



BOROUGH OF AMBLER

COMMITTEE MEETING

August 4, 2020

7:00 p.m.

ZOOM Meeting –Rules & Protocol
August 4, 2020

Borough Council will conduct its Committee Meeting via Internet vehicle 'ZOOM' on Tuesday August 4, at 7:00 p.m. For the safety of Ambler residents, Borough Hall will be closed. Pre-registration is required. Attendees must provide their email, first and last name, and home address. Once registration is processed, a link to attend will be provided via email. A video of the virtual meeting will be posted on this website for the public the following day. The Borough Manager is making the meeting Agenda available for review by the public. Please feel free to read through the Agenda and provide feedback or make an inquiry on any Agenda items. You may email the Borough Council President Frank DeRuosi at fderuosi@borough.ambler.pa.us until Tuesday August 4, at 4:00PM so that Council may consider your comments or address a question from the public during the ZOOM Meeting.

MEETING PROCEDURES

1. Pre-registration is required. Attendees must provide their email, first and last name, and home address. Once registration is processed, a link to attend will be provided via email.
2. All participants, except for the Borough Council, Borough Manager, Borough Solicitor, Borough Police Chief, and invited Borough Staff will be muted with video camera/web camera turned off automatically upon entry to the virtual meeting.
3. There will be a Public Comment section regarding agenda items towards the end of the meeting before any vote by Council. A Public Comment period regarding non-agenda items will occur after voting.
4. The Public Comment section will begin with the Council President reading aloud the comments that were emailed to the Borough ahead of this meeting. Each emailed comment must include the first & last name of the resident, as well as their address. The Council will discuss each comment individually.
5. Participants who wish to speak during the Public Comment section will be instructed to press the "Raise Your Hand" button.
6. One by one the Borough Zoom administrator, will call on each participant with their virtual hand raised. That participant will be unmuted. That participant will have 15 seconds to respond to being called on. If there is no response, the next person "in line" will be called on.
7. It is asked that anyone who speaks during the Public Comment section announce their first and last names, as well as their home address for the record. After the comment, that participant will be muted.
8. The Council President, at any time reserves the right to mute a participant, end the video stream of a participant, or terminate/end the meeting at his discretion, due to hackers, inappropriate language, or any other activity the Council President deems inappropriate.
9. We ask for everyone's patience and understanding as we navigate through these unprecedented times and work through the unique challenges of virtual public meetings.

Public Safety Committee

Tuesday August 4, 2020

Erin McKenna Endicott - Chair

Glynnis Siskind

Sara Hertz

Nancy Deininger

1. **PUBLIC WORKS & CODE REPORT**

The Code Enforcement report is **attached**. The Public Works report will be provided.

2. **EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR AUGUST**

A recommendation is requested this evening to adopt the **attached** Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 for the month of August.

3. **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held Friday, August 28th from 2-7 p.m. in the Borough Hall Gym.

4. **PARKING REGULATIONS TO BE ENFORCED**

New street parking meters and signage have recently been installed in the Borough. The new meters are now operational. The new parking rate is set at **\$1 per hour**. You may pay with coins or you may install the *Flowbird Mobile Parking APP*. The APP may also be used for parking in the lots. Parking regulations will be enforced beginning Monday, August 10th and tickets will be issued. This information is being relayed with a flyer by the Police Department as this project is being completed.

5. **AMBLER MAIN STREET**

The Borough closed Butler Avenue for restaurant week, there has been some very good feedback on the event and a desire to hold another event.

**BOROUGH OF AMBLER
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on or about **Tuesday, August 4, 2020**, a viral pandemic continues to cause or threatens to cause injury, damage and suffering to the persons and property of Borough of Ambler, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has the ability to endanger the health, safety and welfare of a substantial number of persons residing in Ambler Borough, and threatens to create problems greater in scope than Ambler Borough may be able to resolve; and

WHEREAS, emergency management measures are required to reduce the severity of this disaster and to protect the health, safety and welfare of affected residents in Ambler Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the undersigned Borough Council President and Mayor of Ambler Borough, pursuant to the provisions of Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Service Code, (35 PA C.S., Section 7501) as amended, do hereby declare the existence of a disaster emergency in Ambler Borough.

FURTHER, we direct the Ambler Borough Emergency Management Coordinator to coordinate the activities of the emergency response, to take all appropriate action needed to alleviate the effects of this disaster, to aid in the restoration of essential public services, and to take any other emergency response action deemed necessary to respond to this emergency.

FURTHER, given that Ambler Borough is responsible for the maintenance of a potable water distribution system and a wastewater treatment plant which serve the people of Ambler Borough and surrounding townships, we direct and authorize Ambler Borough staff to coordinate and undertake all activities deemed necessary to provide these essential public utility services.

STILL FURTHER, we authorize officials of Ambler Borough to act as necessary to meet the current exigencies of this emergency, namely: by the employment of temporary workers, by the rental of equipment, by the purchase of supplies and materials, and by entering into such contracts and agreements for the performance of public works as may be required to meet the emergency, all without regard to those time-consuming procedures and formalities normally prescribed by law, mandatory constitutional requirements excepted.

This declaration shall take effect immediately upon adoption on this **4th day of August 2020**.

Frank DeRuosi, Ambler Borough Council President

Jeanne Sorg, Ambler Borough Mayor

Mary Aversa, Secretary

Public Utilities Committee

Tuesday, August 4, 2020

Glynnis Siskind – Chair

Brooke Marshall

Haley Welch

Jen Henderson

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. **WWTP ENGINEER REPORT**

The WWTP Engineer's Report will be provided.

2. **BUTLER PIKE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

This project on Butler Pike at the Prophecy Creek bridge location will be advertised and is scheduled to go to PennBid September 1st. Bid opening and award are scheduled for October. **(attached)**

3. **ET-8 CLARIFIER REBUILD**

Authorization to award the Rebuild of Clarifier ET-8 is requested for Blooming Glen in the amount of \$24,696.00. Two quotes were received. The second one was for Jeff Zimmerman in the amount of \$27,400.00.

4. **WWTP BOD REQUIREMENT**

The DEP is satisfied with the timing change of the sampler and the amount of sample for BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand) testing. Per DEP no organic overload exists. **(attached)**

5. **WATER AUTHORITY STATUS**

An application of the Borough of Ambler for approval of the abandonment of public water service to the public in Pennsylvania has been filed and a notice will be advertised. Formal protests and petitions to intervene must be filed with the PA PUC by August 24, 2020. **(attached)**

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
NOTICE TO BE PUBLISHED

Application of the Borough of Ambler for approval of the abandonment of public water service to the public in Pennsylvania. Docket Number: A-2020-3020984

Formal protests and petitions to intervene must be filed in accordance with Title 52 of the Pennsylvania Code, on or before August 24, 2020. All filings must be made with the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, 2nd Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17120, with a copy served on the Applicant. The documents filed in support of the Application are available for inspection and copying at the Office of the Secretary between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, on the Commission's website at www.puc.pa.gov, and at the Applicant's business address.

Applicant:

Borough of Ambler

Through and By Counsel:

Adeolu A. Bakare, Esquire
Errin T. McCaulley, Jr., Esquire
McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC
100 Pine Street
P.O. Box 1166
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1166

BY THE COMMISSION



Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

Finance & Planning Committee

Tuesday August 4, 2020

Nellie Di Pietro - Chair

Erin McKenna Endicott

Brooke Marshall

Haley Welch

OLD BUSINESS

1. READY FOR 100

The Borough Planning Commission has completed the energy transition plan in line with the Ambler Borough Ready for 100 Renewable Energy Resolution adopted by Borough Council March 2019. An electronic copy will be sent.

2. ZONING MAP CHANGE

The Planning Commissions have provided correspondence recommending a Zoning Map change for 24 N. Ridge Avenue from Institutional to R3 Residential. A recommendation is requested to advertise for a public meeting on the zoning change. (Attached)

NEW BUSINESS

1. BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT

The Borough Engineer's report will be provided.

2. RESIDENTIAL TRASH, RECYCLING & YARD WASTE CONTRACT

Consider award of hauler contract to lowest responsive bidder J.P. Mascaro & Sons
Bid price for a 3 year/3month contract is \$1,710,300 and for a 5 year/3month contract is \$2,807,772. (attached)

3. RESIDENTIAL TRASH FEE ORDINANCE

Consider advertisement of **Ordinance 1116 (attached)** authorizing an increase in the annual charge for residential refuse collection from \$300 per year to \$440 per year.

4. BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX RESOLUTION

Consider adoption of **Resolution 2020-05 (attached)** granting a temporary reduction to \$120 in 2020 in the collection of the BPT in consideration of economic hardships resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. [Council is asked to consider adoption of this Resolution this evening so that staff may proceed with preparing the mailing to business owners.]

THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

ORDINANCE NUMBER 1116

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL CHARGE FOR RESIDENTIAL REFUSE COLLECTION FROM \$300.00 PER YEAR TO \$440.00 PER YEAR; EFFECTIVE ON THE EARLIEST DATE PROVIDED FOR IN THE PA BOROUGH CODE; LEAVING THE REMAINDER OF THE SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT

In recognition of the costs of refuse collection determined through the competitive bidding process, the annual refuse collection rate is hereby modified as follows:

In section 20-112 of the Borough Codified Ordinances, originally adopted as Ordinance 857 and most recently modified by Ordinance 1047, the following sentence is deleted: "An annual trash rate of \$300 per year per dwelling unit up to four dwelling units." In its place, the following sentence is inserted: "The annual trash rate is \$440.00 per year per dwelling unit up to four dwelling units."

The remainder of the solid waste ordinance remains in full force and effect, unaffected by the change in the rate of collection.

This ordinance is effective on the earliest date provided for in the Pennsylvania Borough Code.

SO ORDAINED this 4th day of August, 2020.

Frank R. DeRuosi, Council President

Attest: _____
Mary Aversa, Secretary

THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER

RESOLUTION 2020-05

**A RESOLUTION GRANTING A TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN THE COLLECTION OF THE BOROUGH
BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX IN CONSIDERATION OF ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS RESULTING FROM THE
COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance 1051, the Borough collects a business privilege tax in the flat annual amount of \$240.00 per taxable entity, and

WHEREAS, Borough Council has in previous resolutions granted real estate tax relief in consideration of the Covid-19 pandemic and the economic strain it has created, and

WHEREAS, for all of the same reasons, the Borough wishes to extend tax relief to include the business privilege tax,

NOW THEREFORE, Council does RESOLVE as follows:

For calendar year 2020, the business privilege tax, which is set by ordinance at \$240.00 per year, will only be collected at the rate of \$120.00 for the year. For 2021, the rate of the tax will return to \$240.00 per year without further action of Borough Council.

SO RESOLVED this 4th day of August, 2020.

Frank R. DeRuosi, Board President

Attest: _____
Mary Aversa, Secretary

Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday August 4, 2020

Sara Hertz – Chair

Nancy Deininger

Erin McKenna Endicott

Nellie DiPietro

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. **COMMUNITY GARDEN**

The concept of a Community Garden is being researched.

2. **AMBLER MAIN STREET BUSINESSES**

Staff is working with Council members and businesses to discuss plans for when the restrictions are lifted in Montgomery County.

3. **FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS**

A request to discuss the feasibility of Family Movie Nights for the remainder of the year. Movies had been scheduled for September 18, October 23, and December 11.

4. **GROWING GREENER GRANT**

A grant extension will be requested for the EAC Growing Greener Grant.

Salary & Personnel Committee

Tuesday August 4, 2020
Nancy Deininger – Chair
Glynnis Siskind
Nellie Di Pietro
Jen Henderson

1. **DEPARTMENT VACANCIES**

1. Resumes are being accepted for the Water Department Superintendent.
2. Interviews will be scheduled in the coming weeks for the vacant Equipment Operator position.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Safety Committee

1. EMERGENCY DECLARATION

A recommendation is requested this evening to adopt the **attached** Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 for the month of August.

Finance & Planning Committee

1. RESIDENTIAL TRASH FEE ORDINANCE

Consider advertisement of **Ordinance 1116 (attached)** authorizing an increase in the annual charge for residential refuse collection from \$300 per year to \$440 per year.

2. BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX RESOLUTION

Consider adoption of **Resolution 2020-05 (attached)** granting a temporary reduction to \$120 in 2020 in the collection of the BPT in consideration of economic hardships resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. [Council is asked to consider adoption of this Resolution this evening so that staff may proceed with preparing the mailing to business owners.]