

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

November 19, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002. Council Vice President Peter Amento presided.

Mr. Amento called the Council Meeting to order. Mayor Wahl led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

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

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

First order of business, Mr. Amento recognized Mr. Pasceri, Chairman of the Salary & Personnel Committee. Mr. Pasceri stated that the Committee had received six letters of interest from residents in Ward 3 interested in consideration to fill the vacant Council Seat. Mr. Pasceri made a motion to appoint Frank J. DeRuosi. Seconded. Poll Council. Carried. (8 – 0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of Ambler Borough Council met Tuesday, November 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Ave. Present: Mr. Amento, Mr. Kenney, Mr. Pasceri, Ms. Tomlinson, Mr. Curtis, and Mr. Zaccone. Mayor Wahl, Chief Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Borough Manager Mrs. Aversa also were present. Mrs. Strus and Mr. Dooley were absent.

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

Public Safety Committee – Mrs. Strus, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. Curtis, Mr. Dooley

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 October 2013 Police Department and Fire Department reports were received.
2. The October 2013 Ambulance Association report was received.
3. The October 2013 Public Works, Safety and Code Enforcement reports were received.

Mrs. Strus asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. Mary Giampa of Sew Vintage Boutique inquired about the status of the paving of Butler Avenue. Mrs. Aversa stated that about 2 – 2 ½ weeks of paving had yet to be completed. Mrs. Strus stated that an email blast to Ambler Main Street members regarding this or other major projects underway in the Borough might alleviate concerns of shopkeepers and businesses. 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 request was made to consider the addition of a swing area at Ricciardi Park. This request will be considered for inclusion in the FY2014 Budget.

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 no actions this evening.

Approved at Committee Meeting:

1. Recommendation to award the contract for the UW Piping Extension to Eastern Environmental Contractors for the low contract quote of \$16,900. Seconded. Carried. (6 – Aye).

2. Recommendation to purchase two new rotary air compressors from Ingersoll Rand for \$16,584 (plus freight) and to contract for removal and installation at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. Seconded. Carried. (6 – Aye).

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The 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 **October 2013** invoices in the amount of **\$497,813.74** are to be paid as follows: General (**\$185,806/10**); Street Lights (**\$6,446.47**); Fire (**\$866.60**); Parks & Rec. (**\$4,748.93**); Water (**\$111,794.21**); Sewer (**\$42,346.30**); WWTP (**\$141,561.11**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$4,244.02**).
2. Consider adoption of **Resolution 2013-15** authorizing execution of documents, including detailing allocation of funds for the loan payment, for the purchase of Mattison Avenue School.
3. Consider preparation of an ordinance and advertising for adoption an Ordinance to prepare documentation to be submitted to DCED to proceed with financing of the purchase of Mattison Avenue School.

Discussion ensued. Solicitor Bresnan explained to Council that a Resolution was necessary so that Council President and Secretary could sign the agreement of sale, settlement date having been scheduled for December 20, 2013. Mr. Bresnan stated the DCED requires passage of an Ordinance so that the Borough could proceed with financing.

Approved at Committee Meeting:

1. Consider granting Preliminary/Final approval for 132-136 Poplar Street. Seconded. Carried. (6 – Aye).

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Borough Engineer's report was received.

2. The Flood Plain Ordinance to modify Borough Code Ch. 27, Part 2 (“Definitions”) and Ch. 27, Part 19 (“Floodplain Conservation District.”) is in the review process.
3. The 2012 Borough Audit was discussed and a presentation was made by the Auditors.
4. The 2014 Draft Budget is being prepared. Public Meetings have been advertised and are scheduled for November 25th and December 3rd at 6:00pm with consideration to adopt the proposed budget at the December Council 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. Pasceri.

The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:

1. Consider nomination of applicant candidate Stephen C. Maakestad, P.E. for appointment to the Environmental Advisory Council.
2. Consider selection of applicant candidate to fill the Council seat vacancy in Ward 3.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The union contract negotiations have begun and an Executive Session is needed.

The Executive Session was concluded. Mr. Pasceri stated the Session was held to discuss the Union Contract, that an offer would be made to the Union and another meeting would be needed. Hopefully, Mr. Pasceri added, the contract matter would be settled next month. Mr. Pasceri then 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.

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

Public Utilities Committee – The Committee will make no recommendations this evening.

Approved at Committee Meeting:

Recommendation to award the contract for the UW Piping Extension to Eastern Environmental Contractors for the low contract quote of \$16,900. Seconded. Carried. (6 – Aye).

Recommendation to purchase two new rotary air compressors from Ingersoll Rand for \$16,584 (plus freight) and to contract for removal and installation at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. Seconded. Carried. (6 – Aye).

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

Consideration that **October 2013** invoices in the amount of **\$497,813.74** be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Consider adoption of **Resolution 2013-15** authorizing execution of documents, including detailing allocation of funds for the loan payment, for the purchase of Mattison Avenue School. Seconded. Carried. (6-Aye, 2-Nay [Mr. Kenney, Ms. Tomlinson])

Consider preparation of an ordinance and advertising for adoption an Ordinance to prepare documentation to be submitted to DCED to proceed with financing of the purchase of Mattison Avenue School. Seconded. Carried. (6-Aye, 2-Nay [Mr. Kenney, Ms. Tomlinson])

Approved at Committee Meeting:

Consider granting Preliminary/Final approval for 132-136 Poplar Street. Seconded. Carried. (6 – Aye).

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

Consider nomination of applicant candidate Stephen C. Maakestad, P.E. for appointment to the Environmental Advisory Council. Seconded. Carried.

Consider selection of applicant candidate to fill the Council seat vacancy in Ward 3. Seconded. Carried.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

Borough resident Peter Kamuyu of 230 E. Park Avenue addressed Council to ask for resident assistance in working with contractors to obtain a repaving quote for the privately-owned alley at Park and Southern. He stated that he has had difficulty, because he is an individual and not a municipality, scheduling contractors for a quote. Solicitor Bresnan stated the Borough contains both Borough-owned and resident-owned alleys, and that the

privately-owned alleys are only intended for use for those who live there. He stated the Borough has never compelled anyone to pave an alley. Mr. Dooley has whether now the deficiency has been identified if the Borough had the authority to compel repaving. Mr. Amento asked whether the Fire Marshall could site difficulty in maneuvering emergency vehicles as a reason to compel repaving. Borough Manager Aversa has stated the Borough has, in the past, tried to assist by topcoating with recycled materials. She stated the Borough would be concerned about any repaving that did not consider the flow of water. She stated she would work with Borough engineers to obtain a repaving quote.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Russell
Manager's Assistant
Borough of Ambler