

## **AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**February 19, 2013**

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, February 19, 2013 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. The Mayor expressed his sympathy to the family of Councilman George Pasceri, who passed away on February 8, 2013.

**Roll Call** – Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. Amento, Mr. S. Pasceri, Mrs. Strus, Ms. Tomlinson, Mr. Curtis and Mr. Zaccone. Mayor Wahl, Solicitor Bresnan, Chief William Foley and Borough Manager Mary Aversa also were in attendance. Mr. Kenney was absent.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the January 15, 2013 Meeting. Seconded. Carried.

**Resolution 2013-04**, A Resolution of Remembrance and Sympathy for the Loss of Councilman George Pasceri was offered. Seconded. All Aye. Motion Carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Committees of the Ambler Borough Council met on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Isabella, Mr. Kenney, Mr. S. Pasceri, Mrs. Strus, Ms. Tomlinson, Mr. Curtis and Mr. Zaccone. Chief Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Borough Manager Mrs. Aversa also were present. Mr. G. Pasceri, Mr. Kenney and Mayor Wahl were absent.

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

#### **Public Safety Committee – Mrs. Strus, Chairperson**

Committee members: Mr. Curtis

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

#### **The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:**

1. Recommend advertising for adoption an Ordinance for a new section to the Property Maintenance Code relative to regulations for the use of Traffic Control Devices on Non-Residential Property.

**In other business the following was reviewed this evening:**

1. The January 2013 Police Department report, Fire Department report and Community Ambulance report were received.
2. The January 2013 Public Works and Code Enforcement reports were received.

**Approved at February 5, 2013 Committee Meeting:**

1. **Resolution 2013-03**, the FEMA Disaster Declaration, was adopted authorizing application to FEMA for Municipal Claims for Hurricane Sandy. [7-Aye]

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 no actions this evening.**

**In other business the following was reviewed this evening:**

1. A revised list of procedures for events held at the Skate Park and for other park events was prepared and distributed by the Police Department.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Tomlinson proposed Council consider a tiered fee structure for use of Borough parks. This agenda item was referred back to Committee for further discussion at the March Committee meeting.

2. Movie Nights in the Parks will be scheduled.

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. Zacccone

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

**The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:**

1. Authorization to award the Nitrification Tower T-1 Media Replacement for the cost of \$1,262,320.00 to Eastern Environmental Contractors, Inc.
2. Authorization to award the Digester T-9 Cleaning for the cost of \$62,269.00 to Franc Environmental Inc.
3. Authorization to contract with Trojan Technologies for the replacement of existing controller on the UV system with a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) replacement unit which is manufactured by Allen-Bradley, and with cost not to exceed \$37,000.00.

**In other business the following was reviewed this evening:**

1. The January 2013 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 Ms. Tomlinson.

**The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:**

1. Consideration that **January 2013** invoices in the amount of **\$698,966.13** are to be paid as follows: General (**\$233,752.69**); Street Lights (**\$13,233.42**); Fire (**\$3,905.73**); Parks & Rec. (**\$324.04**); Water (**\$128,498.37**); Sewer (**\$122,207.03**); WWTP (**\$196,260.58**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$784.27**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$0.00**).
2. Recommend advertising for adoption and scheduling a hearing for March 19, 2013 at 6:30 pm an Ordinance allowing for a map change for St. Joseph's Church property from Institutional to Downtown Commercial Zoning.
3. A request was received from Ambler Junior Baseball for a \$5,000 Borough contribution for 2013.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Tomlinson stated the Committee would consider a \$2,500 contribution and the cost of installation of a handicap ramp. Mr. S. Pasceri objected to Ms. Tomlinson's statement that the Committee would seek to vote on a \$2,500 contribution since the recommendation the Committee was to have considered was for a \$5,000 Borough contribution. After certain discussion and a clarification by Solicitor

Bresnan on recommendations protocols it was agreed to continue discussion on this request to the Committee's March meeting.

4. Recommend adopting **Resolution 2013-02**, a revision to Act 192 Schedule of Costs that Berkheimer is authorized to charge as their sole compensation for delinquent tax collections.
5. Plans were received for the construction of 36 townhomes at S. Chestnut Street by DC Ambler Properties with a request for Preliminary Plan Approval. Council has received the Borough Planning Commission letter, the Engineer's review letter and the County Planning Commission review letter.

A presentation was made by developer Dave Caddick who outlined the plan and letter attachments and stated that he would comply with recommendations. Solicitor Bresnan stated that Preliminary Plan Approval was being sought so that Mr. Caddick could move forward on the SALDO Application.

**In other business the following was reviewed this evening:**

1. The Borough Engineer's January 2013 report was received.
2. Borough Engineers are preparing bid documents for the Lindenwold Parking Deck Project.
3. The Flood Plain Ordinance has been sent to the Planning Commission for its recommendation to modify Borough Code Ch. 27, Part 2 ("Definitions") and Ch. 27, Part 19 ("Floodplain Conservation District.") The Ordinance will be sent to Montgomery County Conservation District for MCCD or MCPC review. The County review and the municipal ordinance will go to DCED and eventually FEMA for review.
4. An Ordinance approving penalty, interest and fee schedule for collection of delinquent real estate taxes has been reviewed by the Borough Solicitor who is awaiting new language from the County's solicitor before recommending Council move forward on the revised Ordinance.
5. The Planning Commission has submitted its "Comprehensive Plan Update" for review. The Update will be presented in booklet format with color photographs, maps and charts and will maintain the vision and goals of the 2001 plan. Ambler Planning Commission will await the final determination of Council.

Ms. Tomlinson 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. Paceri, Chairperson**

Committee members: Mr. Amento and Mr. Zaccone

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

**The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:**

1. Recommend preparation by the Solicitor of a Resolution authorizing the increase in the Tax Collector's fee for document production.

**Approved at February 5, 2013 Committee Meeting:**

1. **Ordinance 1068**, increasing the compensation for the Tax Collector beginning in 2014 was adopted at the February 5, 2013 Committee Meeting. [7-Aye].

Mr. S. Paceri 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 recommends and Mrs. Strus moves:

Recommend advertising for adoption an Ordinance for a new section to the Property Maintenance Code relative to regulations for the use of Traffic Control Devices on Non-Residential Property. Seconded. Carried.

**Parks & Recreation Committee** – The Committee will make no recommendations this evening.

**Public Utilities Committee** – The Committee recommends and Mr. S. Paceri moves:

Recommend awarding the Nitrification Tower T-1 Media Replacement for the cost of \$1,262,320.00 to Eastern Environmental Contractors, Inc. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend awarding the Digester T-9 Cleaning for the cost of \$62,269.00 to Franc Environmental Inc. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend contracting with Trojan Technologies for the replacement of existing controller on the UV system with a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) replacement unit which is manufactured by Allen-Bradley, and with cost not to exceed \$37,000.00. Seconded. Carried.

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

Recommend that **January 2013** invoices in the amount of **\$698,966.13** be paid. Seconded. Carried

Recommend advertising for adoption and scheduling a hearing for March 19, 2013 at 6:30 pm an Ordinance allowing for a map change for St. Joseph's Church property from Institutional to Downtown Commercial Zoning. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend adopting **Resolution 2013-02**, a revision to Act 192 Schedule of Costs that Berkheimer is authorized to charge as their sole compensation for delinquent tax collections. Seconded. Carried.

Recommend granting Preliminary Plan Approval to DC Ambler Properties for the construction of 36 townhomes at S. Chestnut Street. Seconded. Carried.

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

Recommend preparation by the Solicitor of a Resolution authorizing the increase in the Tax Collector's fee for document production. Seconded. Carried.

**Approved at Committee Meeting:** **Ordinance 1068**, increasing the compensation for the Tax Collector beginning in 2014 was adopted at the February 5, 2013 Committee Meeting. [7-Aye].

**Approved at Committee Meeting:** **Resolution 2013-03**, the FEMA Disaster Declaration, was adopted at the February 5, 2013 Committee Meeting, authorizing application to FEMA for Municipal Claims for Hurricane Sandy. [7-Aye]

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

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Russell  
Administrative Assistant  
Borough of Ambler