

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

July 15, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, July 15, 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. Curtis, 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. Amento was absent.

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

Mayor Sorg introduced two special mayoral guests in attendance at her invitation. Mayor Ed Foley of Jenkintown and Mayor Tom Grady of Narberth, she explained, had lost a wager on which borough would have more participants at the MontCo Senior Games. Ambler won the wager, and as such Mayors Foley and Grady presented gifts from their respective boroughs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of Ambler Borough Council held no meetings in July. 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 June 2014 Police Department and Fire Department reports were received.
2. The June 2014 Ambulance Association report was received.
3. The June 2014 Public Works and Code Enforcement reports were reviewed and the Safety Meeting Minutes were received.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Palumbo asked Chief Foley about the amount of police overtime for June. Chief Foley responded that officers worked overtime in June for the Arts & Music Festival and for the First Friday event.

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. Remaining Movies in the Parks schedule for the summer is as follows: 'Despicable Me' (August 14th at Ricciardi Park); and '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. Palumbo.

The Committee will consider the following actions this evening:

1. Authority is requested to have the plant engineer prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the WWTP Phase II Paving project. It was determined that paving may now proceed since utility water lines have been replaced and the loop connection has been completed at the south end of the plant.
2. Recommend purchasing a 2013 John Deere Mini Excavator with WLPP monies under a two-year lease agreement in the amount of \$28,450.00.

In other business the following was reviewed this evening:

1. The WWTP Supervisor's and Engineer's reports were reviewed.

Mr. Palumbo 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 **June 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$549,139.87** are to be paid as follows: General (**\$138,261.33**); Street Lights (**\$5,871.67**); Fire (**\$0.00**); Parks & Rec. (**\$7,862.50**); Water (**\$181,283.14**); Sewer (**\$11,773.30**); WWTP (**\$203,994.93**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$93.00**).
2. Consider executing an agreement with Beautyguard for sidewalk repairs.

Discussion ensued. Solicitor Bresnan explained that a dispute had arisen over an alleged faulty stormwater pipe that caused structural damage to the Beautyguard building. It was agreed upon investigation that Mr. Ritter would bear the cost of shoring up and repairing his building and the Borough would restore the sidewalk that was torn up so that the matter could be investigated.

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.
3. The Planning Commission has prepared draft ordinance language to regulate Wireless Communications Towers & Antennas. An Ordinance will be prepared and advertised for adoption.
4. The Borough will request that the Planning Commission review the Parking Ordinance for specific uses and make a recommendation to Council.
5. A draft of final plans for the new Borough Building is available for review and the project will be advertised for bid on August 8, 2014. A presentation will be made to Council on August 5th.
6. The Borough's collected trash currently is disposed of through a contract with the Waste System Authority of Eastern Montgomery County. The County will not be renewing the contract which ends December 31, 2014. The Borough is considering several options for future disposal, including involving with other municipalities so

affected by preparing an RFP for joint municipal disposal. Al DeGennaro of J.P. Mascaro (the Borough's current trash hauler under contract through September 2015) will be present to discuss a proposal from Mascaro for trash disposal.

Mr. DeGennaro stated that J.P. Mascaro recognizes that after 20-25 years of County involvement with waste disposal at the trash-to-steam plant, the County is pulling out of this business, leaving a free market for municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal, with municipalities such as Ambler Borough needing to determine where waste will be disposed of after collection. He stated that unlike other municipalities that are considering a joint agreement for future waste disposal, Ambler Borough contracts out its waste collection and, as such, he suggested Ambler consider contracting the package of both waste collection and waste disposal, in the interim from January to September 2015, with Mascaro. He stated Mascaro would offer the same disposal rate of \$65.00 per ton that the Borough currently pays, noting that hauling mileage is a cost factor and that the Mascaro landfill is approximately the same distance from the Borough as is the County's Plymouth Meeting facility. Additionally, Mr. DeGennaro stated that there are economies in soliciting a bid package come September 2015 that includes both waste collection and disposal. He stated that all of the major haulers have their own landfills.

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. Consider advertising for adoption an Ordinance amending the eligibility requirements for the Municipal Employees Pension Fund to clarify the required years of service for eligibility.

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 vacant Highway Laborer position will be posted.
3. An Executive Session on a personnel matter is required. [At the conclusion of the Executive Session, Council President Pasceri announced that Terri Williams, upon recommendation of the Police Chief and Mayor, had been promoted to the position of Administrative Assistant, filling the position vacated last year upon the retirement of Pat Rotelli.]

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. Palumbo moves:

Recommend authorizing the plant engineer prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the WWTP Phase II Paving project. Seconded. All Aye. Carried.

Recommend purchasing a 2013 John Deere Mini Excavator with WLPP monies under a two-year lease agreement in the amount of \$28,450.00. Seconded. All Aye. Carried.

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

Consideration that **June 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$549,139.87** are to be paid. Seconded. All Aye. Carried.

Consider executing an agreement with Beautyguard for sidewalk repairs. Seconded. All Aye. Carried.

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

Consider advertising for adoption an Ordinance amending the eligibility requirements for the Municipal Employees Pension Fund to clarify the required years of service for eligibility. Seconded. All 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