

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

March 15, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002. President Antonio Isabella presided. The meeting was preceded by an audit presentation by Mike Palazzo of Larson, Allen & Weishair.

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, Chief Foley and Mrs. Aversa also were present.

A motion was made to approve Minutes of the February 15, 2011 meeting as submitted. Seconded. Carried.

Mayor Wahl made a presentation commending three boy scouts in the community who recently have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout: Jake Benbow (Resolution 2011-2), Joseph Doherty (Resolution 2011-3), and Stephen Markham (Resolution 2011-4).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of the Ambler Borough Council met on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. Kenney, Mr. Amento, Mr. S. Pasceri, Ms. Maxion, Mrs. Strus, Ms. Tomlinson and Mr. Curtis. Mayor Wahl, Chief Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa also were present. Mr. G. Pasceri was absent.

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 February 2011 report was received and the Fire Department's February 2011 report will be provided.
2. The February 2011 Public Works, Safety Minutes and Code Enforcement reports were received.
3. An ordinance is under review intended on preventing vacant buildings from becoming a safety issue, a quality of life issue for neighboring buildings, and a loss of revenue concern for the Borough.

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.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. Final plans for the Knight Park Skate Park are being reviewed by the Borough Engineer and Code Enforcement Officer.

Discussion ensued. Ron Myers, Code Enforcement Officer, stated that determinations are being made on the foundations and as to whether the existing asphalt must be removed or may be topcoated. Mrs. Aversa stated she had received a complaint phone call from a resident of Station Square regarding plans to build a Skate Park.

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. Consider awarding the contract for Digester ET-15 for removal of the floating cover and to include inspection and painting, sealing the digester wall and replacing 2-6"

plug valves to Eastern Environmental Contractors Inc. for the bid amount of \$149,400.00.

2. Consider awarding the contract for Loch Alsh Dam Rehabilitation to Anthony Biddle Contractors Inc. for the bid amount of \$654,270.00 subject to the Engineer's and Solicitor's reviews. [\$650,000.00 was budgeted for the project, of which \$520,000.00 is grant money.]

In New Business:

1. Consider adoption of **Resolution 2011-5** authorizing a grant application to Montgomery County Housing & Community Development (CDBG) for the Houston Road Tank Lead Paint Removal Project.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The February 2011 WWTP Supervisor's and Engineer's reports were received.
2. The Water Line Protection Program brochure is at the printer's. The customer contract is being prepared by the Borough Solicitor.

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 **FEBRUARY 2011** invoices in the amount of **\$480,326.80** be paid as follows: General (**\$220,494.08**); Street Lights (**\$5,842.40**); Fire (**\$1,252.60**); Parks & Rec. (**\$1,081.78**); Water (**\$79,226.13**); Sewer (**\$13,127.91**); WWTP (**\$170,677.34**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$320.34**) and check voids totaling \$11,695.78.
2. Consider preparation by the Borough Solicitor of an amendment to the Parking Ordinance, as outlined by the Planning Commission, which allows for a separate parking zone for a portion of the Downtown Commercial District and will review "reasonable" boundaries as detailed in the Ordinance.
3. Consider approval of **Resolution 2011-2** Commending Eagle Scout Jake Benbow, **Resolution 2011-3** Commending Eagle Scout Joseph Doherty and **Resolution 2011-4** Commending Eagle Scout Stephen Markham.

4. Consider the execution of a Temporary Construction and Grading Easement and a permanent easement for traffic signal equipment at the Broad Axe Tank.
5. Consider, due to scheduling conflicts, cancellation of the scheduled July Committee Meeting.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Borough Engineer's February 2011 report was received.
2. 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.
3. A draft Vending Machine Ordinance was sent to the Borough and County Planning Commissions for review.
4. A request was made by Bernadette Dougherty to change the requirement for apartment size allowing for smaller units. The Code Enforcement Officer prepared a memorandum detailing involved code issues.

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.

The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:

1. Consider hiring Ms. Ruth Serianni for the position of Accounting Clerk.

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 awarding the contract for Digester ET-15 for removal of the floating cover and to include inspection and painting, sealing the digester wall and replacing 2-6” plug valves to Eastern Environmental contractors Inc. for the bid amount of \$149,400.00. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend awarding the contract for Loch Alsh Dam Rehabilitation to Anthony Biddle Contractors Inc. for the bid amount of \$654,270.00 subject to the Engineer’s and Solicitor’s reviews. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend adoption of **Resolution 2011-5** authorizing a grant application to Montgomery County Housing & Community Development (CDBG) for the Houston Road Tank Lead Paint Removal Project. Seconded. Carried.

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

Recommend that **FEBRUARY 2011** invoices in the amount of **\$480,326.80** be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend having the Borough Solicitor prepare an amendment to the Parking Ordinance which allows for a separate parking zone for a portion of the Downtown Commercial District and will review “reasonable” boundaries as detailed in the Ordinance. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend approval of **Resolution 2011-2** Commending Eagle Scout Jake Benbow, **Resolution 2011-3** Commending Eagle Scout Joseph Doherty and **Resolution 2011-4** Commending Eagle Scout Stephen Markham. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend the execution of a Temporary Construction and Grading Easement and a permanent easement for traffic signal equipment at the Broad Axe Tank. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend, due to scheduling conflicts, cancellation of the scheduled July Committee Meeting. Seconded. Carried.

Salary & Personnel Committee – The Committee recommends and Mr. S. Pasceri moves:

Recommend hiring Ms. Ruth Serianni for the position of Accounting Clerk. Seconded.
Carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Russell
Administrative Assistant
Borough of Ambler