

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

January 18, 2011

A Public Hearing was held by Ambler Borough Council on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 to receive public comment on three zoning ordinances under consideration by Council: **Ordinance 1053** for Design Standards for Non-Residential Properties; **Ordinance 1054** for Maximum Impervious Coverage in Mixed Dwelling Residential Zones and Garden Apartment Districts; and **Ordinance 1055** for Signage and Lighting. The Montgomery County court reporter was present. Council voted by roll call vote on each ordinance. Ordinance 1053 – 8 Aye; O-Nay (Mr. Kenney-absent). Ordinance 1054 – 8 Aye; O-Nay (Mr. Kenney-absent). Ordinance 1055 – 8 Aye; O-Nay (Mr. Kenney-absent). Hearing concluded.

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002. President Antonio Isabella presided.

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

Roll Call – Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. Amento, Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney, Mr. S. Pasceri, Ms. Maxion, Mrs. Strus, Ms. Tomlinson and Mr. Curtis. Mayor Wahl, Solicitor Bresnan, Sgt. Keefer and Mrs. Aversa also were present.

A motion was made to approve Minutes of the December 21, 2010 meeting as submitted. Seconded. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of the Ambler Borough Council met on Tuesday, January 4, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. Amento, Mr. Kenney, Mr. S. Pasceri, Ms. Maxion, Mrs. Strus, Ms. Tomlinson and Mr. Curtis. Chief Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa also were present. Absent: Mr. G. Pasceri and Mayor Wahl.

At the Council Meeting this evening, the Committees conducted business as follows:

Public Safety Committee – Mrs. Strus, Chairperson

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

The Public Safety Committee report was given this evening by Mrs. Strus.

The Committee will consider no actions this evening.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Police Department December 2010 report was received and the Fire Department's December 2010 report will be provided.
2. The December 2010 Public Works, Safety Minutes and Code Enforcement reports were received.

Mrs. Strus 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 – Ms. Maxion, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. Amento, Mrs. Strus, Ms. Tomlinson

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

The Committee will consider no actions this evening.

Ms. Maxion 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.

Public Utilities Committee – Mr. Amento, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. S. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney, and Mr. Curtis.

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

The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:

1. Authorization is requested by WWTP to have the plant engineer prepare the RFP's for the cleaning and repair of digester ET-15. This is a capital budgeted item for 2011.
2. Authorization is requested by WWTP to have Siemens Water Technology Corporation conduct a "Sludge Digester mechanical Integrity Evaluation" at a cost of \$4,750. DVIT has a \$5,000 grant for this project, which will cover the cost of the evaluation.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The December 2010 WWTP Supervisor's and Engineer's reports were received.

2. Staff is preparing a brochure on a Water Line Protection Program which the Borough will offer to water customers in 2011.
3. The 2010 trash hauler bid was discussed.

Discussion ensued. Solicitor Bresnan stated that a hearing on a preliminary injunction has been set for Wednesday, January 26, 2011.

Mr. Amento 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, Chairperson

Committee Members: Mr. S. Pasceri, Ms. Maxion, and Ms. Tomlinson.

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

The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:

1. Consideration that **DECEMBER** invoices in the amount of **\$603,287.15** be paid as follows: General (**\$232,579.55**); Street Lights (**\$7,199.43**); Fire (**\$530.12**); Parks & Rec. (**\$3,352.07**); Water (**\$86,866.33**); Sewer (**\$158,838.56**); WWTP (**\$117,854.60**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$6,473.11**) and one voided check for **\$10,406.62**.
2. A draft outdoor Vending Machine Ordinance was sent to the Borough Planning Commission for review, a letter was received from the Planning Commission. This is a stand-alone ordinance and does not need County review. Authorization is requested to have the Solicitor prepare the final draft and advertise the ordinance for adoption.
3. The Planning Commission reviewed the Parking Ordinance to identify possible amendments. Authorization to have the solicitor use recommended changes and to prepare an ordinance is requested.
4. Recommend approval of the two-lot subdivision at 335 Valley Brook Road subject to meeting the conditions of the County Planner's letter (12/14) and Engineer's letter (12/8).
5. Several term appointments expired December 31, 2010 and as such Committee members were contacted by staff to determine intentions to seek re-appointment. Remaining positions to be appointed are: Planning Commission – one position; Zoning Hearing Board – one position; EAC – one position; Appeals Board – two positions. Appointed at January 4, 2011 Committee Meeting: Susan Johnsson and Estelle Wynn Dolan were appointed to fill two seats on the EAC . (8 –Aye); Dick Hill was appointed to fill the seat on the Vacancy Board. (8-Aye).

6. Recommend approval of **Resolution 2011-01**, a resolution of thanks and appreciation recognizing the public service of Rick Taylor. [A presentation was made by Mayor Wahl to Mr. Rick Taylor.]

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Borough Engineer's December 2010 report was received.
2. The Ordinance amendments for Borough Signs (**Ordinance 1055**), Building Design Standards (**Ordinance 1053**) and Mixed Residential Zoning (**Ordinance 1054**) were advertised for adoption. A hearing will be held on January 18th at 6:30 p.m.
3. Notice has been received that Ambler BH Development Partners L.P. (Ambler Boiler House) will be submitting a Conditional Use Application for shared parking on behalf of Ambler BH Development and LTK.

In New Business

1. Joe Duda, Actuarial will make a presentation to Council at the February 15, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Kenney 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, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney, and Mrs. Strus

The Salary and Personnel Committee report was given this evening by Mr. S. Pasceri.

An Executive Session was held.

Upon return to Council Chambers, Mr. S. Pasceri stated the Executive Session was in regards to a personnel issue. He further stated that Sgt. John Keefer per Council recommendation will serve as Acting Police Chief.

Mr. S. Pasceri 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Safety Committee – The Committee will make no recommendations this evening states Mrs. Strus.

Parks & Recreation Committee – The Committee will make no recommendations this evening states Ms. Maxion.

Public Utilities Committee – The Committee recommends and Mr. Amento moves:

Recommend WWTP have the plant engineer prepare the RFP's for the cleaning and repair of digester ET-15. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend WWTP have Siemens Water Technology Corporation conduct a “Sludge Digester mechanical Integrity Evaluation” at a cost of \$4,750. (A \$5,000 DVIT grant will cover the total cost of the evaluation.) Seconded. Carried.

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

Consideration that **DECEMBER** invoices in the amount of **\$603,287.15** be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend approval of **Ordinance 1053** for **Design Standards for Non-Residential Properties**. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend approval of **Ordinance 1054** for **Maximum Impervious Coverage in Mixed Dwelling Residential Zones and Garden Apartment Districts**. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend approval of **Ordinance 1055** for **Signage and Lighting**. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend the Solicitor prepare the final draft of the Outdoor Vending Machine Ordinance and that the Ordinance be advertised for adoption. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend the Solicitor prepare a Parking Ordinance Amendment based on recommended changes by the Planning Commission. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend approval of the two-lot subdivision at 335 Valley Brook Road subject to meeting the conditions of the County Planner's letter (12/14) and Engineer's letter (12/8). Seconded. Carried.

Recommend committee appointments as follows:

- Planning Commission – Robert LaGreca (Seconded, carried).
- Zoning Hearing Board – Elise Kelly (Seconded, carried).
- EAC – Susan Curry (Seconded, carried)
- Appeals Board – Albert Comly (Seconded, carried) (one vacancy remains)

Recommend approval of **Resolution 2011-01**, a resolution of thanks and appreciation recognizing the public service of Rick Taylor. Seconded. Carried.

Salary & Personnel Committee – The Committee will make no recommendations this evening states Mr. S. Pasceri.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Russell
Administrative Assistant
Borough of Ambler