

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

August 19, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, August 19, 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. After the Pledge, Mayor Sorg asked for a moment to remember former Mayor Charles “Bud” Wahl and asked the Borough’s residents to work to keep our neighborhoods beautiful in his honor.

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

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the July 17, 2014 Council Meeting. Seconded. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of Ambler Borough Council met on Tuesday, August 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. Zaccone, Mr. DeRuosi, Mrs. Deininger, Mrs. McCormick and Mr. Sheward. Mayor Sorg, Sgt. Keefer, Solicitor Herder and Borough Manager Aversa also were present. Mr. Palumbo, Solicitor Bresnan and Chief Foley were 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 Mrs. McCormick.

The Committee will consider no actions this evening.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The July 2014 Police Department and Fire Department reports were received.
2. The July 2014 Ambulance Association report was received.
3. The July 2014 Public Works and Code Enforcement reports were reviewed.

Mrs. McCormick asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. Mayor Sorg reminded the public that school will be in session soon and asked the public to be mindful of school buses and children walking to the bus stop. 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 the following actions this evening:

1. Authority is requested to purchase bike racks for Pickering Field and for the Lindenwold and Cavalier Parking Lots.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. Remaining Movies in the Parks schedule for the summer is as follows: 'Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2' (September 12th at Knights Park).

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 the following actions this evening:

1. Authority is requested to advertise for bid to purchase liquid aluminum sulfate for at WWTP under a 2 or 3 year contract.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Palumbo asked why the WWTP would consider a 2 or 3 year contract. Mrs. Aversa replied that projected utility prices usually motivate the awarded length of contract and that if a good lock-in price is received, a longer contract will be considered.

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 **July 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$875,040.88** are to be paid as follows: General (**\$259,537.71**); Street Lights (**\$17,932.18**); Fire (**\$9,959.08**); Parks & Rec. (**\$14,375.88**); Water (**\$197,716.45**); Sewer (**\$162,238.44**); WWTP (**\$196,428.46**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$16,852.68**).
2. Authorization is requested to have the draft Wireless Communications Ordinance reviewed by a Federal Telecommunications Act specialist, before adoption.
3. Authorization is requested to participate in soliciting a joint municipal bid for waste disposal. Municipalities included in the bid are not obligated to participate in an award.

Discussion ensued. Solicitor Bresnan advised Council that the Borough would need to make arrangements for residential waste disposal to cover a 9-month gap in service before a new hauler contract is negotiated September, 2015. Solicitor Bresnan advised Council of its need to put out for bid, either through the Consortium or independently, disposal of collected residential waste. Mrs. Aversa stated that the Borough would be looking at several options as regards a new waste collection contract, including combining waste collection and disposal and considering having the Borough itself do its own collecting.

Susan Johnsson of Environmental Advisory Council asked whether the Borough could specify in a disposal bid the requirement for trash-to-steam disposal versus landfill. Mrs. McCormick asked whether there might be government incentives with a trash-to-steam contract.

Approved at Committee Meeting:

1. Consideration that Conditional Use be granted for the property at 311 Lindenwold Avenue. Motion, Motion Seconded. Approved (8-0).

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 is in the review process at the Montgomery County Planning Commission.
4. The Borough has asked the Planning Commission to review the Parking Ordinance for specific uses.

5. A contract was received from the County requesting renewal of the County Planning Assistance Agreement.
6. Bill Fitzgerald, President of the Valley Forge Tourism & Convention Bureau, address Council about the Valley Forge Tourism Program and the 'Make It Montco' campaign.
7. Bid specifications for the New Ambler Borough Hall were advertised.
8. Bid specifications for the Lindenwold Parking Lot paving project were advertised.

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 no actions this evening.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The Environmental Advisory Council has several vacancies and is looking for interested candidates.
2. The Borough Employee Pension Ordinance will be advertised for adoption.
3. An Executive Session was held July 28, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss an employee issue.

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 recommends and Mr. DeRuosi moves:

Recommend the purchase of bike racks for Pickering Field and for the Lindenwold and Cavalier Parking Lots. Seconded. Carried.

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

Recommend authorization to advertise for bid to purchase liquid aluminum sulfate for at WWTP under a 2 or 3 year contract. Seconded. Carried.

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

Consideration that **July 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$875,040.88** be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Authorization to have the draft Wireless Communications Ordinance reviewed by a Federal Telecommunications Act specialist, before adoption. Seconded. Carried.

Authorization to participate in soliciting a joint municipal bid for waste disposal. Municipalities included in the bid are not obligated to participate in an award. Seconded. Carried.

Approved at Committee Meeting: Consideration that Conditional Use be granted for the property at 311 Lindenwold Avenue. Motion, Motion Seconded. Approved (8-0).

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Russell
Assistant Secretary
Borough of Ambler