

AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

March 21, 2023

The regular meeting of Ambler Borough Council was held Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Council Chambers located at 131 Rosemary Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania, 19002.

Council President Siskind called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mrs. Siskind, Ms. Forst, Ms. Welch, Ms. Endicott Ms. Henderson, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Auerbach, and Ms. Roecker Coates, Police Chief Jeff Borkowski, Solicitor Joe Bresnan, and Borough Manager Aversa also were in attendance. Mayor Sorg was absent.

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Siskind made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 21, 2023, Council Meeting. Seconded. All Aye. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committees of Ambler Borough Council met Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Council Chambers located at 131 Rosemary Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania, 19002. Present: Mrs. Siskind, Ms. Welch, Ms. Forst, Ms. Endicott, Ms. Sheedy, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Henderson, and Ms. Auerbach. Police Chief Borkowski, Solicitor Bresnan, and Borough Manager Aversa also were in attendance. Mayor Sorg was absent.

This evening the following was discussed:

Finance and Planning Committee- Ms. Nellie Forst, Chairperson
Committee Members: Ms. Sheedy, Ms. Auerbach, Ms. Roecker Coates.

1. A public hearing was held this evening at 7:00pm with the possible adoption of an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance changing the parking setback requirement in an R-3 Zoning District. A vote will be taken at the conclusion of the hearing.
2. That the March 2023 bills be paid in the amount of \$1,161,312.58 as follows: General (\$182,999.07); Street lights (\$4,010.77); Fire (0.0); Refuse (\$47,443.03); Parks and Recreation; (\$1,605.70); Water (\$241,405.89); Sewer (\$79,905.27); WWTP (\$53,768.86); Liquid Fuels (\$370,732.89), Water Capital (\$179,441.10); Voided Checks (0.00).
3. Authorization was requested to advertise to hold a public hearing and possible adoption of an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance sign chapter regarding sign architectural elements and other inconsistencies. Montgomery County Planning Commission and Borough commission

reviews were received.

4. The Bid documents for the Edgewood Grant are being prepared authorization was requested to advertise for the Bids. The project is expected to be awarded in May.
5. Authorization was requested to advertise for the Ordinance modifying street sweeping.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Forst questioned the phases of the Edgewood Grant. Ms. Sheedy questioned procedures for digging up the street. MS. Aversa clarified procedure. Ms. Endicott questioned Grant matching; Growing greener, PECO and a Borough match, Ms. Aversa explained match responsibilities, and grant awards. Ms. Henderson asked a question regarding Borough liability, Ms. Aversa clarified.

The following business was discussed:

1. The Borough Engineer's report was received.
2. The Planning Commission will be reviewing the revised Transit-Oriented Development Ordinance Amendment.

Recommendations:

1. That the February **2023** bills be paid in the amount of \$1,161,312.58. **9 Aye**
1. Authorization is requested to advertise to hold a public hearing and possible adoption of an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance sign chapter regarding sign architectural elements and other inconsistencies. **9 Aye**
3. The Bid documents for the Edgewood Grant are being prepared, authorization is requested to advertise for Bids. The project is expected to be awarded in May. **9 Aye**
4. Authorization was requested to advertise Ordinance 1132 to modify the street sweeping schedule **9 Aye**

Public Safety Committee

Committee members: Ms. **Jennifer Henderson – Chair**, Nancy Roecker Coates, Erin McKenna Endicott, and Amy Hughes.

Recommendations:

1. Authorization is requested to adopt Resolution 2023-2 authorizing the suspension of the open container for the Ambler Art & Music and Oktoberfest events.

The following business was discussed:

1. The Police Department report was reviewed.
2. The Community Ambulance report was reviewed.

3. The Fire Department report was reviewed.
4. The Public Works and the Code Enforcement reports were received.
5. A request to hold CPR training is being researched. If people would like to participate, they will need to register and a fee will be charged.

Recommendations:

1. Authorization is requested to adopt **Resolution 2023-1** authorizing the suspension of the open Container for the Ambler Art & Music and Oktoberfest events. **9 Aye**

Public Utilities Committee – Ms. Haley Welch, Chairperson

Committee Members: Ms. McKenna Endicott, Ms. Hughes, and Ms. Sheedy.

The following business was discussed:

1. The WWTP Engineer's report was provided.
2. The updated chart of PFAS sampling results, incorporating the most recent sampling in January were reviewed. Results continue to be consistent with historic levels, and the results for Whitemarsh and the Broad Axe Tank are still 'ND' – Non-detectable – since the installation of the new carbon at Whitemarsh.
3. The Borough submitted a grant application to Madeline Dean for Community Project Funding for PFAS upgrades at Wells 2, 6 and 7.

Discussion ensued: Ms. Endicott asked how long the carbon media filters would last regarding the PFAS filtering. Mr. Smallberger responded that the pilot study is in progress.

The Committee will make no recommendation.

Parks and Recreation Committee - Ms. Erin McKenna Endicott - Chairperson

Committee Members: Ms. Henderson, Ms. Welch, and Ms. Auerbach.

The Committee will consider the following recommendations:

1. The bid documents for the Pickering Field including sidewalks on Highland and North and Trinity ADA ramps are being prepared. Authorization is requested to advertise for Bid. The award is expected in May.

The following business was discussed:

1. Staff is working with the YMCA to plan the 2023 Camp Program.

Approved at the Committee Meeting

1. Consideration of hardship requests from retail establishments were received too temporarily exempt said retail establishment from the requirements of the single use plastics ordinance.
(6-Aye 1-Nay Ms. Sheedy)

Recommendation

1. The bid documents for the Pickering Field Sidewalks on Highland, North and Trinity are being prepared. Authorization is requested to advertise for Bid. **9 - Aye**

Salary & Personnel Committee Ms. Karen Sheedy – Chairperson

Committee Members: Ms. Welch, Ms. Forst, and Ms. Henderson.

The following business was discussed:

1. The vacant Water Department Operator II position has been advertised. Resumes are being accepted.

The committee will make no Recommendations.

PUBLIC COMMENT & ADJOURNMENT

Justin Chamrin gave a brief presentation regarding the upcoming NAMI walk Saturday May 5, 2023.

There being no further public comment or other business, Ms. Siskind moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned. **9 Aye**

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Wahl Kunzier
Assistant Secretary
Borough of Ambler