



BOROUGH OF AMBLER

COMMITTEE MEETING

May 2, 2017

7:00 p.m.

The Council Meeting will be Wednesday
May 17, because of Primary Elections.

PUBLIC SAFETY
PUBLIC UTILITIES
FINANCE & PLANNING
PARKS & RECREATION
SALARY & PERSONNEL

Public Safety Committee

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
Mr. Curtis, Chairperson
Mrs. Mc Cormick
Mr. Sheward

OLD BUSINESS

1. **NFPC WORKSHOPS**

The US Army Corps of Engineers will be hosting workshops .
Workshops are scheduled for June 22nd (6:30-9:30 p.m.) and June 24th (1:00-4:00 p.m.)
at the Daniel Dowling Legion Post, 351 Maple Street. Representatives from the Army
Corps, FEMA, PEMA, EPA and Montgomery County will be in attendance to answer
questions.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **PUBLIC WORKS & CODE REPORT**

The Code Enforcement and Public Works reports are **attached**.

2. **LCB RESOLUTION**

A recommendation is needed to adopt Ordinance 2017-6 to suspend Enforcement
of Ordinance 748 for persons attending the Art and Music Festival on June 16 &
17 and for the Oktoberfest on October 7 & 8, 2017.

2. **LED STREET LIGHTS**

The Highway Supervisor is putting a plan in place to begin changing Borough
street lights to LED.

BOROUGH OF AMBLER
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-06

A RESOLUTION SUSPENDING ENFORCEMENT OF ORDINANCE 748
FOR PERSONS ATTENDING AMBLER BOROUGH'S
ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL EVENTS
ON JUNE 16 AND 17, 2017 AND
FOR PERSONS ATTENDING
OKTOBERFEST FESTIVAL EVENTS
ON OCTOBER 7 AND 8, 2017

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance 738, Codified in the Borough Ordinances at §6-101, prohibiting the carrying of alcoholic beverages in open containers, will not be enforced on June 16 and 17, 2017 against any attendee of Ambler Borough's Arts & Music Festival events, or on October 7, 2017 or October 8, 2017 (rain date) against any attendee of Ambler Borough's Oktoberfest Festival events. During the festival, vendors and merchants will sell alcoholic beverages which may be carried and consumed by attendees within the visible boundaries of the event. Ordinance 748 will remain in force in the remainder of the Borough on those dates. All other laws relating to public conduct, including public intoxication and underage drinking, will remain in full force and effect, including throughout the festival events.

SO RESOLVED this 17th day of May, 2017.

Salvatore Pasceri, Council President

Mary Aversa, Secretary

Public Utilities Committee

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
Mr. Zaccone, Chairperson
Mr. Curtis
Mr. Pasceri

OLD BUSINESS

1. **TMDL AGREEMENT**

Staff is reviewing the proposed TMDL Agreement with the Solicitor and the Engineer and will prepare a response.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **WWTP ENGINEER REPORT**

The WWTP Engineer's report will be provided.

2. **TRUCKS**

Two new pickup trucks have been purchased through Penske GMC COSTARS Discount by Public Works Dept. They are 2017 GMC Sierra 3500 HD 4WD Reg Cab 133.6" TK35903 with plows. Total purchase price per truck (with COSTARS discount of \$10,360 per truck) is \$39,051. Payment arrangement for the two trucks is three annual lease payments of \$27,599.81. (Budgeted \$14,000 per year per truck).

3. **WATER FACILITY DRIVEWAYS**

Quotes are being obtained to pave the driveways at the Borough Wells, the project was budgeted.

Prepared For:
Phil Benigno
Ambler Borough

Prepared By:
Ben Banonis
Penske GMC Commercial Trucks
100 S Museum Rd
Shillington, PA 19607
Phone: (570) 789-0609
Fax: (610) 775-5061
Email:
bbanonis@penskebuickgmc.com

2- 2017 Fleet/Non-Retail GMC Sierra 3500HD 4WD Reg Cab 133.6" TK35903

QUOTE WORKSHEET

QUOTE WORKSHEET - 2017 Fleet/Non-Retail TK35903 4WD Reg Cab 133.6"

MSRP	\$38,245.00
Destination Charge	\$1,295.00
Optional Equipment	\$1,950.00
Dealer Advertising	\$0.00
PRE-TAX ADJUSTMENTS:	
Penske GMC COSTARS Discount	(\$10,360.00)
LineX Spray-in Bedliner	\$650.00
Western Pro Plus Plow With Deflector	\$4,320.00
Thiemann Toplifter TT15ETAL5632	\$2,951.00
Delivery of Complete Unit to Ambler Borough - FREE	\$0.00
Total Pre-Tax Adjustments	(\$2,439.00)
Taxable Price	\$39,051.00
TOTAL	\$39,051.00

Customer Signature / Date

Dealer Signature / Date

3 - LEASE PAYMENTS OF 27,599.81

Report content is based on current data version referenced. Any performance-related calculations are offered solely as guidelines. Actual unit performance will depend on your operating conditions.

GM AutoBook, Data Version: 485.0, Data updated 4/4/2017
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Customer File:

Finance & Planning Committee

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
Mr. Sheward, Chairperson
Mr. DeRuosi
Ms. Tomlinson

OLD BUSINESS

1. MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROCESSING/DISPENSARIES

Information has been provided regarding the PA State Regulations for medical marijuana dispensary facilities. The owner of the property at 31 E. Butler Avenue has submitted an application to have a potential dispensary in the rear of the building, Guidance is requested from Council. (attached)

2. PARKING STRUCTURE – RACP FUNDING

The detail on the RACP GRANT Funding that was secured for the parking structure in the Lindenwold Parking Lot was provided.

NEW BUSINESS

1. BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT

The Borough Engineer's report is **attached**.

2. RESOLUTION CDBG FUNDING

Consider adoption of a Resolution 2017-7 urging our Congressmen and U.S. Senators to oppose elimination of CDBG funding. Request that full funding of the CDBG Program be preserved. (attached)

3. PAVING SCHEDULE

Authorization to Advertise for bid the 2017 Paving Project scheduled to include:

- Butler Avenue (Lindenwold to York)

- South Main Street (Butler to Station Square)
- Reiffs Mill Road (N. Main Street to Tennis Avenue)
- Pleasant Acre Drive (Mt. Pleasant Avenue to end of cul-de-sac)
- Doc's Court (Mt. Pleasant Avenue to end of cul-de-sac)

4. **BAMBOO ORDINANCE**

Recommendation is requested to send to the Planning Commission for consideration language regarding prohibiting the spread of bamboo in the Borough. **(attached)**

5. **BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Recommendation is requested to appoint Remington Vernick & Beach as the Building Code Inspection Firm. **(attached)**

6. **OPEN SPACE PLAN**

A Recommendation is requested to update the Borough Open Space Plan with the newly acquired parcels.

§ 1161.26. Dispensary facilities.

(a) A dispensary may only dispense medical marijuana to a patient or caregiver in an indoor, enclosed, secure facility as approved by the Department.

(b) A dispensary may not be located:

(1) Within 1,000 feet of the property line of a public, private or parochial school, or a day-care center.

(2) At the same site used for growing and processing medical marijuana.

(3) In the same office space as a practitioner or other physician.

(c) The Department may waive or amend the prohibition under subsection (b)(1) if it is shown by clear and convincing evidence that the waiver or amendment is necessary to provide patients with adequate access to medical marijuana. A waiver or amendment by the Department under this subsection may require additional security measures, changes to the physical plant of a facility or other conditions necessary to protect individuals under 18 years of age and to prevent unauthorized access to medical marijuana.

(d) No one under 18 years of age is permitted to enter a dispensary unless the individual is a patient or accompanied by a parent, guardian or caregiver. If a dispensary facility is located adjacent to a commercial operation, the facility shall provide additional means of security satisfactory to the Department to prevent individuals under 18 years of age from entering the facility from the commercial operation unless the individual is accompanied by an adult.

(e) The following areas of a dispensary must be clearly marked with proper signage:

(1) Limited access areas. All areas of ingress and egress to a limited access area must be clearly identified by the posting of a sign which shall be not less than 12 inches wide and 12 inches long, composed of letters not less than 1/2 inch in height, which must state:

Do Not Enter—Limited Access Area —Access Limited to Authorized Personnel and Escorted Visitors.

(2) Areas that are open to patients and caregivers.

(f) A dispensary must have an enclosed, secure area out of public sight for the loading and unloading of medical marijuana into and from a transport vehicle.

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§ 1161.29. Plans of operation.

(a) At the time the Department determines a dispensary to be operational, the dispensary shall provide the Department with a full and complete plan of operation for review that includes the following:

- (1) Employment policies and procedures.
- (2) Security policies and protocols, including:
 - (i) Staff identification measures.
 - (ii) Monitoring of attendance of staff and visitors.
 - (iii) Alarm systems.
 - (iv) Video surveillance.
 - (v) Monitoring and tracking inventory.
 - (vi) Personnel security.
- (3) A process for receiving, packaging, labeling, handling, tracking, transporting, storing, disposing, returning and recalling products containing medical marijuana in accordance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations.
- (4) Workplace safety.
- (5) Maintenance, cleaning and sanitation of the site or facility, or both.
- (6) Inventory maintenance and reporting procedures.
- (7) The investigation of complaints and potential adverse events from other medical marijuana organizations, patients, caregivers or practitioners.
- (8) The use of the electronic tracking system prescribed by the Department.

(b) A dispensary shall make the full and complete plan of operation available to the Department upon request and during any inspection of the site and facility.

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§ 1161.30. Visitor access to dispensary facilities.

(a) A dispensary shall post a sign in a conspicuous location at each entrance of the facility that reads:

THESE PREMISES ARE UNDER CONSTANT VIDEO SURVEILLANCE.

NO ONE UNDER THE AGE OF 18 IS PERMITTED TO ENTER UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL IS A PATIENT OR ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT, GUARDIAN OR CAREGIVER.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), only authorized employees of a dispensary may enter a limited access area.

(c) A dispensary shall require visitors, including vendors and contractors requiring access to a limited access area in the dispensary's facility, to present government-issued identification, sign a visitor log and wear a visitor identification badge that is visible to others at all times while in a limited access area.

(d) When admitting a visitor under subsection (c) to a limited access area, a dispensary shall:

(1) Require the visitor to sign a visitor log upon entering and leaving the limited access area.

(2) Check the visitor's government-issued identification to verify that the name on the identification provided matches the name in the visitor log. A photocopy of the identification must be retained with the log.

(3) Issue a visitor identification badge with the visitor's name and company, if applicable, and a badge number.

(4) Escort the visitor while the visitor remains in a limited access area.

(5) Ensure that the visitor does not touch any medical marijuana located in a limited access area.

(e) The following apply regarding the visitor log required under subsections (c) and (d):

(1) The dispensary shall maintain the log for 4 years and make the log available to the Department, State or local law enforcement and other State or local government officials upon request if necessary to perform the government officials' functions and duties.

(2) The log must include the full name of each visitor, the visitor identification badge number, the time of arrival, the time of departure and the purpose of the visit, including the areas visited and the name of each employee visited.

(f) This section does not limit the right of the Department or its authorized agents, or other Federal, State or local government officials, from entering any area of a dispensary if necessary to perform

the government officials' functions and duties.

(g) A principal, financial backer, operator or an employee of a dispensary may not receive any type of consideration or compensation for allowing a visitor to enter a limited access area.

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§ 1161.31. Security and surveillance.

(a) A dispensary shall have security and surveillance systems, utilizing commercial-grade equipment, to prevent unauthorized entry and to prevent and detect an adverse loss. The security and surveillance systems must include the following:

(1) A professionally-monitored security alarm system that includes the following:

(i) Coverage of all facility entrances and exits; rooms with exterior windows, exterior walls, roof hatches or skylights; storage rooms, including those that contain medical marijuana and safes; and the perimeter of the facility.

(ii) A silent security alarm system signal, known as a duress alarm, generated by the entry of a designated code into an arming station in order to signal that the alarm user is being forced to turn off the system

(iii) An audible security alarm system signal, known as a panic alarm, generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a life-threatening or emergency situation requiring law enforcement response.

(iv) A silent alarm signal, known as a holdup alarm, generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a robbery in progress.

(v) An electrical, electronic, mechanical or other device capable of being programmed to send a prerecorded voice message requesting dispatch, when activated, over a telephone line, radio or other communication system to a law enforcement, public safety or emergency services agency.

(vi) A failure notification system that provides an audible, text or visual notification of any failure in the systems. The failure notification system must provide by telephone, e-mail or text message an alert to a designated security person within the facility within 5 minutes after the failure.

(vii) Smoke and fire alarms.

(viii) Auxiliary power sufficient to maintain security and surveillance systems for at least 48 hours following a power outage.

(ix) The ability to ensure all access doors are not solely controlled by an electronic access panel to prevent locks from becoming released during a power outage.

(x) Motion detectors.

(2) A professionally-monitored security and surveillance system that is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and records all activity in images capable of clearly revealing facial detail. The security and surveillance system must include the following:

(i) Fixed camera placement that allows for a clear image of all individuals and activities in and around the following:

(A) Any area of the facility where medical marijuana is loaded or unloaded into or from transport vehicles.

(B) Entrances to and exits from the facility. Entrances and exits must be recorded from both indoor and outdoor vantage points.

(C) Rooms with exterior windows, exterior walls, roof hatches or skylights and storage rooms, including those that may contain medical marijuana and safes.

(D) Five feet from the exterior of the perimeter of the facility.

(E) All limited access areas.

(ii) Auxiliary power sufficient to maintain security and surveillance systems for at least 48 hours following a power outage.

(iii) Ability to operate under the normal lighting conditions of each area under surveillance.

(iv) Ability to immediately produce a clear, color, still photograph in a digital format that meets the requirements of this subsection.

(3) Ability to clearly and accurately display the date and time. The date and time must be synchronized and set correctly and may not significantly obscure the picture.

(4) Ability to record all images captured by each surveillance camera for a minimum of 4 years in a format that may be easily accessed for investigative purposes. The recordings must be kept:

(i) At the facility:

(A) In a locked cabinet, closet or other secure place to protect it from tampering or theft,

(B) In a limited access area or other room to which access is limited to authorized individuals.

(ii) At a secure location other than the location of the facility if approved by the Department.

(5) A security alarm system separate from the facility's primary security system covering the limited access area or other room where the recordings under paragraph (4) are stored. The separate security alarm system must meet the same requirements as the facility's primary security alarm system.

(b) The following apply regarding the inspection, servicing or alteration of, and the upgrade to, the dispensary facility's security and surveillance systems:

(1) The systems shall be inspected and all devices tested once every year by a qualified alarm system vendor and a qualified surveillance system vendor, as approved by the Department.

(2) The dispensary shall conduct maintenance inspections once every month to ensure that any repairs, alterations or upgrades to the security and surveillance systems are made for the proper operation of the systems.

(3) The dispensary shall retain at the facility, for at least 4 years, records of all inspections, servicing, alterations and upgrades performed on the systems and shall make the records available to the Department and its authorized agents within 2 business days following a request.

(4) In the event of a mechanical malfunction of the security or surveillance system that the dispensary anticipates will exceed a 4-hour period, the dispensary shall notify the Department

immediately and, with Department approval, provide alternative security measures that may include closure of the facility.

(5) The dispensary shall designate an employee to continuously monitor the security and surveillance systems at the facility.

(6) The following apply regarding records retention:

(i) Within 2 business days following a request, a dispensary shall provide up to four screen captures of an unaltered copy of a video surveillance recording to the Department or its authorized agents, law enforcement, or other Federal, State or local government officials if necessary to perform the government officials' functions and duties.

(ii) If a dispensary has been notified in writing by the Department or its authorized agents, law enforcement, or other Federal, State or local government officials of a pending criminal or administrative investigation for which a recording may contain relevant information, the dispensary shall retain an unaltered copy of the recording for 4 years or until the investigation or proceeding is closed or the entity conducting the investigation or proceeding notifies the dispensary that it is not necessary to retain the recording, whichever is longer.

(c) A dispensary shall install commercial-grade, nonresidential doors and door locks on each external door of the facility. Keys or key codes for all doors shall remain in the possession of designated authorized individuals.

(d) During all nonworking hours, all entrances to and exits from the facility must be securely locked.

(e) A dispensary shall have an electronic back-up system for all electronic records.

(f) A dispensary shall install lighting to ensure proper surveillance inside and outside of the facility.

(g) A dispensary shall limit access to a room containing security and surveillance monitoring equipment to persons who are essential to maintaining security and surveillance operations: Federal, State and local law enforcement; security and surveillance system service employees; the Department or its authorized agents; and other persons with the prior written approval of the Department. The following apply:

(1) A dispensary shall make available to the Department or the Department's authorized agents, upon request, a current list of authorized employees and service employees or contractors who have access to any security and surveillance areas.

(2) A dispensary shall keep security and surveillance rooms locked at all times and may not use these rooms for any other purpose or function.

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§ 1161.33. Storage requirements.

(a) A dispensary shall have separate locked limited access areas for storage of medical marijuana that is expired, damaged, deteriorated, mislabeled, contaminated, recalled, or whose containers or packaging have been opened or breached until the medical marijuana is returned to a grower/processor, destroyed or otherwise disposed of as required under § 1151.40 (relating to management and disposal of medical marijuana waste).

(b) A dispensary shall maintain all storage areas in a clean and orderly condition and free from infestation by insects, rodents, birds and pests.

Source

The temporary provisions of this § 1161.33 amended January 13, 2017, effective January 14, 2017, expire on January 14, 2019, 47 Pa.B. 217. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (385032).

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AMBLER BOROUGH

Project No.	Project Name	Status
Borough Engineer		
2001-1010	TEA-21 - Ambler Streetscape 2002	Construction underway.
2003-0122-01	Ambler-2013 NPDES MS4 Permit	Revised TMDL Strategy provided to Ambler 12/16/15 for submission to PADEP. Progress Report submitted to PADEP 5/12/2016. Final Progress report for 2013 permit and NOI for 2018 permit due 9/16/17.
2006-08054	Pedestrian Sidewalk Upgrade Program	Plan revision underway for resubmission to DVRPC.
2011-01116-01	Glen Mawr Homes-Edgewood SD	Review of Lot 15, Edgewood Dr provided 5/5/16.
2013-02020	Ambler Crossings	Review of revised plans underway. Pre-construction meeting held March 29, 2017. Anticipate site work to begin April 10, 2017.
2014-04103	Wissahickon Act 167 Plan (Ambler)	Act 167 Plan approved by MontCo and PADEP. New storm water ordinance required to be adopted by 1/16/16. Ordinance provided 12/4/15.
2014-11055	2015 Ambler Road Program	Project completed. Maintenance period expires 6/1/2017. Work reviewed 4/4/17. No issued observed.
2014-12015	St. Mary's Villa Residential Redevelopment.- TIS	Meetings with PennDOT, Developer & Ambler held 3/2/15 & 9/15/15. TIS review provided 6/1/15, 8/11/16.
2016-05051	Ambler Borough 2016 Paving Program	Construction complete. Maintenance period expires 5/12/18
2017-01010	2017 Ambler Borough General Services	On-going
2017-01032	N. Maple Ave Culvert Assessment	Culvert assessment underway
2017-01105	Ambler Borough 2017 Road Paving	Bid document preparation underway. Curb ramp design underway.
Sewer Engineer		
2013-02020-01	Ambler Crossings - Sewer	Revised plans submitted on February 10, 2017. Water & Sewer Review letter issued on March 13, 2017.
2015-03058	2015 CDBG Application	All work complete. Proceeding with project closeout.
2017-01050	Ambler Borough General Sewer Services	On-going
Water Engineer		
2013-02020-02	Ambler Crossings - Water	Revised plans submitted on February 10, 2017. Water & Sewer Review letter issued on March 13, 2017.
2016-04009	Maple Ave Water Main Replacement	Field survey completed. Awaiting further direction from Water Superintendent.
2016-07041	Whitemarsh NPDES Permit	Application for NPDES permit renewal submitted to DEP 12/23/16.
2017-01049	Ambler Borough General Water Services	On-going
2017-01110	Wells 12 & 14 PWS Application	Minor permit amendment application submitted to DEP on 3/28/17; under DEP review.

GILMORE & ASSOCIATES, INC.

AMBLER BOROUGH

Status

Project No.	Project Name	Status
Water Engineer		
2017-01134	SOC Sampling	Preparation for SOC waiver renewal underway
2017-03065	Prophecy Creek Bridge	Assisting Water Dept. with review of County's plans for bridge replacement project and impact on existing water main.
2017-03128	Lafayette Ave. Water Main Replacement	Survey work underway for water main replacement design.
2017-04067	Broad Axe Tank Verizon Wireless	Plans submitted for proposed antenna replacements/modifications; plans under review.

**BOROUGH OF AMBLER
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION 2017-07

**OPPOSING ELIMINATION OF THE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG)**

WHEREAS, the proposed Federal Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget calls for the elimination of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, which funds a myriad of social service, economic development, and housing programs in this community; and

WHEREAS, in this borough and many boroughs across the Commonwealth, forty-two years of Community Development Block Grant funding has developed a strong network of relationships between this borough, residents and the many non-profit agencies that provide services and help make possible our commitment to our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, this borough in partnership with our statewide advocate, the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, recognizes that the Community Development Block Grant Program is an important linkage of federal, state, and local government, business, non-profit and community efforts, and that the services funded by the CDBG Program, administered by the local government and often delivered by local non-profit organizations, relies heavily on the dedication of and goodwill of our combined efforts; and

WHEREAS, this borough community recognizes all the participants whose hard work and devotion to the neighborhood and their low- and moderate- income residents help insure the quality and effectiveness of the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ambler Borough Council opposes the proposed elimination of the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this community hereby petitions the U.S. Congress and Administration to recognize the outstanding work being done locally and nationally by the Community Development Block Grant Program, and of its vital importance to the community and to the people who live in its lower income neighborhoods, to strongly oppose any proposal to eliminate or reduce funding to the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be conveyed to the appropriate elected and appointed officials of the federal government, the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, and that this borough's name be added to the roll of those committed to the preservation and full funding of the Community Development Block Grant Program and maintenance of its essential features over the course of this, and the next session of Congress.

SO RESOLVED this _____ day of May, 2017.

Salvatore Pasceri, Council President

Mary Aversa, Secretary

Borough Of Ambler

131 ROSEMARY AVENUE
AMBLER, PENNSYLVANIA 19002-4476

PHONE 215-646-1000
FAX 215-641-1355 ADMINISTRATION
FAX 215-641-1921 WATER DEPARTMENT
WEBSITE: www.boroughofambler.com



Memorandum

To: Mary Aversa, Borough Manager
From: Glenn Kucher, Code Enforcement Officer
Date: April 26, 2017
Re: Bamboo

As per your request below is information regarding Bamboo as well as an attached Ordinance sample. This is some of the research I have regarding bamboo from my previous employment.

Brief Summary of How Bamboo Grows:

Bamboo produces new canes (culms) in the Spring. These shoots emerge out of the ground and grow in height and diameter for around 60 days. During this 60 day period it will produce limbs and leaves.

After the 60 day period of growth, this bamboo cane does not grow in height or diameter again. It will put on new foliage every year, and typically a cane last for 10 years.

Bamboo is a member of the grass family. It is a colony plant, so it uses energy from this existing plant to produce more plants the next year increasing the size of the colony. The new plants will grow in the same manner. New shoots emerge to turn into a cane with limbs and leaves within a 60 day period.

It takes bamboo about three years to get established. Once established the new shoots that emerge in the Spring (they will still only grow for 60 days) will continue to get bigger and more numerous from year to year. It takes a varying number of years (4-15) for different species to reach their maximum size. This is dependent on species selection, soil, sunlight, climate and watering conditions.

Getting Rid of Bamboo by Digging

To get rid of bamboo, some suggest digging. This tactic may work for a small stand of bamboo, but is problematic for larger stands. Pick a shoot to start with and begin digging gingerly around the base. After you've loosened the soil enough to wiggle the plant, tug at it gently. You want to try to pull up as much of the plant and its rhizome system as possible

with your tug, as opposed to just ripping it out and leaving a lot of the rhizomes behind. When you've done your best in that area, move onto another shoot, etc. Chances for success using this method will be enhanced if the soil is moist, so water the affected area beforehand.

Even if you're successful, there will inevitably still be rhizomes left behind in the soil. So carefully excavate down and around your original hole in pursuit of those fugitives! It may help to have a sifter, so that you can sift through the soil as you inspect it to locate the rhizomes. Any fraction of a rhizome left behind now will result in a new shoot later, thus mocking your efforts to get rid of bamboo. Indeed, you'll probably have to repeat the process many times.

Getting Rid of Bamboo Using Tarps, Barriers

Another tactic used for getting rid of bamboo is smothering with tarps. However, note that the bamboo may be able to outflank the tarps by spreading beyond their perimeters. Therefore, employing tarps can result in the bamboo's popping up somewhere else in the yard -- clearly not a desirable result!

To prevent such a result, consider using the tarp tactic in conjunction with burying barriers. That is, many people contain rhizomatous bamboos by sinking plastic barriers into the ground all around them, effectively "fencing" the bamboo in. Barriers should run 30" deep; also make sure a couple of inches of barrier extend above the surface. Using such a barrier in conjunction with the application of a tarp makes sense: the two tactics complement each other.

Getting Rid of Bamboo by Cutting

The American Bamboo Society recommends a different approach to getting rid of bamboo: cutting. Since their specialty is bamboo, I would lend the most credence to their advice, which, in sum, runs as follows:

Cut the bamboo shoots down
Apply water to the area
Cut down the new crop of bamboo resulting from #2
Repeat the process

In conclusion, the American Bamboo Society writes:

Keep doing this until no more shoots come up. This will exhaust the energy stored in the rhizomes underground. Without green leaves to photosynthesize and produce new energy, they will no longer be able to send up new shoots. The rhizomes will be left behind, but will rot away.

BAMBOO DRAFT ORDINANCE LANGUAGE

Below is a draft language amending the Borough Code of Ordinances under the Property Maintenance Code addressing the spread of bamboo to adjoining properties:

Part 6 Property Maintenance

5-540 - D. Prohibiting the Spread of Bamboo

5-541 - Definition

As used in this Subpart, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Bamboo - any of various woody or arborescent grasses (as of the genera *Bambusa*, *Arundinaria*, and *Dendrocalamus* of the subfamily Bambusoideae) of tropical and temperate regions having hollow stems, thick rhizomes, and shoots

5-542 - Prohibiting the Spread of Bamboo –

The growing or maintaining of Bamboo species, including, but not limited to *Bambusa*, *Phyllostachys*, and *Pseudosasa* including Bamboo, Golden Bamboo and Arrow Bamboo, and other similar invasive species, (“Bamboo”) in such a manner that the Bamboo spreads, invades, or grown on an adjoining or neighboring property. Any property owner or resident who has planted or maintains Bamboo shall be required to take such measures as are reasonably expected to prevent such Bamboo from invading or growing onto adjoining or neighboring properties. Such measures shall include, but not be limited to, installation of sheathing comprised of metal or other material impenetrable by Bamboo at sufficient depth within the property line or lines where the running Bamboo is planted or growing to prevent the growth or encroachment upon adjoining or neighboring property by the Bamboo.

5-543 - . Violations and Penalties.

Any person who shall fails to prohibit the spread of bamboo is in violation of this Subpart shall, upon conviction before a District Justice, be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding \$*****, together with the costs of prosecution. (Ord. *****)

Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
Mr. DeRuosi, Chairperson
Mrs. Deininger
Mrs. Hertz

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. **AMBLER- YMCA SUMMER CAMP**
Registration is being held in Borough Hall on Wednesday May 3, from 5:00pm till 7:00pm for the Summer program. Camp dates are June 19 through July 28th.
2. **PARK UPGRADES**
Staff has updated the 5 year plan including cost for several Park upgrades. Residents have requested several additions to the Parks. Guidance is requested from the Committee on scheduling the improvements. **(attached)**
3. **FREE LIBRARIES**
The borough will be collecting gently used children's books and mature books for use in our free libraries.
4. **SUMMER PARK EVENTS**
The committee is working with Ambler Main Street to schedule the following events: Summer Concerts in the Park; Yoga in the park; and Mindfulness/Meditation in the Park.

Salary & Personnel Committee

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
Ms. Nancy Deininger, Chairperson
Mrs. Mc Cormick
Ms. Tomlinson
Mrs. Hertz

OLD BUSINESS

1. **COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

Vacancies exist on the Environmental Advisory Council and Appeals Board. Interested candidates are asked to send a letter of interest and resume to the Borough Manager.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An executive session is needed.

2. **WATER VACANCY**

Interviews have been scheduled for the vacant Water Operator II position.

Public Comment Procedure:

As a reminder, it will not be the practice of Council to answer questions and/or engage in dialogue with the speaker during the Public Comments section of the meeting. Comments regarding any and all employee issues will not be entertained. Council may address items or questions raised at the next scheduled Committee/Council meeting, but reserves the right to determine agenda items. Council requests that those in attendance refrain from engaging the speaker during public comments. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ambler Borough Council