

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

March 18, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at Borough Council Chambers located at 122 E. Butler Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002. Council Vice President Peter Amento presided.

The meeting was preceded at approximately 6:30 p.m. by a Public Hearing to consider passage of Ordinance 1078 amending Chapter 27, Part 27 “Redevelopment Overlay District” to permit a minimum of 400 feet of frontage and a minimum lot area of four acres. A motion was made to adopt Ordinance 1078. Seconded. [5-Aye; 2-Nay (Mrs. Deininger, Mrs. McCormick)]. Carried.

A Conditional Use Hearing was held to consider a request by AMA/American Marketing Association regarding the proposed South Chestnut Street Development Plan. Mr. Kensil of Pennoni Engineers presented the developer’s reasoning as to how the proposed use meets Borough ordinances. Mrs. McCormick stated that both the abutting Superfund site and the developer’s site were “active waste disposal sites” and that while the AMA property is a Brownfields site, it is classed as an Act 2 development site. Mr. Amento made a motion to grant Conditional Use. Seconded. [2-Aye; 6-Nay (Mr. Sheward, Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. Deininger, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Zacccone, Mr. Amento)] Denied. At the request of Solicitor Bresnan, appellant’s council accepted the record as the basis for any appeal. The Public Hearing was concluded.

After a brief recess, Mr. Amento called the regular Council Meeting to order. Mayor Sorg led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance. The mayor made a few brief remarks, announcing to Council that she intends to perform wedding ceremonies in her capacity as Mayor, and relayed details of a letter she received from a young student who suggested that a rain garden should be installed at the Public Library.

Roll Call – Present: 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. Mr. Pasceri was absent.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the February 18, 2014 Council Meeting. Seconded. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of Ambler Borough Council met Tuesday, March 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 February 2014 Police Department and Fire Department reports were received.
2. The February 2014 Ambulance Association report was received.
3. The February 2014 Public Works and Code Enforcement reports were reviewed.
4. The storm water management plan for Ambler Area Watersheds is being prepared. A public meeting previously scheduled for Monday, March 31 (7:00 p.m.) at Upper Dublin Township Building has been cancelled.

Mr. Curtis asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. He asked Chief Foley to look into requiring event permits for private functions. Chief Foley stated he was reviewing inquiries and these would be reviewed by Mr. Bresnan and Mrs. Aversa. Mr. Sheward asked why the public meeting on storm water management had been postponed. Mrs. Aversa replied that additional meetings were needed with several government agencies and surrounding municipalities before a public meeting could be held. 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 will not be submitting another grant application to Water Resources Education Network (WREN) at this time. An additional source of funding has been identified.

Mr. DeRuosi asked if there were comments or questions from Council or the public. Mrs. Baigis of Tennis Avenue asked the Parks & Rec Committee to proactively involve with park improvements. Mrs. Aversa stated that park improvements are made on a six-year

plan basis. 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 executing a Water Extension Agreement with Abington Hospital.

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, Mr. Sheward

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 **February 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$532,594.39** are to be paid as follows: General (**\$174,191.82**); Street Lights (**\$1,969.54**); Fire (**\$0.00**); Parks & Rec. (**\$294.51**); Water (**\$111,784.75**); Sewer (**\$18,290.39**); WWTP (**\$204,209.69**); Rail Corridor (**\$0.00**); Road Overlay (**\$0.00**); Debt Fund (**\$0.00**); Water Capital (**\$0.00**); Liquid Fuels (**\$21,853.69**).
2. Consider adoption of **Resolution 2014-2** to make grant application to Montgomery County Housing and Development for a CDBG grant for a Community Center at the new Ambler Municipal Building (former Mattison Avenue Elementary School site).

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 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. A recommendation will be made at the April Committee Meeting.

4. Alliance Bernstein made a presentation on the Borough's Pension Plans.

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. An Executive Session was held.

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 execution of a Water Extension Agreement between the Borough and Abington Hospital. Seconded. Carried.

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

Consideration that **February 2014** invoices in the amount of **\$532,594.39** are to be paid. Seconded. Carried.

Consider adoption of **Resolution 2014-2** to make grant application to Montgomery County Housing and Development for a CDBG grant for a Community Center at the new Ambler Municipal Building (former Mattison Avenue Elementary School site). Seconded. Carried.

Approved at the Public Hearing:

Ordinance 1078 amending Chapter 27, Part 27 “Redevelopment Overlay District” to permit a minimum of 400 feet of frontage and a minimum lot area of four acres and to include townhouses in the exception. [5-Aye; 2-Nay (Mrs. Deininger, Mrs. McCormick)]. Carried.

Denied at the Public Hearing:

Conditional Use for AMA Marketing for the South Chestnut Street Development Plan was denied. [2-Aye; 6-Nay (Mr. Sheward, Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. Deininger, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Zaccone, Mr. Amento)]

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Russell
Assistant Secretary
Borough of Ambler