AMBLER BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2014, MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Ambler Borough Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 122 East Butler Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania. President Steve Ware presided.

Roll Call: Present: Peter Amento, Salvatore A. Boccuti, Al Comly, Carol Ann DiPietro, Elizabeth Iovine, Robert Lagreca, Dan McCormick, William Mulroy and Steve Ware. Meredith Curran Trego, Montgomery County Planner, and Ronald E. Myers, Sr., Ambler Borough Code Enforcement Officer. James Dougherty, of Gilmore and Associates, Inc., Borough Engineer, was excused from attendance.

Peter Amento made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting of August 26, 2014. Robert Lagreca seconded the motion.

OLD BUSINESS:

Council recommends the Planning Commission review and recommend revisions to the Parking Ordinance for specific uses. The County Planner prepared a draft Ordinance setting forth suggested up-dated parking calculations to be incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance for Ambler. This draft was discussed at the July and August meetings and some revisions were suggested by the Commission at both meetings.

Also included in the draft that was discussed in July, August and again at this meeting is a concept for consideration by the Commission and thereafter recommend to Borough Council to allow an applicant who is unable to meet the parking calculation to make a monetary contribution to a "parking fund" to be established. The actual calculation of the contribution was discussed. Would the contribution be one-time fee or an annual fee? Would the contribution be transferrable to a new owner? The possible uses for the accumulated moneys in the "fund" could be for parking meters; and if the fund were to get to a substantial amount, could it be used for repairs to the current parking lots. These questions require additional discussion. The County Planner will get comparable information from similar municipalities for discussion at the October 28, 2014, meeting. The Commission and attendees engaged in discussion concerning the parking issues. One concept discussed is the parking for employees. Should there be requirements as to where employees can park so that spaces convenient to a business can be utilized more fully by patrons. concept discussed is parking permits for residents and what criterion would be instituted to issue these permits. Further discussion is needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONTINUED BUSINESS FOR OCTOBER 28, 2014, MEETING

Further discussion and review of proposed parking requirement changes for certain uses and a recommendation to Council for implementation of a "parking fund". The County Planner will provide an amended draft Ordinance for further discussion along with comparable information from similar municipalities.

Resident parking permits.

Discussion to confirm whether the November Planning Commission Meeting, which has traditionally been combined with the December Meeting and held on the 2nd Tuesday in December, might take place on the 4th Tuesday in November as the usual monthly scheduled date and then what would be the schedule in December. This scheduling may be based on whether applications are received to be presented and reviewed at a Planning Commission Meeting.

Several residents were in attendance. Several residents participated in the parking discussion.

Peter Amento moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m., seconded by Robert Lagreca.

Respectfully Submitted, Carol Ann DiPietro Recording Secretary, AMBLER BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION