

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

November 18, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002. Council President Sal Pasceri presided.

Mr. Pasceri called the Council Meeting to order. Mayor Sorg led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call – Present: Mr. Pasceri, Mr. Amento, Mr. Zacccone, Mr. Curtis, Mr. DeRuosi, Mrs. Deininger, Mr. Palumbo and Mr. Sheward. Mayor Sorg, Solicitor Bresnan, Chief William Foley and Borough Manager Mary Aversa also were in attendance. Mrs. McCormick was absent.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2014 Council Meeting. Seconded. Carried. Council then proceed to hear Committee reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of Ambler Borough Council met on Tuesday, November 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue. Present: Mr. Pasceri, Mr. Amento, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Zacccone, Mr. DeRuosi, Mrs. Deininger, Mrs. McCormick and Mr. Sheward. Mayor Sorg, Solicitor Bresnan, Chief Foley and Borough Manager Aversa also were present. Mr. Palumbo was absent.

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

Public Safety Committee – Mr. Curtis, Chairperson

Committee members: Mrs. McCormick, Mr. Sheward

The Public Safety 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. The October 2014 Police Department and Fire Department reports were received.
2. The October 2014 Ambulance Association report was received.
3. The October 2014 Public Works and Safety Reports were reviewed.
4. A public meeting was held November 12 at the First Presbyterian Church of Ambler to discuss the Rose Valley Creek Study.

5. Mr. Curtis advised that staff is looking into the removal of school crossing signals and their possible relocation/retrofit for use at Butler Avenue crosswalks.

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

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. DeRuosi, Chairperson

Committee members: Mrs. Deininger, Mrs. McCormick, Mr. Palumbo

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

The Committee will consider no actions this evening.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Committee, members of Council and the EAC will discuss future plans for Ambler Borough Park at an EAC public meeting scheduled November 19 at Borough Hall.

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

Public Utilities Committee – Mr. Amento, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. Curtis, Mr. Zaccone

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

The Committee will consider no actions this evening.

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. Sheward, Chairperson

Committee Members: Mr. DeRuosi, Mrs. Deininger

The Finance and Planning Committee report was given this evening by Mr. Sheward.

The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:

1. Consideration that **October 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$338,229.84** be paid as follows: General (**\$144,500.22**); Street Lights (**\$12,304.15**); Fire (**\$35.88**); Parks & Rec. (**\$2,205.26**); Water (**\$69,656.97**); Sewer (**\$18,876.92**); WWTP (**\$85,722.00**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$4,928.44**).
2. Authorization is requested to advertise for adoption on December 16 proposed **Ordinance 1080** Fixing the Real Estate Tax for 2015.
3. Authorization is requested to advertise Public Meetings on the 2015 Budget, with meetings to be held December 1 (11:00 a.m.), December 2 (6:00 p.m.) and December 16 (6:00 p.m.)
4. Authorization is requested to consider recommendations for Borough trash disposal.

Discussion ensued. Solicitor Bresnan provided an overview to Council on the trash disposal situation. He explained that starting January 1, 2015 the County will no longer be in the trash business and that the County was ending its contractual arrangement with the Consortium a year early. Mr. Bresnan stated that this fall the municipalities went out to bid for trash disposal. Mrs. Aversa stated that the old Consortium price was \$65/ton at the Plymouth trash-to-steam plant and that Ambler's low bid was Covanta for a three-year contract at \$54/ton at the same facility. Mr. Bresnan stated that Council would have to consider that the Borough's current hauler contract ends September 2015 and does not include disposal costs. Further, he stated that if the Borough wanted to continue its present contract at the Plymouth facility for the next year, the Borough would be obligated to pay the contractual price of \$65/ton. Council began to discuss possible future hauler/disposal bid arrangements as well as the potential for the Borough to purchase a trash hauler truck and collect its own trash in-house without going to bid. It was agreed that a trash disposal decision would be tabled until next month.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Borough Engineer's report was received.
2. The Borough has asked the Planning Commission to review the Parking Ordinance for specific uses.
3. The Planning Commission is reviewing zoning ordinances to include automotive sales as a permitted use.
4. Draft language for a proposed Communications Ordinance is being reviewed by a Federal Telecommunications Act specialist.
5. A Resolution will be prepared setting FY2015 Budget Appropriations.

Mr. Sheward 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. Zaccone, Chairperson

Committee members: Mr. Amento, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Palumbo

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

The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:

1. Considering hiring Glenn Kucher for the Code Enforcement Officer position.

Recommended at the Committee Meeting:

1. Consider hiring Thomas Harris for the Highway Laborer position (8-Aye).

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. Applications were received and interviews were scheduled for the position of Highway Laborer and of Code Enforcement Officer.

Mr. Zaccone 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.

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

Consideration that **October 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$338,229.84** be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Authorization to advertise for adoption on December 16 proposed **Ordinance 1080** Fixing the Real Estate Tax for 2015. Seconded. Carried.

Authorization to advertise Public Meetings on the 2015 Budget on December 1 (11:00 a.m.), December 2 (6:00 p.m.) and December 16 (6:00 p.m.) Seconded. Carried.

Consideration of recommendations for Borough trash disposal was TABLED.

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

Considering hiring Glenn Kucher for the Code Enforcement Officer position. Seconded. Carried.

Recommended at the Committee Meeting:

Consider hiring Thomas Harris for the Highway Laborer position. Seconded. Carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Russell
Assistant Secretary
Borough of Ambler