

## **AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**October 20, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002. President Tony Isabella presided.

Mayor Bud Wahl led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

**Roll Call** – Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Pieri, Mrs. Baigis, Mr. S. Pasceri, Mr. Amento, Ms. Maxion and Mrs. Strus. Mayor Wahl, Chief Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa also were present. Absent: Mr. G. Pasceri.

A motion was made to approve the September 15, 2009 Minutes with suggested revisions. Seconded. Carried.

Mr. Isabella, Chief Foley and Mrs. Aversa each expressed sympathy for the passing of several members of the community and neighboring municipalities that occurred during the last two weeks. On behalf of the Borough, Council's thoughts are for the passing of Mrs. Melva Hill, Ms. Doris Pennington, the late husband of Joyce Bernie, the mother of Jim DelConte and former Police Chief Nicola of Bridgeport.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Public Safety Committee – Ms. Maxion, Chairman**

Committee members: Ms. Maxion, Mr. G. Pasceri and Mr. Kenney

The Committee met on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Pieri, Mrs. Baigis, Mr. Amento, Ms. Maxion and Mrs. Strus. Also present: Chief Bill Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa. Absent: Mr. S. Pasceri, Mayor Wahl.

The Public Safety Committee report was given this evening by Ms. Maxion.

**The Committee will make no recommendations.**

**In other business the following was discussed:**

1. The Police Department and Fire Company reports for September 2009 were received.
2. The September 2009 Public Works and Code Enforcement reports were reviewed.
3. Minutes from the September Public Safety Meeting were received.

Mr. Isabella asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. There being none, it was moved the report be accepted as filed. Seconded, carried.

**Parks and Recreation Committee – Mrs. Pieri, Chairman**

Committee members: Mrs. Pieri, Ms. Maxion, Mrs. Strus

The Committee met on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Pieri, Mrs. Baigis, Mr. Amento, Ms. Maxion and Mrs. Strus. Also present: Chief Bill Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa. Absent: Mr. S. Pasceri, Mayor Wahl.

The Parks and Recreation Committee report was given this evening by Ms. Pieri.

**The Committee will make no recommendations.**

**In other business the following was discussed:**

1. Ambler Borough's EAC approached the Clean Water Fund (CWF) regarding the Borough's Schuylkill River Storm Water and Resource Protection Ordinances. A memo outlining recommended language from the EAC for inclusion in the Borough Floodplain Ordinance is being reviewed.
2. Family Movie Night was held October 3<sup>rd</sup> at Pickering Field. Approximately 120 persons attended the event.
3. Drawings were prepared for a skate park at Knight Park. The Committee and staff will meet with the developer to discuss future plans.

Mr. Isabella asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. There being none, it was moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

**Public Utilities Committee – Mr. Amento, Chairman**

Committee members: Mr. Amento, Mrs. Judy Baigis, Mr. S. Pasceri

The Committee met on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr.

Kenney, Mrs. Pieri, Mrs. Baigis, Mr. Amento, Ms. Maxion and Mrs. Strus. Also present: Chief Bill Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa. Absent: Mr. S. Pasceri, Mayor Wahl.

The Public Utilities Committee report was given this evening by Mr. Amento.

**The Committee will make no recommendations.**

**In other business the following was discussed:**

1. The September WWTP Supervisor's and Engineer's reports were reviewed.
2. Broad Axe Tank recoating project is nearing completion.
3. Staff has received a copy of the draft NPDES permit. The Borough has 30 days to comment on the permit, namely for aluminum limit that would go into effect in the fourth year of the permit. The plant engineer will send comments to DEP. An Executive Session was held in reference to the WWTP.
4. Staff is updating the Emergency Action Plan for Loch Alsh Dam. The annual inspection occurred in October.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Aversa, in response to an inquiry by Mrs. Baigis, stated that Upper Dublin had held an emergency drill proximate to the dam site, which was attended by Philip Benigno, Water Supervisor, Chief Foley and herself, and that the logistics of the drill were satisfactory.

Mr. Isabella asked if there were questions or comments from Council or the public. There being none, it was moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

**Finance and Planning Committee - Mr. Kenney, Chairman**

Committee Members: Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Pieri and Mrs. Baigis

The Committee met on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. G. Passceri, Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Pieri, Mrs. Baigis, Mr. Amento, Ms. Maxion and Mrs. Strus. Also present: Chief Bill Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa. Absent: Mr. S. Pasceri, Mayor Wahl.

The Finance and Planning Committee report was given this evening by Mr. Kenney and Mrs. Baigis.

**The Committee will recommend the following:**

1. Recommend that the September invoices in the amount of **\$700,130.72** be paid as follows: General (\$162,815.30); Street Lights (\$343.53); Fire (\$3,623.53); Parks & Rec. (\$2,633.37); Water (\$87,471.31); Sewer (\$131,606.61); WWTP (\$224,086.31); Rail Corridor (\$0.00); Road Overlay (\$0.00); Debt Fund (\$0.00); Water Capital (\$0.00); Liquid Fuels (\$235.28); with end of month cycle totaling \$88,270.14, voided checks totaling \$954.66 and September bills totaling \$612,815.24.
2. Recommend adoption of **Resolution 2009-12** recognizing the actuarial condition of the Borough Police Employee Pension Plan.
3. Recommend adoption of **Resolution 2009-13** recognizing the actuarial condition of the Borough Police Employee Pension Plan.
4. Recommend approval of the land development plan for 107 S. Locust. The Borough Planning Commission at its September 22, 2009, meeting approved the Land Development of 107 South Locust Street for Mr. David Navo for a duplex house. Approval is subject to the items in the Engineer's letter of September 17, 2009 and the County Planning letter of September 21, 2009. The applicant has agreed to add a notation to the plan that he will remove the fence at the rear of the property along the alley where the parking spaces will be created.
5. Recommend the purchase of a 2010 For Escape vehicle for the Police Department at a maximum cost of \$23,355.00, replacing the 115K mile Chevy Tahoe.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Baigis requested that the Committee consider downsizing the fleet to five vehicles as a cost savings measure. Chief Foley stated he needed to maintain fleet size for viability of his units and for the out of town needs of the detective. Chief Foley also stated that a hybrid vehicle was not considered due to the local drive traffic patterns in Ambler and the needs for electronics to outfit a police vehicle. Both Mr. Kenney and Mrs. Pieri stated that residents have commented favorably on the increased police presence to curtail speeding.

**In other business the following was discussed:**

1. The Borough Engineer's September 2009 report was reviewed.
2. Committee is reviewing the FY2010 Draft Budget. The public meeting will be advertised and will be held November 17, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the Council Meeting.
3. Joe Duda updated Borough Council on October 3<sup>rd</sup> on Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) and the implications of the new FASB 45 on retirement health care and its effect on future MMO's.

4. The height limit on signs in the Downtown Commercial District was discussed. The Committee is conducting further research.

**In New Business:**

1. A copy of the TRID (Transit Revitalization Investment District) Fiscal Analysis and Proposed Resolution was distributed to Council. Carter van Dyke Associates will make a presentation at the November Committee Meeting.

Mr. Isabella asked if there were questions or comments from Council or the public. There being none, it was moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

**Salary and Personnel Committee – Mr. S. Paceri, Chairman**

Committee members: Mr. S. Pasceri, Mr. Amento, Mrs. Strus

The Committee met on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney, Mrs. Pieri, Mrs. Baigis, Mr. Amento, Ms. Maxion and Mrs. Strus. Also present: Chief Bill Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa. Absent: Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. S. Pasceri, Mayor Wahl.

The Salary and Personnel Committee report was given this evening by Mrs. Strus.

**The Committee will make no recommendations at this time.**

**In other business the following was discussed:**

1. The Committee is review benefits alternative for 2010 and will call for an Executive Session November/December to review options.

Mr. Isabella asked if there were questions or comments from Council or the public. There being none, it was moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Sal Boccuti was recognized as the new Co-Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Group. He will include all Council members in future Emails of CAG Minutes. There being nothing further, it was moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Public Safety Committee** – Ms. Maxion states the Committee will make no recommendation at this time.

**Parks & Recreation Committee** – Mrs. Pieri states the Committee will make no recommendation at this time.

**Public Utilities Committee** – Mr. Amento states the Committee will make no recommendation at this time.

**Finance & Planning Committee** – The Committee recommends and Mr. Kenney moves:

Recommend that the September invoices in the amount of **\$700,130.72** be paid. Seconded, Carried.

Recommend adoption of **Resolution 2009-12** recognizing the actuarial condition of the Borough Police Employee Pension Plan. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend adoption of **Resolution 2009-13** recognizing the actuarial condition of the Borough Police Employee Pension Plan. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend approval of the land development plan for 107 S. Locust Street subject to the items in the Engineer's letter of September 17, 2009 and the County Planning letter of September 21, 2009. The applicant has agreed to add a notation to the plan that he will remove the fence at the rear of the property along the alley where the parking spaces will be created. Seconded. 7-Aye; 1-Nay (Mrs. Baigis). Carried.

Recommend the purchase of a 2010 For Escape vehicle for the Police Department at a maximum cost of \$23,355.00, replacing the 115K mile Chevy Tahoe. Seconded. 7-Aye, 1-Nay (Mrs. Baigis). Carried.

**Salary & Personnel Committee** – Mrs. Strus states the Committee will make no recommendations at this time.

There being no further business, Mr. Isabella moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Russell  
Administrative Assistant  
Borough of Ambler