

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

May 18, 2011

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

Councilman Ed Curtis led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

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

A motion was made to approve Minutes of the April 19, 2011 meeting as submitted. Seconded. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of the Ambler Borough Council met on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. Amento, Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney, Ms. Maxion, Mr. S. Pasceri, Mrs. Strus, Ms. Tomlinson and Mr. Curtis. Mayor Wahl, Chief Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa also were present.

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 the following actions this evening:

1. Authorization is requested to award the purchase and installation of solar panel school zone safety flashers bid (\$77,500 CDBG grant allocated) to be installed at Mattison Avenue Elementary School and St. Anthony-St. Joseph Elementary School to Carr & Duff for the lowest responsive base bid plus Alt A (\$73,035) or base bid plus Alt B (\$59,220) subject to the following conditions: environmental record approval, contractor debarred status, PADOT approval of permit, PADOT Dist. 6.0 direction

regarding May 11, 2011 strike-off letter, and review of bids by Borough Engineer and Borough Solicitor.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Tomlinson asked whether the specifications included a black or ornamental pole. Mrs. Aversa stated that the poles would be black and that separately, if funds are available, the Borough would look into ornamental bases for the poles.

In New Business:

1. Recommend waiving the permit fee for the Wissahickon Fire Company for their curb and sidewalk project.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Police Department and Fire Department April 2011 reports were received.
2. The April 2011 Public Works, Safety Minutes and Code Enforcement reports were received.
3. A memo was received from the Solicitor regarding an ordinance under review intended on preventing vacant buildings from becoming a safety issue.
4. The EAC requested that the Police Department review a list of streetlights for removal intended to save on electricity usage. Chief Foley provided a response to the request.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Tomlinson and Mrs. Strus stated they had spent a considerable amount of time driving around the Borough studying the lighting situation. They stated they did not find that the cost savings would be substantial.

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 make no recommendations this evening.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The ‘Movie Night in the Park’ and ‘Band Night in the Park’ schedule for the 2011 season is as follows:

- Band Night – “Six Packs” plays May 6th at Knight Park from 7:00-8:30 pm.
 - Movie Night – “How to Train Your Dragon” at Pickering Field on June 24th at dusk
 - Movie Night – “Megamind” at Ricciardi Park July 22 at dusk
 - Movie Night – “Toy Story 3” at Knight Park on August 19th at dusk
2. Ambler/YMCA Summer Camp will run from June 20-July 29, 2011 from 9:00-3:00 pm daily.

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 adoption of **Ordinance 1057** establishing streamlining provisions amending portions of Chapter 18, ‘Sewers and Sewage Disposal’ of the Borough Code to incorporate revisions made to Federal Part 403 Regulations.
2. Consider authorizing the WWTP plant engineer to prepare bid documents and specs and to advertise for replacing the existing scum trough pipes on the secondary clarifiers. [This item was budgeted at \$23,000 in Capital.]

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The April 2011 WWTP Supervisor’s and Engineer’s reports were received.

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 Ms. Tomlinson.

The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:

1. Consideration that **APRIL 2011** invoices in the amount of **\$646,017.02** be paid as follows: General (**\$192,949.50**); Street Lights (**\$8,730.45**); Fire (**\$10,530.83**); Parks & Rec. (**\$2,563.14**); Water (**\$114,078.77**); Sewer (**\$121,780.54**); WWTP (**\$193,936.92**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$1,446.87**).
2. Consider adopting **Ordinance 1056** regarding regulation of Vending Machines.

In New Business:

1. Recommend adopting **Resolution 2011-8** in support of the Small Area Fair Market Rent Demonstration Project.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Borough Engineer's April 2011 report was received.
2. The Committee is considering the creation of a new zoning district for Downtown Commercial properties that are not on Butler Avenue.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Isabella stated that uniformity in parking requirements for businesses was at issue. Mrs. Strus stated her concern about the impact of the residential areas within the DC district on residents. Mr. Bresnan stated that a variance can always be sought by a business from the Zoning Hearing Board. Council could not reach a decision on DC parking and the matter is being sent to the Planning Commission. Ms. Maxion stated that Council has the right to go the Planning Commission meetings and state their individual view points as residents/citizens.

3. Letters of interest in appointment to the Planning Commission have been received.

Discussion ensued. Mr. S. Pasceri nominated Daniel McCormick for consideration. Seconded. Carried.

Ms. Tomlinson 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.

The Committee will consider no actions this evening.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. An Executive Session was held.
2. Personnel will be hired for seasonal employment beginning in May.

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 recommends and Mrs. Strus moves:

Recommend awarding the purchase and installation of solar panel school zone safety flashers bid to be installed at Mattison Avenue Elementary School and St. Anthony-St. Joseph Elementary School to Carr & Duff for the lowest responsive base bid plus Alt A (\$73,035) or base bid plus Alt B (\$59,220) subject to the following conditions: environmental record approval, contractor debarred status, PADOT approval of permit, PADOT Dist. 6.0 direction regarding May 11, 2011 strike-off letter, and review of bids by Borough Engineer and Borough Solicitor. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend waiving the permit fee for the Wissahickon Fire Company for their curb and sidewalk project. Seconded. Carried.

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

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

Recommend adoption of **Ordinance 1057** establishing streamlining provisions amending portions of Chapter 18, ‘Sewers and Sewage Disposal’ of the Borough Code to incorporate revisions made to Federal Part 403 Regulations. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend authorizing the WWTP plant engineer to prepare bid documents and specs and to advertise for replacing the existing scum trough pipes on the secondary clarifiers. Seconded. Carried.

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

Recommend that **APRIL 2011** invoices in the amount of **\$646,017.02** be paid.
Seconded. Carried.

Consider adopting **Ordinance 1056** regarding regulation of Vending Machines.
Seconded. Carried.

Salary & Personnel Committee – The Committee will make no recommendations this evening stated 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