



## BOROUGH OF AMBLER

### COMMITTEE MEETING

April 3, 2018

7:00 p.m.

A Proclamation will be presented to Bob Raines.

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



**BOROUGH OF AMBLER, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA**

**A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
THE DEDICATED CAREER OF  
BOB RAINES**

**WHEREAS** Bob Raines began his distinguished career in the newspaper business in 1974 at Montgomery Publishing Company, initially undertaking work as a proofreader, typesetter and in paste-up production, and later with a short-lived stint as a wire service news editor and freelance writer; and,

**WHEREAS**, upon reviewing the styling requirements of journalism and noting that “there is no relationship between journalism and the English language,” after several years Bob turned to his interest in photography to produce freelance photos and in 1978 became the staff photographer for the *Ambler Gazette*; and,

**WHEREAS**, since 1978 Bob has photographed for the *Ambler Gazette* with inclusion in other Montgomery Newspapers including *Times Herald, Glenside News, Globe, Willow Grove Guide, Public Spirit, Montgomeryville Spirit, Souderton Independent, Colonial, Today’s Post, Ticket Magazine and Art Matters*; and,

**WHEREAS**, with the introduction of digital news and use of digital cameras at the dawn of the Twenty-first Century, Bob transitioned by 2014 to use of the by-line – *Digital First Media* – and continued to contribute additional memorable and awesome community photographs; and,

**WHEREAS**, after spending 40 years as a photojournalist and 44 years in the newspaper business, having photographed Governors Tom Wolf and Tom Corbett; Senators Pat Toomey and John McCain; Presidents Barack Obama, George W. Bush, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton; First Ladies Michelle Obama, Hillary Clinton and Barbara Bush; and Vice Presidents Dan Quayle and Mike Pence; Mayors Ed Rendell and Michael Nutter, along with other dignitaries and celebrities, Bob has announced his retirement.

**NOW THEREFORE** this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2018, Ambler Borough Council and the Mayor of Ambler Borough, express our appreciation to Bob Raines for his creativity, tenacity and performance in his career in photojournalism, and for his commitment to this community, and do hereby recognize Bob Raines for his work at *Montgomery Newspapers* and congratulate him on his retirement.

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Frank DeRuosi, Ambler Council President

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Jeanne Sorg, Ambler Borough Mayor

**Public Safety Committee**

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Mr. Zaccone (Chair)

Mrs. Deininger

Mrs. Siskind

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **ST. MARY'S DEVELOPMENT**

The Borough Engineer discussed the Storm Water Plans and Traffic Study for St. Mary's development. Borough Council is discussing options to address the concerns of residents. The Pedestrian Detour plans were reviewed as well as the traffic counts for Lindenwold and Bethlehem Pike. (**attached**)

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **PUBLIC WORKS & CODE REPORT**

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

2. **GUN CONTROL RESOLUTION**

**Attached** is a sample Resolution regarding gun control for consideration.

## Borough of Ambler

### Code Enforcement Report for March 2018

PERMITS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
Building	7	8	4										19
Dumpster	0	1	1										2
Fire	0	0	0										0
Mechanical	3	3	1										7
Plumbing	7	5	3										15
Road Opening	1	118*	0										119
Use and Occupancy	0	0	4										4
Vendor Sales	0	0	0										0
Zoning	2	0	2										4
Rental Inspections	26	12	63										101
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>78</b>										<b>294</b>

\*February Road Opening Permits number associated with the ongoing PECO service upgrades throughout the Borough

JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO  
FURTHER REGULATE FIREARMS INCLUDING AN ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN  
THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF UPPER DUBLIN,  
AND  
THE UPPER DUBLIN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

MARCH 12, 2018

WHEREAS, since the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre on December 14, 2012, where 20 first-grade children and 6 educators were murdered, there have been 239 school shootings in the United States of America where 438 people were shot of which 138 were killed including the 17 students and educators murdered at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida;<sup>1</sup> and

WHEREAS, there has been an average of five school shootings per month;<sup>2</sup> and

WHEREAS, assault weapons as defined by Pennsylvania House Bill 194 of 2017 have been used in the majority of the school shootings;<sup>3</sup> and

WHEREAS, when the Federal Assault Weapons Ban of 1994 was in place, mass shootings decreased by 43%;<sup>4</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Federal Assault Weapons Ban of 1994 expired without renewal or replacement in 2004;<sup>5</sup> and

WHEREAS, seven states in the country have an assault weapons ban, but Pennsylvania does not;<sup>6</sup> and

WHEREAS, the District is entrusted with the health and safety of our students and District employees; and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/02/15/us/school-shootings-sandy-hook-parkland.html>

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup>

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2018/national/mass-shootings-in-america/?utm\\_term=.e3491b671077](https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2018/national/mass-shootings-in-america/?utm_term=.e3491b671077);

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/PN/Public/btCheck.cfm?txtType=PDF&sessYr=2017&sessInd=0&billBody=H&billTyp=B&billNbr=0194&pn=0159>

<sup>4</sup>

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2018/02/15/its-time-to-bring-back-the-assault-weapons-ban-gun-violence-experts-say/?utm\\_term=.7c0e3833495d](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2018/02/15/its-time-to-bring-back-the-assault-weapons-ban-gun-violence-experts-say/?utm_term=.7c0e3833495d)

<sup>5</sup>

<http://www.nbcnews.com/id/5946127/ns/politics/t/congress-lets-assault-weapons-ban-expire/#.WozqS5MeGQ>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/supreme-court-allows-new-york-connecticut-assault-weapons-ban/>

WHEREAS, current Pennsylvania law prohibits local municipalities from enacting regulations on firearms;<sup>7</sup> and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of School Directors of the School District of Upper Dublin and the Upper Dublin Education Association call upon Congress and the Pennsylvania General Assembly to enact legislation that further regulates firearms, including but not limited to legislation that prohibits the possession, use, control, manufacture, and sale of assault weapons as defined by Pennsylvania House Bill 194 of 2017, as well as high-capacity magazines, and bump stocks.

Adopted this 12th day of March, 2018.

Signed,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Art Levinowitz, Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Jones Bray, Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Sample, UDEA Co-President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maureen Schmidt, UDEA Co-President

\_\_\_\_\_  
<sup>7</sup> 18 Pa. C.S. §6120; *Ortiz v. Commonwealth* (Pa. 1996)

**Public Utilities Committee**

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Mr. Pasceri (Chair)

Mr. Zaccone

Ms. Tomlinson

Mrs. Siskind

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **WWTP ENGINEER REPORT**  
The WWTP Engineer's report is attached.
2. **WATER AUTHORITY**  
The Borough is considering changing the status of the Water Department and form an Authority. The process and reasons for the recommendation were discussed. The Solicitor will prepare a memo outlining the benefits and concerns.
3. **WELL 8 PAVING**  
Staff is obtaining quotes for the repaving of the Well 8 driveway.
4. **LOCH ALSH RESERVOIR**  
Staff is obtaining quotes for the repair of the Loch Alsh Reservoir automatic valve.



March 28, 2018

Ms. Mary Aversa  
Borough Manager  
Borough of Ambler  
131 Rosemary Avenue  
Ambler, PA 19002

Re: Status Report – March 2018

Dear Mary,

The status of current active projects is as follows:

- 1.) Wissahickon Creek TMDL – The work by Temple University is proceeding. Temple University has begun sharing some of the data collected over the past two years and some of their impressions of that data.
- 2.) NPDES Permit – PADEP has issued draft NPDES permit for the Borough of Ambler WWTP. In February, EEMA furnished data to PADEP with the purpose of keeping aluminum as a “monitor-report” in the new permit, which would be the same as the previous permit; the new draft permit has kept Aluminum as monitor-report.
- 3.) NPDES Permit and TMDL Compliance– EEMA is working with WWTP personnel to prioritize repair, replacement and refurbishment of certain critical process related valves and pumps. To meet the total phosphorus limits proposed by DEP, all processes at the WWTP will need to perform optimally. EEMA is also investigating additional chemical storage, multiple chemical addition locations, and converting the digesters to aerobic digestion.
- 4.) Conversion of Digesters – EEMA is proceeding with the design to convert the digesters from anaerobic digestion (without air) to aerobic digestion (with air).
- 5.) Chemical Tank Product Conversion – The WWTP is now using PolyAluminum Chloride as the chemical utilized for phosphorus removal. EEMA is working with plant personnel to identify optimum dosing rates.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,  
Environmental Engineering &  
Management Associates, Inc.

William A. Brown II, P.E.  
Principal Engineer



**Finance & Planning Committee**

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Ms. Tomlinson (Chair)

Ms. Di Pietro

Ms. McKenna Endicott

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **BAMBOO ORDINANCE**

**Attached** is a draft Ordinance to address the spread of bamboo in the Borough.

2. **PARKING RATES AND HOURS**

The Parking Committee is discussing the Parking Plan and meter options. Details were provided . Additional outreach is being planned before a recommendation is presented.

3. **BOROUGH PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Staff is working to solicit Statements of Qualifications for professional services.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT**

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

2. **PENSION UPDATE**

An update on the Borough Pension Plans will be given at the Council Meeting in April.

3. **FARMERS MARKET-SEPTA LEASE**

Staff has been working with SEPTA on the 2018 Farmers Market Lease.

AMBLER BOROUGH, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

ORDINANCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER AMENDING CHAPTER 10, PART I OF THE BOROUGH CODIFIED ORDINANCES (GRASS AND WEEDS) BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 10-105, FORBIDDING THE PLANTING OF CERTAIN TYPES OF NEW BAMBOO PLANTS WITHIN THE BOROUGH; REQUIRING REMOVAL AND ABATEMENT OF EXISTING BAMBOO IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; LEAVING THE REMAINDER OF THE ORDINANCE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT; EFFECTIVE ON THE EARLIEST DATE PERMITTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA BOROUGH CODE**

WHEREAS, the Ambler Borough Council seeks to preserve and protect private and public property from the damaging spread of bamboo grasses, and

WHEREAS, the Borough has received numerous complaints about bamboo that has migrated from the property on which it was originally planted onto adjoining properties without the permission of the owners, thereby constituting a noxious growth, and

NOW THEREFORE Ambler Borough Council does ORDAIN as follows:

**§10-105. Bamboo.**

1. Definitions.

**BAMBOO** – Any Monopodial (running) tropical or semi-tropical grasses from the genera Bambusa, including but not limited to Bambusa, Phyllostachys, Fallopiia and Pseudosasa, as well as common bamboo, golden bamboo, arrow bamboo, and Japanese bamboo. For purposes of this ordinance, bamboo does not include clumping varieties (non-invasive rhizome structure).

**BAMBOO OWNER** – Any owner or occupier of property that contains any type of running bamboo Except where the bamboo has migrated from another property without the knowledge or consent of the owner/occupier.

2. Prohibition of New Bamboo. As of the effective date of this section, the planting of new bamboo (as bamboo is defined in this ordinance) is prohibited on any property within the Borough. A violation of this ordinance is a summary offense punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). After seven (7) days have elapsed from a violation notice, each day thereafter is a separate offense.
3. Regulation of Existing Bamboo. Any bamboo that has been planted or otherwise permitted to grow on any property within the Borough prior to the effective date of this subsection may remain on such property subject to compliance with this subsection.

- A. No part of a bamboo plant, regardless of whether the plant is contained within a vessel or not, shall be planted, maintained or otherwise permitted to migrate beyond the property boundary lines of the bamboo owner onto other properties.

4. Removal and Abatement.

- A. Any property owner whose property contains bamboo that violates §10-102.3 shall remove and abate growth of the bamboo so that it is no longer in violation of this subsection.
- B. The bamboo owner, defined herein, is responsible for removing, trimming, or cutting any part of a bamboo plant that grows in violation of this section.
- C. The bamboo owner shall be responsible for any incurred costs related to the removal and/or abatement of bamboo that is in violation of this subsection.

5. Replanting Prohibited. Any bamboo either planted or caused to be planted or existing on a property prior to the effective date of this subsection may not be replanted or replaced once such bamboo is or has become, for any reason, dead, destroyed, uprooted, or otherwise removed.

6. Violation and Penalty.

- A. Upon a determination by the Borough that a violation of this ordinance exists, the property owner will be sent a letter explaining the violation and the steps that must be undertaken to abate and remedy the violation. Such notice shall be sent by regular mail to the property owner's address of record.
- B. The letter will instruct the property owner that it has ten days within which to begin a correction of the violation and advise that if such work does not commence within ten days (or any additional period agreed to by the Borough), then the owner will be issued a summary citation enforceable in magisterial district court. The letter will also advise that the owner has 120 days within which to complete the removal of the bamboo that forms the basis for the violation. The letter shall include details as to the steps that need to be taken to correct the violation.
- C. If the work to correct the violation does not commence within ten days or such additional time as agreed to by the Borough, or is not completed within 120 days, the summary citation shall issue as in the usual course.

D. A violation of this ordinance is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$600.00 (to be determined by the court) along with the payment of court costs. The Borough reserves the right to enforce this ordinance through all legal and equitable means, including injunctive relief.

7. This ordinance is effective upon adoption. Enforcement of this ordinance will commence one year (365 days) after adoption.
8. Should a court of competent jurisdiction find any provision herein to be without legal effect, then such infirm portion shall, to the extent possible, be severed from the remainder of the ordinance, which shall continue in effect.

SO ORDAINED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Frank DeRuosi, Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Aversa, Secretary

# AMBLER BOROUGH

## Status

Project No.	Project Name	Status
<b>Borough Engineer</b>		
2001-1010	TEA-21 - Ambler Streetscape 2002	Construction underway. Boring under SEPTA rail line and connection to SEPTA controller box completed.
2003-0122-01	Ambler-2013 NPDES MS4 Permit	NOI for 2018 Individual MS4 Permit submitted 9/16/17. Next Annual report due 9/30/18 for period 3/16/16 thru 6/30/18.
2006-08054	Pedestrian Sidewalk Upgrade Program	Plan revision underway for resubmission to DVRPC.
2012-12032	Caddick-AMA-Land Development	Conditional Use was not granted. Approval of final LD not granted. Review of new CU submission (dated 6/30/17) provided 9/13/2017.
2013-02020	Ambler Crossings	Construction underway.
2014-12015	St. Mary's Villa Residential Redevelopment.- TIS	Meetings with PennDOT, Developer & Ambler held 3/2/15 & 9/15/15. TIS review provided 6/11/15, 8/11/16. Review of SWMP provided 12/6/17. Review of ped. detour plan provided 2/2/18. Review of revised detour plan underway. Lindenwold traffic counts obtained March 2018.
2016-05051	Ambler Borough 2016 Paving Program	Construction complete. Maintenance period expires 5/12/18
2017-01010-02	Ambler Traffic Signals	PADOT comments on pedestrian flasher signal permits received 12/7/17. FHWA rescinded RRFB approval 12/21/17. Plan revisions to revert to wig-wag flashers completed and submitted to PADOT. FHWA and PADOT reinstated RRFB (March 2018). RRFB submission may be required.
2017-01105	Ambler Borough 2017 Road Paving	Construction complete. Maintenance period expires 5/1/2019.
2017-09055	Bridge/Culvert Assessments	Load rating report of Hendricks/Rose Valley to be finalized. Condition assessment of Hendricks/Rose Valley & N. Ridge/ Rose Valley to be completed.
2018-01010	2018 Ambler Borough General Engineering Services	PECO Green Regions grant application submitted 12/20/2017.
<b>Sewer Engineer</b>		
2013-02020-01	Ambler Crossings - Sewer	Construction underway. Sanitary Sewer is under construction
2018-01050	2018 Ambler Borough General Sewer Service	On-going
<b>Water Engineer</b>		
2013-02020-02	Ambler Crossings - Water	Construction underway. Water Main is tested/complete
2016-04009	Maple Ave Water Main Replacement	Field survey completed. Awaiting further direction from Water Superintendent.
2017-01110	PWS Applications	Preparing PWS application for Well 8 minor permit amendment. On Hold. Awaiting direction from Water Superintendent.
2017-03065	Prophecy Creek Bridge	Assisting Water Dept. with review of County's plans for bridge replacement project and impact on existing water main.

# AMBLER BOROUGH

**Project No.**      **Project Name**

**Status**

**Water Engineer**

2017-03128	Lafayette Ave. Water Main Replacement	Water main construction and testing complete. Final paving remains.
2017-11039	Houston Road Tank-AT&T Antennae Modifications	Plan review letter issued on 11/20/17.
2017-11058	Small Water & Sewer Grant Application	Grant application submitted to DCED on 2/22/18.
2018-01040	2018 DRBC Annual Water Audit	Finalizing audit report.
2018-01049	2018 Ambler Borough General Water Service	On-going
2018-01154	Gwynedd Walk (Ambler)	Plans approved with respect to proposed water improvements. Assisting Solicitor with preparation of water extension agreement.
2018-01171	Mattison Estates (UDT)	Recommended water tapping fees for proposed project. Awaiting plan submission for review.

## **Parks & Recreation Committee**

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Ms. Hertz (Chair)

Mrs. Deininger

Ms. McKenna Endicott

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### 1. **FRIENDS OF BOROUGH PARKS**

The committee is looking into various “Friends of Park” programs to gather information and possible program guidelines for Ambler Parks.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 1. **AMBLER YMCA SUMMER CAMP**

Knight Park Summer Day Camp will be held June 18 through July 27. Camp hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Camp registration is May 2 (5-7 p.m.) at Ambler Borough Hall. Proof of Ambler Borough residency is required at registration. Camp is for children ages 5-11. All campers must have completed Kindergarten. Camp is \$40 per week per child. No extended Camp Care.

#### 2. **ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The committee would like to discuss 2018 priorities for the EAC and assure that the grant requirements are being met.

#### 3. **BEAUTIFICATION**

The committee would like to see coordination with the Borough, Main Street, Plant Ambler and business owners to have a unified approach to the Streetscape in Ambler.

#### 4. **DOGS IN RICCIARDI PARK**

A request was received to consider permitting dogs in Ricciardi Park.

#### 5. **SUMMER PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

The Committee will be scheduling Yoga, Mindfulness and Movie Nights for the 2018 Season.

**Salary & Personnel Committee**

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Mrs. Deininger (Chair)

Mr. Pasceri

Mr. Zaccone

Ms. Di Pietro

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION 2018-6**

Resolution 2018-6 will be presented to Jack Silverman who completed his Wissahickon High School Senior Project by videotaping Borough meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **BOROUGH VACANCIES**

Interviews have been scheduled for the Vacant Highway and Water Position.

2. **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

The Police Chief Foley has entered the DROP Deferred Retirement Option Program with a last day of October 1, 2018. A committee including Salary & Personnel chair, the Mayor and the Council President and Vice President will meet to create a comprehensive plan to search for his replacement.

3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An executive session is needed.

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**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



**BOROUGH OF AMBLER, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA**

**RESOLUTION 2018-06**

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO**

**JACK SILVERMAN**

**FOR SERVICE TO THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER**

**WHEREAS, Jack Silverman has served as videographer for Ambler Borough Council Meetings in 2017 and 2018; and**

**WHEREAS, he is a Senior at Wissahickon High School; and**

**WHEREAS, with Jack's help, the Borough of Ambler achieved the goal of becoming more transparent to the citizens of the Borough of Ambler; and**

**WHEREAS, Jack was always ready to go at each meeting and deftly handled all meeting video issues; and**

**WHEREAS, Jack has successfully completed his Senior Project, having logged 40 hours filming and editing meeting videos; and**

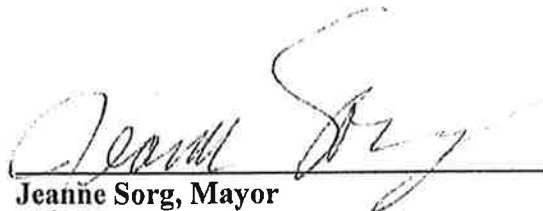
**WHEREAS, Jack's work will allow future Ambler residents the ability to track Ambler Borough Council Meetings; and**

**WHEREAS, Jack will be graduating from Wissahickon High School this June;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ambler Borough Council, the Mayor of Ambler Borough and Ambler Borough staff express their sincere appreciation to Jack Silverman for his service to the Borough and his support for government transparency that enhances the quality of Ambler civic life and for the example he has set and wish him all the best as he heads off to major in video editing as he attends Temple University in the fall.**

**SO RESOLVED this 20th day of March, 2018.**

  
Frank DeRuosi, Council President

  
Jeanne Sorg, Mayor

  
Mary Aversa, Secretary