

MINUTES

September 18, 2006

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Monday, September 18, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue. President Anita O'Hara Pieri presided.

Mrs. O'Hara Pieri led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of prayer.

Roll Call – Present: Mrs. O'Hara Pieri, Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Isabella, Mr. Kenney, Mr. Orehek, Mr. Pugliese and Mr. Dooley. Mayor Wahl, Solicitor Bresnan, Mr. Rocco Wack and Mrs. Aversa also were present. Absent: Mrs. Baigis.

Mrs. O'Hara Pieri moved that the August 21st Minutes be approved. Seconded, carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety Committee – Mr. Pugliese, Chairman

The Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue. Committee members: Mr. Pugliese, Mr. G. Pasceri and Mr. Isabella. Also present: Mrs. O'Hara Pieri, Mr. Orehek, Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Baigis and Mr. Taylor. Also present: Mayor Wahl, Solicitor Bresnan, Mr. Rocco Wack and Mrs. Mary Aversa. Absent: Mr. Dooley.

The Public Safety Committee report was given by Mr. Pugliese.

The Committee will make no recommendations at this time.

In other business the following was discussed:

Mr. Pugliese announced that the Committee had tabled discussion on PA DEP specific requirements for yard waste pick up. The DEP now requires a monthly pickup of yard waste. Ambler Borough currently has eight scheduled days of service for removal of yard waste.

Mrs. O'Hara Pieri asked if there were questions from the public. None were asked.

Mr. Pasceri moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. Dooley, Chairman

The Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue. Committee members: Mr. Dooley, Mr. G. Pasceri and Mr. Isabella. Also present: Mrs. O'Hara Pieri, Mr. Orehek, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Baigis and Mr. Taylor. Also present: Mayor Wahl, Solicitor Bresnan, Mr. Rocco Wack and Mrs. Mary Aversa. Absent: Mr. Dooley.

The Parks and Recreation Committee report was given by Mr. Dooley.

The Committee will recommend the following:

1. Recommend adopting Resolution 2006-13 to adopt the Borough's Open Space Plan.

Discussion ensued. A member of the public inquired as to which specific land had been selected by the Committee to be incorporated into the plan. Mrs. O'Hara Pieri explained that the Open Space Plan Resolution merely embraces the Montgomery County plan to work in consortium with the Borough to identify and develop open space in the Borough.

No further questions, Mrs. O'Hara Pieri moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

Public Utilities Committee – Mr. Orehek, Chairman

The Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue. Committee members: Mr. Orehek, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. O'Hara Pieri. Also present: Mr. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney, Mr. Isabella, Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Baigis. Also present: Mayor Wahl, Solicitor Bresnan, Mr. Rocco Wack and Mrs. Mary Aversa. Absent: Mr. Dooley.

The Public Utilities Committee report was given by Mr. Orehek.

The Committee will recommend the following:

1. Authority is requested to renew the current laboratory contract with M. J. Reider Associates, Inc. for collection and analysis of samples required in the Borough's NPDES permit.
2. Given that the plant engineer has received bid documents for purchasing a new 1500 KW generator, and given that the DEP requires diesel controls for compliance with emissions standards, the Committee recommends the award for the purchase of a Tier 1 engine to Emergency System Services Co. of Quakertown at a cost of \$225,700 with the caveat that should DEP standards

be more stringent, the award for the purchase of a Tier 2 engine from Emergency System Services Co. of Quakertown be made at a cost of \$237,900.

In other business the following was discussed:

Regarding Carr & Duff, Inc.'s contracted removal of conductors from the switchgear to B-2 (DAF Building) alternate breaker it was discovered that an additional conductor needs replacement. The Council inquired as to whether a Bid was out for the purchase of this new conductor. Mrs. Aversa stated that she would inquire of Waste Water Superintendent Bruce Jones .

Mrs. O'Hara Pieri asked if the public had any questions. No questions received.

Mr. Pasceri moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

Finance and Planning Committee - Mr. Kenney, Chairman

The Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue. Committee members: Mr. Kenney, Mr. Pasceri, Mr. Dooley and Mr. Taylor. Also present: Mrs. O'Hara Pieri, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Orehek, Mr. Isabella and Mrs. Baigis. Also present: Mayor Wahl, Solicitor Bresnan, Mr. Rocco Wack and Mrs. Mary Aversa. Absent: Mr. Dooley.

The Finance and Planning Committee report was given by Mr. Kenney.

The Committee will recommend the following:

1. Recommend that the August 2006 invoices totaling \$525,409.65 be paid.
2. Recommend that the 2006 interest payment on the Department of Community and Economic Development Grant received in 2002 be released to Ambler Main Street and further, that the 2007 interest allocation be reviewed by Council for other allowable uses.
3. Recommend the authorization of the Borough Solicitor to add criteria to the zoning ordinance in regard to home professional offices.
4. Recommend granting conditional preliminary land development approval on the application submitted by Summit Realty for the Boiler Plant Development with the caveat that the developer meet specifications requirements from Gilmore and Associates, the Borough's engineers.
5. Recommend adopting **Resolution 2006-10** recognizing the actuarial condition of the Borough's Municipal Employee pension plan.

6. Recommend adopting **Resolution 2006-11** recognizing the actuarial condition of the Borough's Police Employee pension plan.

Discussion ensued with an inquiry from the public as pertains to Recommendation #4. Frank Romano, identifying himself as an Environmental Biochemist stated a blanket disapproval of consideration of land development in the Borough until all asbestos tracings are removed from the Borough. Mr. Kenney stated that new developments in these areas are subject to both DEP and EPA approval in that they are involved in the oversight of these projects. Mrs. O'Hara Pieri stated that the EPA currently is taking new samples to ascertain presence of asbestos and that new development always factors in these considerations. Mr. Romano stated that a legal appeal may be filed in matters such as these.

In other business the following was discussed:

1. Mr. Kenney stated that Gilmore and Associates has not received further information from the developer regarding a proposed 237 Trinity Avenue Subdivision project. The project had been tabled awaiting further information from the developer.
2. Bernadette Dougherty, Manager of Ambler Main Street announced that *Octoberfest* will be held Sunday, September 24th from noon until 5:00 p.m. She stated that the street will close at 10:00 a.m.
3. Mr. Morgan made the Council aware that he would like to begin publishing and distributing "*Hometown News*" on a twice yearly basis. This publication was last printed July 2005. He detailed that the publication would be electronically available and that he would allocate one page to Ambler Main Street. He authorized distributing his E-Mail address to Council for their inclusion in the publication. Mr. Kenney stated that the publication, when distributed four times a year cost approximately \$2,000 and that funds were available to pick up this project.

Mrs. O'Hara Pieri asked if the public had further comments or questions. None received.

Mr. Pasceri moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At the request of the Borough Solicitor, Borough Council and Rocco Wack (Manager) dismissed from chambers to hold an Executive Session. Upon the Council's return to public meeting, Mrs. O'Hara Pieri stated that the reason for their Executive Session was to review a resident's zoning issue. Upon inquiry from Bernadette Dougherty, it was stated that the specific zoning issue concerned the McGinn lot (N. Spring Garden Street) and that the issue was pending appeal in Norristown.

Salary and Personnel Committee – Mr. Isabella, Chairman

The Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue. Committee members: Mr. Isabella, Mr. G. Pasceri and Mr. Orehek. Also present: Mrs. O'Hara Pieri, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Baigis and Mr. Taylor. Also present: Mayor Wahl, Solicitor Bresnan, Mr. Rocco Wack and Mrs. Mary Aversa. Absent: Mr. Dooley.

The Salary and Personnel Committee report was given by Mr. Isabella.

The Committee will recommend the following:

1. Recommend that interviews be conducted and positions filed based on Supervisors' recommendations for advertised positions in the Water Department and the Waste Water Treatment Department.
2. Recognize that Rocco Wack's position titles are "Chief" and "Borough Manager" and recommends the formal removal of terms encompassing words such as "Interim" or "Acting" from his job title.

Mrs. O'Hara Pieri asked if the public had any questions. No questions received.

Mr. Pasceri moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

There being no further business, Mrs. O'Hara Pieri asked for questions or comments from the public. David Michael Kenney of Act II Playhouse made a presentation regarding the Playhouse's charitable contributions to the community. He announced the continuation of their viewed-by-the-public Dress Rehearsals scheduled for September 21st and November 16th of this year and for January 18th, March 8th and May 10th of next year. Proceeds from these "performances" will be donated to Ambler Movie Theater, the Mattie Dixon Community Cupboard, Wissahickon Educational Opportunities Foundation, the Wissahickon Valley Watershed and Ambler Main Street.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Safety Committee

None

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Committee recommends and Mr. Dooley moves:

THAT Resolution 2006-13 to adopt the Borough's Open Space Plan be adopted. Seconded. Roll Call Vote: All present, Aye. Carried.

Public Utilities Committee

The Committee recommends and Mr. Orehek moves:

THAT authority be granted to renew the current laboratory contract with M. J. Reider Associates, Inc. for collection and analysis of samples required in the Borough's NPDES permit. Seconded, carried.

THAT, given that the plant engineer has received bid documents for purchasing a new 1500 KW generator, and given that the DEP requires diesel controls for compliance with emissions standards, the Committee grant the award for the purchase of a Tier 1 engine to Emergency System Services Co. of Quakertown at a cost of \$225,700 with the caveat that should DEP standards be more stringent, the award for the purchase of a Tier 2 engine from Emergency System Services Co. of Quakertown be made at a cost of \$237,900. Seconded, carried.

Finance and Planning Committee

The Committee recommends and Mr. Kenney moves:

THAT the August 2006 invoices totaling \$525,409.65 be paid. Seconded, carried.

THAT the 2006 interest payment on the Department of Community and Economic Development Grant received in 2002 be released to Ambler Main Street and further, that the 2007 interest allocation be reviewed by Council for other allowable uses. Seconded, carried.

THAT authorization be granted to Borough Solicitor to add criteria to the zoning ordinance in regard to home professional offices. Seconded, carried.

THAT conditional preliminary land development approval be granted on the application submitted by Summit Realty for the Boiler Plant Development with the caveat that the developer meet specifications requirements from Gilmore and Associates, the Borough's engineers. Seconded, carried.

THAT **Resolution 2006-10** be adopted, recognizing the actuarial condition of the Borough's Municipal Employee pension plan. Seconded. Roll Call Vote: All present, Aye. Carried.

THAT **Resolution 2006-11** be adopted, recognizing the actuarial condition of the Borough's Police Employee pension plan. Seconded. Roll Call Vote: All present, Aye. Carried.

Salary and Personnel Committee

The Committee recommends and Mr. Isabella moves:

THAT interviews be conducted and positions filed based on Supervisors' recommendations for advertised positions in the Water Department and the Waste Water Treatment Department. Seconded, carried.

THAT Rocco Wack's position titles be recognized as "Chief" and "Borough Manager" and that words such as "Interim" or "Acting" be formally removed from his job title. Seconded, carried.

Mrs. O'Hara Pieri moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Russell
Administrative Assistant

For
George W. Benigno
Assistant Borough Secretary