative and current increases
- (D) Reflects substantially higher propane and electric costs
- (E) Reflects completion of Ridgewood and Anne Street Pump Station Renovations and Liberty Hills fees

**HEAR THE PUBLIC:**

Tom Chinchilla, 1821 Droz Avenue, also came before Council on May 22, 2007, requesting Council contact the Ambridge Water Authority (AWA), to give permission to dig at the end of Droz Avenue to install a hydrant that would help diminish the growth build up in his home water supply; nothing has been done. Mr. Rock asked Mr. Kunkle to repeat the process, telephone and send a letter to the AWA to grant permission from Economy Borough for the hydrant installation.

**MINUTES:**

***MOTION by Mr. Mutschler seconded by Mr. Thomas – to approve the Minutes of the February 10, 2009, Regular Session of Council, as written. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Poling reported he filed a formal complaint with New Sewickley Township (NST) regarding the noise from Mailing Services of Pittsburgh on behalf of the Economy Borough residents; will meet with the NST Supervisors to see what can be done to rectify this. Mrs. Mutschler reported this was also addressed in the Code Enforcement Officers February 24, 2009, report.

Mayor Poling reported Mr. Fouse is reviewing the collective bargaining agreement with regards to the latest COPS Grant.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**1.PSAB Annual Conference:** Mr. Kunkle reported PSAB has combined the Spring Conference and the Annual Conference into one meeting; the PSAB 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will be March 22-25, 2009, at the

Hershey Lodge; registration is \$225 (by March 2<sup>nd</sup>; \$260 after); Lodging would be \$165.39 X 3, \$496.17), plus travel expenses \$60 (more if pov used); approximately \$781.17.

***MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to authorize Mr. Kunkle and Mr. Googins to attend the PSAB 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, March 22-25, 2009, expending approximately \$1,600.00. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**2. Part Time Police Wages:** Mr. Kunkle surveyed the following municipalities:

Ambridge	\$11.00
Center	\$11.75 no overtime for f/t or p/t
Economy Borough	\$12.88
Midland	\$11.97 new hire
	\$13.67 Senior Officer
	\$17.96/20.51 holiday pay/overtime
Hopewell	\$13.39
Beaver	\$13.75 (\$20.25 on holidays)
Brighton Twp	\$11.94 1 <sup>st</sup> yr no experience
	\$12.90 1 <sup>st</sup> yr w/experience
	\$13.95 2 <sup>nd</sup> year
	\$15.08 3 <sup>rd</sup> year (plus time and ½ for 6 holidays and \$20,000 life policy)
Chippewa	\$14.88 part timers get first choice when full timers call off
New Brighton	\$11.86 new hire
	\$13.30 six months
	\$14.14 12 months
	\$15.79 24 months (which is where all of the pt police are at this time)
Baden	\$13.50 (3 FT includes COP & 8 PT) PT get first choice when FT call off
Harmony Twp.	\$14.20 (5 f/t includes chief, will go down to 4 f/t when and if Esseck gets magistrate position & 5 p/t), also p/t gets first choice when full timers call off.

Mrs. Mutschler added:

Edgeworth	\$16.25
Leet Twp	\$17.10
Bell Acres	\$13.75
Leetsdale	\$16.05
Sewickley	\$17.45
Franklin Park	\$17.45
Sewickley Hgts	\$16.30
Conway	\$12.00

Mr. Thomas suggested looking further into this. Mayor Poling advised the police contract is up this year. Mr. Googins suggested Mayor Poling talk to Chief Harrington to see if the slide scale concept would work. Mr. Sivy mentioned that the part time wage list does not reflect Economy Borough’s part time police receiving overtime for holidays. Mr. Kunkle reported this was overlooked when the list was written. Mr. Rock asked Mayor Poling to talk with Chief Harrington to look at the different areas and the slide scale concept.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:**

**ROAD DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Mutschler read the summary of work that took place during the month of February, 2009, as submitted by Earl Fitzgerald:

- We were on snow removal 12 days
- The trucks, plows and spreaders are cleaned, greased and repairs made to keep the trucks ready for the next storm.
- We swept most of the plans with the street sweeper during the last break in the weather.
- Truck repairs were done as necessary.
- Tree trimming is being done as weather permits.
- Trees were toppled and signs were damaged due to the recent storm. The trees were cleaned up and we still have sign repairs that will be done as time and weather permit.
- Pothole filling has been done as weather permits.

Mayor Poling asked if street sweeping could be scheduled. Mr. Googins reported street sweeping is done weather permitting; damp streets work better. Mrs. Mutschler suggested posting the schedule on the web site. Mr. Googins stated we try to do routine changes/updates on the web in 30 minute increments; to save money. Mr. Fitzgerald stated he can try to post a schedule in the spring.

### **ORDINANCE and RECREATION:**

Mr. Thomas reported the sign for The Jeffrey B. Meddock Recreation Park is being started; the Seven Springs Ski Trip was a success. Mr. Kunkle reported he is still waiting for a response from EYBA if they are a 5013C; must be to be eligible for the grant for the ball field at the municipal building and must field a team.

### **PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Mr. Fouse reported the AWA litigation is now in the discovery phase; using the information obtained to support our position.

### **PROPERTY and BUILDING:**

Mr. Sivy reported wind damage to the roof of the police station has been repaired along with some siding on the Community Building by Bevilacqua for \$300; will come back to look at the curtain wall and glass doors at the end of the hallway of the municipal building; flashing & soffit are off the copula at the police building. Mr. Kunkle reported Mr. Bevilacqua had been asked to automatically check for damage after storms.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Mutschler provided a check from Beaver County as reimbursement in the amount of \$1,123.35 for the tactical team participating in the Shippingport drill; this drill was observed by local government representatives and representatives from the federal government in Washington DC.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

No Report

**REPORTS:**

**SECRETARY:**

No Report

**ENGINEER:**

No Report

**SOLICITOR:**

Mr. Fouse reported the Giant Eagle litigation should be in Commonwealth Court by April.

**HEAR THE PUBLIC II:**

Butch Thompson, 115 First Street, asked if there was money in the budget to fix the police building roof once and for all; suggested using the money to be spent on the PSAB Conference on the police roof. Mr. Sivy reported the contractor is dedicated to Economy Borough and does not want to see taxes go up; his bills could be double or triple, but are not.

John Campbell, 123 Gross Drive, felt that since this is an ongoing problem with the high winds, that a fund should be set up to replace the roof with a new metal roof since the shingles keep tearing loose. Mr. Googins suggested Mr. Sivy look at the cost to replace the roof or just keep repairing the roof. Mr. Rock reported in 2003 or 2004 Council decided to keep repairing the roof. Mr. Thomas asked if the \$54,000 in the Public Safety Building Capital Construction Fund could be used to replace the roof. Mr. Kunkle reported the funds could be used for the building or repayment of the debt; the debt balance for the police building was rolled into the refinancing of the 1997 bond issue in 2005; Mr. Shoup could prepare bid specifications for current prices on a new roof. Mr. Rock asked Mr. Sivy to get prices for a metal roof.

Mike Lucia, 416 Golden Grove Road, reported a hole on Bock Lane between Golden Grove Road and Summerfield; PennDOT will be notified.

Ray Mattern, 2906 Conway Wallrose Road, asked Council if there will be a yard waste program in 2009; during the week. Mr. Rock reported we will have a program but limited hours; to be announced.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

***MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mrs. Raymer – to adjourn the meeting. Time: 8:17 PM  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum  
Borough Secretary  
February 28, 2009