

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

August 21, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, August 21, 2012 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 a presentation from the accounting house of Clifton, Larson Allen pertaining to the 2011 Audit.

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, Mrs. Strus, Ms. Tomlinson, Mr. Curtis and Mr. Zaccone. Solicitor Bresnan, Sgt. John Keefer and Borough Manager Mary Aversa also were in attendance.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the July 17, 2012 meeting. Seconded. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of the Ambler Borough Council held no meetings in August. At the Council Meeting this evening, the Committees conducted business as follows:

Public Safety Committee – Mrs. Strus, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. G. Pasceri 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. Consider determination of further action regarding the current status of street closing on S. Spring Garden Street due to structural damage at Finn McCool's.

Discussion ensued. Solicitor Bresnan stated the he had sent a letter to the insurance company and the owner of the building. He stated he could follow up with filing for a court ordered injunction to allow the Borough entry into the building so that work could be undertaken to allow for the safe opening of the street. He stated that the building code could be cited regarding unsafe condition and violation of notices. Mr. Ron Myers, Code Enforcement Officer stated the owner has said that insurance money would be coming in shortly. Mr. Myers stated he had not yet seen a copy of the engineer's letter and that he would want the engineer to state that the building is secure before the road is opened.

After some discussion between Council members it was agreed to defer until the September Committee Meeting taking any further action.

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. The July 2012 Police Department and Fire Department reports were received.
2. The July 2012 Public Works and Code Enforcement reports were received.

Mrs. Strus asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. Mrs. Judy Baigis addressed Council with concerns about businesses in violation of code regarding height of grass and blowing clippings into the street. She asked that the Main Street and Butler Avenue businesses be reminded about their maintenance obligation.

Additionally, Mrs. Baigis asked about the status of the school flashers at St. Anthony Church given the fact that the elementary school had been closed. Mrs. Aversa replied that in all probability the flashers would need to be removed and that the Borough, after determining any financial obligation to the Grantor, was looking into selling the flashers to another municipality.

There being nothing further, it was moved the report be accepted as filed. Seconded, carried.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. Curtis, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. Kenney and Ms. Tomlinson

The Parks and Recreation Committee report was given this evening by Mr. Curtis.

The Committee will consider no actions this evening.

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. The final summer Movie in the Parks will be held September 7th . The movie ‘The Lorax’ will be shown at Pickering Field (raindate September 14th).
2. Consider preparing procedures for events held at the Skate Park and for other park events.

Mr. Curtis asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. There being nothing further, it was moved the report be accepted as filed. Seconded, carried.

Public Utilities Committee – Mr. Amento, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. S. Pasceri and Mr. Zaccone

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 to contract with Mumford-Bjorkman Associates (MBA) for consultation and paint inspection services during the Houston Road Tank Recoating Project with the cost estimate of 10 hours for consultation and paint inspection 5 days per week @ 6 weeks for a total cost of \$20,750.00.
2. Authorization is requested to have the Borough Solicitor prepare an agreement to accept \$27,000 from Bottom Dollar Foods, which will require adequate water flow to its building to support its fire service, towards the total cost of enlarging the water main on Park Avenue, crossing over Butler Avenue to Race Street, with the Borough assuming responsibility, preparing bid documents, supplying material and bearing any additional cost for the project, the project having been recommended by both the Fire Marshall and the Water Superintendent.

Discussion ensued. Bernadette Dougherty of Tennis Avenue asked why the Borough should assume any costs for this project. It was explained by Solicitor Bresnan that the Borough would benefit from improved infrastructure on Race Street while at the same time enabling Bottom Dollar Foods to have adequate fire service protection.

3. Authorization is requested to have Banes Roofing, Inc. remove and replace the roof of **PS-1** at a low quote cost of \$28,732 and the roof on **B-3** at a low quote cost of \$32,400 for a TPO (Thermoplastic Polyolefin) energy star rated membrane.
4. Authorization is requested to consider passage of Resolution 2012-15 to participate in the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's Wissahickon Multi-Municipal MS4 Education Outreach Program at no cost for the first year and at a cost of \$800-\$3,000 (the higher cost if not funded by grants) for subsequent years with the option to 'opt out' after the first year.

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. The July 2012 WWTP Supervisor's and Engineer's reports were reviewed.

Mr. Amento asked if there were questions or comments from Council or the public. There being nothing further, it was moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

Finance and Planning Committee - Mr. Kenney, Chairperson
Committee Members: Mrs. Strus 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 **JULY 2012** invoices in the amount of **\$782,936.84** be paid as follows: General (**\$221,513.70**); Street Lights (**\$9,150.88**); Fire (**\$1,735.73**); Parks & Rec. (**\$7,559.42**); Water (**\$178,913.27**); Sewer (**\$33,067.46**); WWTP (**\$329,488.18**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$1,508.20**).
2. Recommend authorizing the Planning Commission to begin the review process of a suggested model ordinance as compared to the Borough's current Flood Plain Ordinance, which must in turn be reviewed by the MCCD and FEMA, wherein municipalities such as Ambler Borough participating in the National Flood Insurance Program are required to adopt a compliant ordinance by midnight June 3, 2013 (map effective date) in order to avoid suspension from the NFIP [model ordinance included].
3. Recommend adopting an Amended Sub-Grantee Agreement to the Cooperation Agreement for the Boiler House Project as required by the Commonwealth. This amended agreement is necessary because the Boiler House Project received additional funding.

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. The Borough Engineer's July 2012 report was received.
2. The Committee will discuss reformatting the 2013 budget.
3. The Parking Feasibility Study has been distributed to Council.
4. Bid documents for the streambank project to be undertaken at a residence along the Rose Valley Creek are available on PennBid and the project has been advertised. A recommendation to award will be made at the September Committee Meeting.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Aversa stated that the resident had obtained a grant commitment from FEMA/PEMA which requires a municipality to advertise the project for bid and prepare the bid specs. She stated the Borough would be reimbursed for its costs from the grant money.

5. Bid documents for street paving on Fairview Avenue, N. Main Street from Butler to Tennis and on Southern Avenue from Church to Park are available on PennBid and the project has been advertised. A recommendation to award will be made at the September Committee Meeting.

Mr. Kenney asked if there were questions or comments from Council or the public. There being nothing further, it was moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

Salary and Personnel Committee – Mr. S. Pasceri, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. Amento and Mr. Zaccone

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

The Committee will consider the following action this evening:

1. Recommend hiring Mr. Dean Carpenter to fill the vacant WWTP position of Operator/Mechanic I.

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. An Executive Session was held on August 1, 2012 regarding an employee grievance.
2. An Executive Session is needed. [Discussion at the Executive Session concerned an employee grievance, the Police Department contract, and the trash hauler contract.]

Mr. Amento asked if there were questions or comments from Council or the public.

There being nothing further, it was moved the report be accepted and filed. Seconded, carried.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Parks & Recreation Committee – The Committee will make no recommendations this evening stated Mr. Curtis.

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

Authorization is requested to contract with Mumford-Bjorkman Associates (MBA) for consultation and paint inspection services during the Houston Road Tank Recoating Project with the cost estimate of 10 hours for consultation and paint inspection 5 days per week @ 6 weeks for a total cost of \$20,750.00. Seconded. Carried.

Authorization is requested to have the Borough Solicitor prepare an agreement to accept \$27,000 from Bottom Dollar Foods, which will require adequate water flow to its building to support its fire service, towards the total cost of enlarging the water main on Park Avenue, crossing over Butler Avenue to Race Street, with the Borough assuming responsibility, preparing bid documents, supplying material and bearing any additional cost for the project. Seconded. Carried.

Authorization is requested to have Banes Roofing, Inc. remove and replace the roof of **PS-1** at a low quote cost of \$28,732 and the roof on **B-3** at a low quote cost of \$32,400 for a TPO (Thermoplastic Polyolefin) energy star rated membrane. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend passage of Resolution 2012-05 to participate in the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's Wissahickon Multi-Municipal MS4 Education Outreach Program at no cost for the first year and at a cost of \$800-\$3,000 (the higher cost if not funded by grants) for subsequent years with the option to 'opt out' after the first year. Seconded. Carried.

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

Recommend that **JULY 2012** invoices in the amount of **\$782,936.84** be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend authorizing the Planning Commission to begin the review process of a suggested model ordinance pertaining to the Borough's current Flood Plain Ordinance. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend adopting an Amended Sub-Grantee Agreement to the Cooperation Agreement for the Boiler House Project as required by the Commonwealth. This amended agreement is necessary because the Boiler House Project received additional funding and has been marked as Resolution 2012-06. Seconded. Carried.

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

Recommend hiring Mr. Dean Carpenter to fill the vacant WWTP position of Operator/Mechanic I. 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