

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

July 17, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, July 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002. President Antonio Isabella presided.

Mr. Amento led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Roll Call – Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. Amento, 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. Mr. G. Pasceri and Mayor Wahl were absent.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the June 19, 2012 meeting. Seconded. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of the Ambler Borough Council held no meetings in July. 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 granting authority to permit a reserved disability parking space on Locust Street, all required paperwork having been received.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Strus asked whether the Borough's new policy for application for reserved disability parking spaces had been observed. Sgt. Keefer stated the application process was in order.

In other business the following will be discussed:

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

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Strus made an inquiry about the Code Report entry of an unsafe structure dated last November. Mr. Ron Myers, Code Enforcement Officer, stated the owner was deceased, there were unpaid taxes and that he was tracking down 'the estate.'

Mrs. Strus 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.

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 the following actions this evening:

1. Consider the appointment as requested by the EAC of Sue McDowell and Ken Trautwein to fill vacancies on the Environmental Advisory Committee due to the resignation of David Morgan and one open seat.

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. The schedule for this summer's Movies in the Parks and Band Nights in the Parks was announced: September 7th the movie 'The Lorax' will be shown at Pickering Field (raindate September 14th). Band Night to be held Friday, August 3rd from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Butler Avenue, providing entertainment for 'First Friday.'
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 have the plant engineer prepare the RFP for the first phase of paving needed at the WWTP.

2. Authorization is requested to award the Houston Tank Recoating Project for the recoating of the exterior and interior of Houston Road Tank to U.S. Tank of New Jersey at the lowest, responsive bid of \$385,000.00, contingent upon solicitor's review. U.S. Tank was awarded the contract for recoating Broad Axe Tank two years ago.
3. Water Department seeks authorization to install a new 'cathodic protection system' in Houston Road Tank while the tank is drained for the recoating project. The current cathodic protection system was installed in 1991. Cathodic Protection (CP) prevents corrosion by converting all of the anodic (active) sites on the tank's metal surface to cathodic (passive) sites by supplying electric current (or free electrons) from an alternate source. Corpro Waterworks, which has the cathodic maintenance/service contract for all three water tanks owned by the Borough, has proposed a contract price of \$11,500 for installation of the new system.

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. The June 2012 WWTP Supervisor's and Engineer's reports were reviewed.
2. Well 8 has been videoed, acid cleaned and air has been forced into the well crevices. The well has been pumped out into a contact tank for neutralization. A test pump was set at 200' yielding 125 gpm with 10 feet of coverage. A new permanent pump and motor will be purchased at a cost of \$11,853.00 and installed and set to yield approximately 150 gpm.
3. A new emergency generator has been purchased, installed and exercised at the Loch Alsh Booster Station. Purchase price of the generator was \$41,000.00. Per agreement, Upper Dublin School District will contribute \$20,000 towards the price of the new generator.

Mr. Amento asked if there were questions or comments from Council or the public. Mr. Philip Benigno, Water Supervisor, announced that a major water main break had occurred over the weekend, causing the Houston Road Tank to lose 800,000 gallons of water. He commended Borough employees for their hard work on a 15-hour shift to repair the main. He stated the Water Department had purchased water from a neighboring water system to maintain fire flow capability at the tank.

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 **JUNE 2012** invoices in the amount of **\$833,606.82** be paid as follows: General (**\$466,820.85**); Street Lights (**\$5,994.56**); Fire (**\$7,089.50**); Parks & Rec. (**\$11,695.45**); Water (**\$162,402.56**); Sewer (**\$12,947.39**); WWTP (**\$166,728.53**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$0.00**) with voided checks totaling \$72.02.
2. Recommend adoption of **Ordinance 1066** Codifying the Borough Code of Ordinances.
3. Recommend preparing and advertising for bids street paving projects for 2012-2013.

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. The Borough Engineer's June 2012 report was received.
2. Staff has met with the surrounding Townships to discuss the possibility of a Boys' and Girls' Club program in our area.
3. There will be no Committee Meeting held in August. The regular Council Meeting, however, will be held August 21.

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 no actions this evening:

In other business the following will be discussed:

1. The vacant WWTP position has been advertised and posted.
2. A scheduled Executive Session will be rescheduled due to a death in an employee family and therefore the inability of the employee to attend tonight's meeting.

Mr. Amento asked if there were questions or comments from Council or the public. Ms. Bernadette Dougherty of Tennis Avenue asked about the status of the Police contract negotiations. Mrs. Aversa stated three meeting had been help with contract committee members Mr. Amento, Mrs. Strus and Ms. Tomlinson. She further stated that Executive Sessions are held to bring the full council up-to-date on contract talks.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Safety Committee – The Committee will recommend the following stated Mrs. Strus:

Recommend granting authority to permit a reserved disability parking space on Locust Street, all required paperwork having been received. Seconded. Carried.

Parks & Recreation Committee – The Committee will recommend the following this evening stated Mr. Curtis.

Recommend the appointment as requested by the EAC of Sue McDowell and Ken Trautwein to fill vacancies on the Environmental Advisory Committee. Seconded. Carried.

Public Utilities Committee – The Committee will make the following recommendations this evening stated Mr. Amento:

Recommend authorizing the plant engineer to prepare the RFP for the first phase of paving needed at the WWTP. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend awarding the Houston Tank Recoating Project for the recoating of the exterior and interior of Houston Road Tank to U.S. Tank of New Jersey at the lowest, responsive bid of \$385,000.00, contingent upon solicitor's review. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend awarding contract to Corrpro Waterworks in the amount of \$11,500 for installation of a new 'cathodic protection system' in Houston Road Tank while the tank is drained for the recoating project. Seconded. Carried.

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

Recommend the June bills totaling **\$833,606.82** be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend adoption of **Ordinance 1066** Codifying the Borough Code of Ordinances.
Seconded. Carried.

Recommend preparing and advertising for bids street paving projects for 2012-2013.
Seconded. Carried.

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

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Susan Curry of the EAC announced that EAC will be focusing on Ward 1 to help with the design of rain gardens.

Mrs. Aversa stated that part of the recoating project expense for Houston Tank will be the hiring of professional paint inspectors. She stated a quote had been obtained from the experts who inspected Broad Axe Tank but that the job scope and proposed costs were not satisfactory. She stated she would obtain a second quote from that firm.

Mr. Ron Myers stated the insurance company representing the owner of the Finn McCool's building had visited the site for a final inspection the prior week. He added that Solicitor Bresnan had sent out a letter asking that satisfaction of the claim be expedited.

Mr. Philip Benigno stated that while the Water Department is not yet in a drought situation, he was monitoring production and demand. At present, Ambler Borough Water is pumping 300 gpm above demand.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Russell
Administrative Assistant
Borough of Ambler