



BOROUGH OF AMBLER

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

February 19, 2019

7:00 p.m.

A Town Hall meeting is scheduled for March 13, at 7:00pm.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Frank DeRuosi

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Jeanne Sorg

ROLL CALL: Ms. Mary Aversa

Minutes for Consideration:

January 15, 2019

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

Public Safety Committee

The Committee meeting was held February 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 131 Rosemary Avenue. Committee members: Claudio Zaccone (Chair), Nancy Deininger and Glynnis Siskind.

The Committee will consider no recommendations this evening.

The following business will be discussed.

1. The Police Department report is **attached**.
2. The Fire Department report will be provided.
3. The Community Ambulance report is **attached**.
4. The Public Works and the Code Enforcement reports were received.
5. The Police Department and Code Enforcement Dept. would like to remind residents that fireworks are not permitted to be discharged in the Borough. If you see illegal use of fireworks please contact the Borough Police Department.



EMERGENCY: DIAL 911
EMAIL: info@amblerambulance.org

BUSINESS: (215) 643-6517
FAX: (215) 643-5212

Excellence in Pre-Hospital Care
COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION, AMBLER
1414 E. BUTLER PIKE
P.O. BOX 98
AMBLER, PENNSYLVANIA 19002

Ambler Borough Statistics – 2019

<u>Month</u>	<u>Calls in Borough</u>	<u>Total Calls for CAAA</u>
January	65	412
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
<hr/>		
YTD Totals	65	412

*Serving Ambler Borough, Lower Gwynedd Township
Springfield Township and Portions of Upper Dublin Township*

Public Utilities Committee

The Committee meeting was held February 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 131 Rosemary Avenue. Committee Members: Glynnis Siskind (Chair), Sal Pasceri, Claudio Zaccone and Francine Tomlinson.

The Committee will consider the following recommendations.

1. Staff requests authorization for the Water Department to have the Water Engineer prepare bid documents and advertise for the Butler Pike Water Main Replacement Project. This project must be completed in 2019 since the County will replace the Prophecy Creek Bridge during the spring of 2020. The Water Engineer notes that the original estimate of \$471,500 is over a year old. Recommend budgeting \$525,000.
2. Staff requests authorization for additional pipeline replacement and work required at Whitemarsh. Based upon a recent site visit, the revised cost has increased from \$82,590 to \$105,740. A smaller Phase II pipeline replacement will also be needed and staff is obtaining quotes.
3. The Solicitor is requesting authorization to negotiate a lease for the cell towers on Broad Axe and on Houston Road tanks. **(attached)**
4. The DEP is requesting the preparation of an Act 537 Plan update to review the phase out of the Upper Dublin facility and to bring the additional flow to the Ambler WWTP. **(attached)**

The following business will be discussed.

1. The WWTP Engineer's report was received.
2. Council's PUC Committee members and staff met with our Harrisburg Attorney and our Borough Solicitor to discuss operations options and the logistics of forming a Water Authority. The Solicitor is preparing a notice of action.
3. Staff has prepared a letter to the Borough Solicitor, as required by the PA PUC, who will notify the Agency of water valves replaced in 2018 and valves to be replaced in 2019 as well as valves exercised in 2018 and to be exercised in 2019.



RECEIVED
MAR 13 2019
AMBLER BOROUGH

January 11, 2019

Ms. Mary Aversa, Manager
Ambler Borough
122 E. Butler Avenue
Ambler, PA 19002

Mr. Paul A. Leonard, Manager
Upper Dublin Township
801 Loch Alsh Avenue
Fort Washington, PA 19034

Re: Approval Letter - Plan of Study and Task/Activity Report
Act 537 Planning
Upper Dublin Township and Ambler Borough
Montgomery County

Dear Ms. Aversa and Mr. Leonard:

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) had authorized the preparation of an Act 537 Official Plan Update on December 29, 2017. The study proposed the phase-out of the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority's (BCWSA) Upper Dublin wastewater treatment facility.

On November 1, 2018, a meeting was held with BCWSA, Upper Dublin Township, Ambler Borough, and DEP to discuss the proposed phase-out of the Upper Dublin facility to Ambler Borough's sewage treatment facility.

DEP requests the following information be provided to facilitate the timely completion of the planning actions:

1. Please submit an updated request for preliminary treatment requirements. Enclosed is our April 30, 2012, response to a similar request.
2. Please submit a feasibility report following DEP's Domestic Wastewater Facilities Manual regarding the proposed modifications at the Ambler Borough sewage treatment facility necessary to accommodate the proposed phase-out of the BCWSA Upper Dublin facility.

Within 30 days of the date of this letter, please confirm your intention to undertake these actions and provide a schedule for submittal of these items.

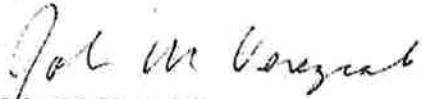
Ms. Mary Aversa, Manager

- 2 -

January 11, 2019

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 484-250-5175.

Sincerely,



John M. Venezia
Sewage Planning Specialist 2
Clean Water

Enclosure

cc: Montgomery County Planning Commission
Montgomery County Health Department
Montgomery County Conservation District
Carroll Engineering Corporation
Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority
Ambler Borough
Environmental Engineering & Management Associates, Inc.
Planning Section
Re 30 (GJE19CLW)011-1

Finance and Planning Committee

The Committee meeting was held February 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 131 Rosemary Avenue. Committee Members: Francine Tomlinson (Chair), Nellie Di Pietro and Erin McKenna Endicott.

The Committee will consider the following recommendation.

1. That the January 2019 invoices be paid as follows:

#	Fund	JAN 1st Run	JAN 2ND RUN	TOTALS
1	GENERAL	\$56,226.15	\$ 41,460.27	\$97,686.42
2	STREET LGTS	\$191.99	\$4,611.60	\$4,803.59
3	FIRE	\$2,567.13		\$2,567.13
4	REFUSE	\$38,407.78	\$3,937.18	\$42,344.96
5	PARKS & REC	\$684.00	\$1,159.83	\$1,843.83
6	WATER	\$47,826.03	\$74,003.71	\$121,829.74
8	SEWER	\$119,766.64	\$12,984.39	\$132,751.03
9	WWTP	\$104,636.53	\$74,497.89	\$179,134.42
23	DEBT FUND			\$0.00
30	WATER CAPITAL	\$51,842.00		\$51,842.00
35	LIQUID FUELS	\$6,541.24	\$ 698.61	\$7,239.85
TOTALS		\$428,689.49	\$213,353.48	\$642,042.97
VOID CHECKS				\$0.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$ 428,689.49	\$ 213,353.48	\$642,042.97

Approved at The Committee meeting:

1. Demolition bids were received for the 44 Tennis Avenue demolition project. Borough Engineer has reviewed bids and recommends we award to BRB Contractors for the low bid of \$27,505.36. 9-Aye

The following business will be discussed.

1. The Borough Engineer's report was received.
2. The Zoning Hearing Board met on February 12, 2019 on the applications for a garage at Rosemary Avenue and to hear the application for N. Main Street outdoor storage.

3. Sample ordinance language was given to the Borough Planning Commission to review and recommend language to address green improvement options when replacing Borough sidewalks or driveways and the like.
4. The Committee discussed parking upgrades for 2019. (**attached**)
5. Mike Fuller will make a presentation at the February 19th Council Meeting on the Phase 2 LED streetlight/metered area lighting conversion project we are undertaking with the DVRPC.
6. **Attached** is a Resolution for consideration in the Ready For 100, renewable energy initiative.

Phase II
Ambler Borough Parking
February 14, 2019

In 2018 it was the recommendation of the committee to do the following:

2018 Phase 1 to include the following:

- *Install 3 kiosks: 2 in Cavalier Lot; 1 in the municipal lot by SEPTA station; update Lindenwold kiosk to accept credit cards.*
 - *3 Strada BNA EVO Solar Powered Kiosks \$25,900.00 (3@\$8,650).*
 - *Lindenwold Kiosk Update to accept credit cards \$1,000.00.*
 - *Establish minimum time for using credit card i.e. 4 hours*
 - *Air time costs of \$57.00 per kiosk (\$171.00 per month) apply*
 - *Transaction cost of \$.11 per credit card apply*
- *Remove 12:00 – 2:00 as Free Parking (strike from existing signage)*
- *Maintain Free Parking in December*
- *Maintain all existing meters and hourly rates as is.*

All but removing 12:00-2:00 as free parking has been accomplished.

At the time, the recommendation for Phase II which was to be completed in 2019 was the following:

2019 Phase 2 to include the following:

- *Increase hourly rate from \$.50 per hour to \$1.00 per hour (\$.25 per 15 minutes) everywhere.*
- *Update existing meters to accept new parking rate.*
 - *Cost of reprogramming meters is still unknown at this time. Quote is pending.*
- *Update all signage to reflect new rates (cost unknown at this time).*

It is not the recommendation of the committee to upgrade all meters to credit card/coin machines. The cost of doing so would be \$106,505. Additionally, air time costs for double head meters is \$8.50 per month per meter - \$807.50; and air time costs for single head meters is \$5.50 per month per meter - \$220.00; plus an \$.11 per credit card transaction fee. (Air time costs per month = \$1,027.50)

Due to unforeseen capital improvements the current budget for Phase II parking is roughly \$25,000 for fiscal year 2019. This decrease in available funds does negatively impact any changes council decides to make to public parking.

At the February 5th committee meeting the following was introduced and discussed:

- Add 1 kiosk to the Lindenwold Lot (\$8,650.00 – 2018 pricing)
- Replace existing meters on Butler Avenue with meters that accept credit cards (30 meters @ \$500 per meter = \$15,000 – 2018 pricing).
- Remove December as free parking in the borough.
- Maintain 12:00 – 2:00 as free parking
- Increase parking limit along Butler from 1 hour to 2 hours.
- Update signage

While removing December as free parking is not a hill I will die upon, we should also consider removing 12:00 – 2:00 as free parking. The original intention of the lunch time free parking was to entice people to come into the borough and frequent the restaurants. Ambler no longer needs an incentive to draw people into town. 12:00 – 2:00 is prime parking and, in my opinion, it does not make sense any longer give up this potential revenue.

Due to the borough's budget limitations, the process of updating our meters has become complicated. It is not ideal to piecemeal the replacement of our meters, but financially that is the hand we have been dealt. Of course, we could choose to do nothing in 2019 and see how the budget is for 2020.

Looking forward to talking about this with everyone.

Frank

A Vision for A 100% Clean Renewable Energy Future

WHEREAS: Climate change is a global long-term threat to civilization and Earth's living ecosystems;

WHEREAS: More frequent and extreme weather events will become commonplace;

WHEREAS: A major contributor to climate change is the continued use of fossil fuels by individuals, businesses and government agencies;

WHEREAS: Climate change impacts will test our infrastructure, emergency and social services; threaten our access to food, water and energy supplies; and heighten disruption of services, commerce and quality of life;

WHEREAS: The 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris resulted in a consensus among all 195 countries to limit the increase in global average temperatures to well below 2°C, ensure that greenhouse gas emissions will not exceed sinks (total carbon capture) by the second half of this century, and become carbon neutral between 2050 and 2100;

WHEREAS: Ambler Borough has demonstrated a commitment to reducing its energy usage by implementing energy efficiency improvements in the following areas:

- Municipal building energy efficiency improvements, resulting in reduced energy usage and costs
- Lighting and energy system improvements at the Community Center, resulting in reduced energy usage and costs
- LED traffic light upgrades throughout the township resulting in reduced energy usage and costs

WHEREAS: Ambler Borough's Mayor Sorg has made public commitments to solar power and the Paris Accord:

- 43 PA Mayors call for Use of Solar Power: <https://pennenvironment.org/news/pae/180-us-mayors-call-use-solar-power>
- 407 US Climate Mayors commit to adopt, honor and uphold Paris Climate Agreement goals: <https://medium.com/@ClimateMayors/climate-mayors-commit-to-adopt-honor-and-uphold-paris-climate-agreement-goals-ba566e260097>

WHEREAS: Ambler Borough recognizes that it has a responsibility to future generations to take an active stand to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases within the township, and Ambler Borough is committed to be a community characterized by equality, health, safety, livability, prosperity and equity;

WHEREAS: The best strategy for achieving a cost effective, even cost saving, energy source transition is through collaboration with other Montgomery County energy leaders and participating in aggregated procurement contracts - Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for regional wind and solar energy; to this end, Ambler Borough also recognizes the importance of developing a close, working relationship with its electric energy supplier(s) to create the most advantageous and mutually beneficial plan for integrating locally generated and renewable power.

WHEREAS: A renewable energy initiative can produce energy cost savings for residents and local businesses while stimulating new economic activity and local jobs, all while simultaneously mitigating the risks from climate change for everyone;

Be it RESOLVED that:

- Ambler Borough will join other leading towns and cities in the national Ready for 100 movement, to transition to 100% clean, renewable energy for all, and complete this transition to
 - 100% clean renewable electricity by 2035
 - 100% clean renewable energy when replacing heat & transportation equipment & vehicles
 - As vehicles are replaced, priority will also be given to transitioning the Ambler Borough vehicle fleet to 100% renewable energy sources by 2028

- The Ambler Borough Environmental Advisory Committee will provide guidance for commissioning a committee and/or contractor to draft an energy transition plan for achieving these goals by April 22, 2019 [Earth Day], to include interim milestones, financial impacts, equity metrics, potential financing mechanisms and the percentage of renewable energy that is locally produced;

- Renewable energy will be defined as carbon-free and pollution-free energy generated sustainably from renewable sources such as wind, solar, small hydro, tidal, fuel cells and geothermal;

- Locally produced and distributed energy is prioritized whenever feasible for the many advantages it provides to the community;

- All Ambler Borough stakeholders will have the opportunity and will be encouraged to participate in the planning and implementation process;

- Ambler Borough calls on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to set a goal to use 100% renewable energy for all purposes no later than 2050; to adopt codes and standards to increase the efficiency of buildings and appliances; and to increase the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards to levels that put us on track to meet 100% renewable energy goals.

- *Ambler Borough commits to working with other Montgomery County Municipalities and the Montgomery County Planning Commission and/or Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission to create an energy planner/advocate position. The energy planner/advocate will develop and implement renewable energy strategies for Montgomery County municipalities, residents, businesses, and institutions. This energy planner advocate would serve for 3 years at an approximate cost of \$100,000 per year, to be funded by a minimum 15 participating municipalities and available grant support.*

- For their renewable energy commitment, we commend the municipalities of Phoenixville, West Chester and Downingtown for being leaders in setting goals for the transition to renewable energy in their communities.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution is effective immediately upon approval.

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Committee meeting was held February 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 131 Rosemary Avenue. Committee Members: Sara Hertz (Chair), Nancy Deininger and Erin McKenna Endicott.

The Committee will consider the following recommendation.

1. The Committee is researching preparing a Plastics Ordinance for the Borough. Committee members will work with the local businesses and explore options. **Attached** for consideration is a Resolution on single use plastics.

Approved at the Committee Meeting

1. Red Tail Restoration quoted a contract price for the year of \$3,800. A recommendation was requested to approve the contract. Approved 9-Aye

The following business will be discussed.

1. The Committee is scheduling a training session on cycling safety on March 30, for ages 10-16.
2. The Ambler Environmental Advisory Council would like to give every homeowner a rain barrel and assess your property's storm water needs to see if it qualifies for a reduced cost rain garden, downspout planter, or permeable conversion. The workshops dates are as follows.
 - Friday February 22 - 2pm at Ambler Borough Hall
 - Thursday March 7 - 6pm - at Weavers Way
 - Monday March 11 - 6pm - at Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
 - Saturday April 13 - 10am at Ambler Borough Hall
3. The Borough has submitted the Ambler Square plans to Montgomery County Conservation and the DEP for review and permitting. The Engineer provided an update.

**BOROUGH OF AMBLER
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-1

**A RESOLUTION OF AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL SUPPORTING AN
INITIATIVE TO VOLUNTARILY REDUCE THE DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF
SINGLE-USE PLASTICS AND EXPANDED POLYESTERSTYRENE (EPS)
PRODUCTS IN AN EFFORT TOWARDS CLEANER WILDLIFE HABITATS,
SAFER WATERWAYS AND OCEANS AND A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ambler seeks a community environment which is sound, clean and healthy, recognizing that the quality of wildlife and marine habitats, waterways and oceans is important to our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, single-use plastics include water and soda bottles, plastic straws, plastic lids, plastic bags, and plastic utensils; and EPS products include "to-go" containers, leftover food containers ("clamshells"), and drink cups; and

WHEREAS, plastic drinking straws are provided by most establishments that offer cold drinks; and

WHEREAS, single use plastics and EPS products are not biodegradable and break down into smaller pieces that become more difficult to manage; litter our landscape, pollute our waterways and oceans, kill or injure an estimated one million or more sea turtles, seabirds and other wildlife annually, pollute the environment for generations, take 500-1000 years to decompose and, if ignored, create permanent damage to the environment; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 500 million straws are used daily in the United States; and plastic drinking straws deposited in our waterways and oceans pose a great threat to marine and other wildlife.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Ambler Borough Council:

HEREBY encourages local merchants, businesses and residents to reduce the distribution and use of plastic drinking straws, plastic stirring sticks and similar items.

HEREBY encourages all citizens to embrace and commit to the Environmental Protection Agency's hierarchy in their daily lives – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

HEREBY encourages all citizens and business owners to voluntarily participate in this initiative to reduce the use of plastic straws; single-use plastics including water and soda bottles, plastic lids, plastic bags, plastic utensils; and EPS products and polystyrene containers and packaging through the use of reusable, compostable and/or recyclable materials.

AND HEREBY encourages those businesses that provide a product for which a straw would be desired to offer paper straws or provide a plastic straw only upon individual request.

SO RESOLVED this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Frank DeRuosi, Council President

Mary Aversa, Secretary

Salary & Personnel Committee

The Committee meeting was held February 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 131 Rosemary Avenue. Committee Members: Nancy Deininger (Chair), Sal Pasceri, Claudio Zaccone and Nellie Di Pietro.

The Committee will consider the following recommendations.

1. The Committee will review a Social Media Policy and Code of Conduct Policy and make a recommendation for adoption. **(attached)**
2. A request was receive to appoint Holden McKinney to the Zoning Hearing Board. **(attached)**
3. A recommendation will be made for the Vacant WWTP position.

The following business will be discussed.

1. Ambler Main Street is always looking for volunteers, if you would like to help contact liz@amblermainstreet.org.

Recommendations

Public Utilities Committee

Consider authorization for the Water Department to have the Water Engineer prepare bid documents and advertise for the Butler Pike Water Main Replacement Project.

Consider authorization for additional pipeline replacement and work is required at Whitemarsh. Based upon a recent site visit, the revised cost has increased from \$82,590 to \$105,740.

The Solicitor is requesting authorization to negotiate a lease for the cell towers on Broad Axe and on Houston Road tanks

A recommendation is requested on the preparation of an Act 537 Plan update to review the phase out of the Upper Dublin facility and to bring the additional flow to the Ambler WWTP.

Finance and Planning Committee

Recommendation that the January 2019 invoices be paid in the amount of **\$642,042.97**.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Consider adoption of Resolution 2019-1 on single use plastics.

Salary & Personnel Committee

The Committee will review a Social Media Policy and Code of Conduct Policy and make a recommendation for adoption.

A recommendation is requested to appoint Holden McKinney to the Zoning Hearing Board.

A recommendation is requested to hire Ryan Waltz for the Vacant WWTP 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 Comment section of the meeting. It is requested that you state your name and address. 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