

## **AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**February 18, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, February 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.

The meeting was preceded at approximately 6:30 p.m. by a Conditional Use Hearing to consider a request by AMA/American Marketing Association regarding the proposed South Chestnut Street Development Plan. At issue were frontage and acreage requirements for townhome developments. Specifically under discussion was whether a townhome is considered a single-family attached dwelling or a multi-family dwelling. It was determined to continue the hearing, extending the time for 30 additional days for AMA/American Marketing Association to seek a variance from the Zoning Hearing Board, request a text amendment or withdraw.

Mr. Pasceri called the Council Meeting to order. Mayor Sorg led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mayor gave a moment of recognition to police, emergency services and public works department for their efforts during the February Ice Storm event.

**Roll Call** – Present: Mr. Pasceri, Mr. Amento, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Zacccone, 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.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the December 17, 2013 Council Meeting. Seconded. Carried. A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the January 6, 2014 Reorganizational Meeting. Seconded. Carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Committees of Ambler Borough Council met Tuesday, February 4, 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, Mr. Palumbo and Mr. Sheward.. Mayor Sorg, Chief Foley, Solicitor Bresnan and Borough Manager Mrs. Aversa also were present.

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

Mr. Curtis asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. Chief Foley stated that police were in the process of removing objects from the streets placed by residents to 'reserve' clear-out parking spots. He stated the objects, such as lawn chairs, could be reclaimed at Borough Hall. Mr. Curtis asked whether hydrants had been cleared of snow. Chief Foley responded that the Wissahickon Fire Co. and Borough Highway and Water employees were working in unison to clear the hydrants. Mrs. Aversa added that Public Works also was clearing street drains and cutting down snow piles at intersections.

There being nothing further, it was moved the 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. Environmental Advisory Council Co-President Sue McDowell delivered an update on the EAC's current projects and future events. She stated that the EAC was seeking two additional candidates for appointments to the EAC.

Mr. DeRuosi 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. 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. Consider authorizing the plant engineer to prepare the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Digester ET-17 (Phase-1) Cleaning and Phase-2 Repairs.
2. Consider authorizing the Water Supervisor to contract with All Services Contracting for the removal of carbon media in the pressure vessel at Whitemarsh facility and the purchase and installation of new media at a quoted cost of \$33,247.53.

**Approved at Committee Meeting:**

1. Authorization to purchase a new Skid Steer Machine under Costars State Contract from Plasterer Equipment Co., Inc. Seconded. (9-Aye) Carried.

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

1. The WWTP Supervisor's and Engineer's reports were reviewed.
2. Water Department has applied to the PUC for a rate increase. This process could take up to 10 months to complete and as such a new rate structure probably will not go into effect until early 2015.

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. Pasceri, Interim Chairperson**

Committee Members: Mr. DeRuosi, Mrs. Deininger, Mr. Sheward

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

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

1. Consideration that **January 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$485,773.54** are to be paid as follows: General (**\$138,212.34**); Street Lights (**\$6,119.84**); Fire (**\$5,296.98**); Parks & Rec. (**\$702.31**); Water (**\$76,929.82**); Sewer (**\$15,072.80**); WWTP (**\$124,107.66**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$290,169.69**), with voided checks totaling **\$170,837.90**.
2. Consider granting Preliminary/Final approval for the 111 Locust Street & 17 Center Street Project which will involve demolishing two existing single-family units on two lots and the construction of four new single-family, semi-detached dwellings.
3. Consider adoption of **Resolution 2014-1** Sewer Planning Module for Ambler Crossings Project involving plan revision for new land development.

**Approved at Committee Meeting:**

1. Consider approval of a three-year contract with Constellation Energy. Seconded (9-Aye). Carried.
2. Consider authorization to pay December 2013 bills in the amount of \$766,778.93. Seconded (9-Aye). Carried.

**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 2014 Ambler Main Street Event Schedule was received.
4. The Borough is in the process of requesting proposals for Mattison Avenue School improvements and preparing bid documents. Additionally, the Borough is reviewing credentials for a Construction Project Manager.

Mr. Pasceri 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.**

**Approved at Committee Meeting:**

1. Consider appointment of Matt Cooley to the Environmental Advisory Council. Seconded. (9-Aye) Carried.

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

1. A list of Committee appointments for Borough Council members was provided.
2. An Executive Session was held. An Executive Session is needed to discuss a personnel matter.

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 recommends and Mr. Amento moves:

Consider authorizing the plant engineer to prepare the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Digester ET-17 (Phase-1) Cleaning and Phase-2 Repairs. Seconded. Carried.

Consider authorizing the Water Supervisor to contract with All Services Contracting for the removal of carbon media in the pressure vessel at Whitemarsh facility and the purchase and installation of new media at a quoted cost of \$33,247.53. Seconded. Carried.

*Approved at Committee Meeting:*

Authorization to purchase a new Skid Steer Machine under Costars State Contract from Plasterer Equipment Co., Inc. Seconded. (9-Aye) Carried.

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

Consideration that **January 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$485,773.54** are to be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Consider granting Preliminary/Final approval for the 111 Locust Street & 17 Center Street Project which will involve demolishing two existing single-family units on two lots and the construction of four new single-family, semi-detached dwellings. Seconded. Carried.

Consider adoption of **Resolution 2014-1** Sewer Planning Module for Ambler Crossings Project involving plan revision for new land development. Seconded. Carried.

*Approved at Committee Meeting:*

Consider approval of a three-year contract with Constellation Energy. Seconded (9-Aye). Carried.

Consider authorization to pay December 2013 bills in the amount of \$766,778.93. Seconded (9-Aye). Carried.

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

*Approved at Committee Meeting:*

Consider appointment of Matt Cooley to the Environmental Advisory Council. Seconded. (9-Aye) 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