



BOROUGH OF AMBLER

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

August 18, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Minutes for Consideration:

July 14, 2020 Zoom Council Meeting

August 4, 2020 Zoom Committee Meeting

Borough Council will conduct its Committee Meeting via Internet vehicle 'ZOOM' on Tuesday August 18, 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 18, at 4:00PM so that Council may consider your comments or address a question from the public during the ZOOM Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC UTILITIES

FINANCE & PLANNING

PARKS & RECREATION

SALARY & PERSONNEL

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

August 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Committee members: Erin McKenna Endicott – Chair, Glynnis Siskind, Sara Hertz, Nancy Deininger

The Committee approved the following recommendation:

1. A recommendation was approved to adopt the Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 for the month of August. (9-Aye)

The following business will be discussed:

1. The Police Department report is **attached**.
2. The Fire Department report is **attached**.
3. The Community Ambulance report is **attached**.
4. The Public Works and the Code Enforcement were received.
5. The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held Friday, August 28th from 2-7 p.m. in the Borough Hall Gym.
6. 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 were enforced beginning Friday, August 14th and tickets will be issued. This information is being relayed with a flyer by the Police Department as this project is being completed.
7. The Borough closed Butler Avenue for restaurant week, there has been some very good feedback on the event. Another event was scheduled for the weekend of August 14th.



Wissahickon Fire Company
Fire Chief Report
Year 2020 (213 days)

Township	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Total	%
Ambler	9	9	14	20	16	24	15						107	36%
Chalfont		1											1	0%
Conshohocken	1												1	0%
Horsham		1	2	1			3						7	2%
Lansdale							1						1	0%
Lower Gwynedd	20	13	20	11	13	28	20						125	43%
Montgomery		1	1	1			5						8	3%
North Wales													0	0%
Plymouth	1		1										2	1%
Upper Dublin		3	1	2	1		1						8	3%
Whitemarsh	3	4	3	1	2	6	1						20	7%
Whitpain	2	1	3	5	1	1	1						14	5%
TOTAL	36	33	45	41	33	59	47	0	0	0	0	0	294	

Type of Call	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Total	%
Accident Standby	1		1	1	1		1						5	2%
AFA Actual	9	11	12	13	9	6	5						65	22%
AFA False	6	3	9	7	7	18	14						64	22%
Appliance			1										1	0%
Brush	1			1		1	2						5	2%
Building Investigation	2	1		2	1	3	1						10	3%
CO Detector	2	3	2		2	4	2						15	5%
Commercial Bldg	1	1	4	2		1	6						15	5%
EMS Assist		1		2		1							4	1%
Fast Team Assist	2		1	1		1							5	2%
Gas Odor Inside	2	2	2	2	2	4	1						15	5%
Gas Odor Outside			1	1	1	1							4	1%
Hazmat		1											1	0%
Non Comm Bldg	1	5	6	4	4	1	4						25	9%
Officer Investigation	2	1	1	3	4	4	2						17	6%
Ornamental Fireplace													0	0%
Residential Rescue			1			1							2	1%
Search	1	1											2	1%
Special Service						1							1	0%
Standby	1	1					2						4	1%
Traffic Unit assist		2				2	3						7	2%
Trash					1	1	1						3	1%
Vehicle Fire			1	1		1	1						4	1%
Vehicle Leaking Fuel	1												1	0%
Vehicle Rescue	3		3			1	1						8	3%
Wires	1			1	1	7	1						11	4%
TOTAL	36	33	45	41	33	59	47	0	0	0	0	0	294	



Wissahickon Fire Company
Fire Chief Report
Year 2020 (213 days)

Day of the week	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Total	%
Monday	4	2	11	5	6	5	5						38	13%
Tuesday	6	6	7	1	3	8	8						39	13%
Wednesday	4	5	3	8	2	17	7						46	16%
Thursday	5	7	5	6	5	11	7						46	16%
Friday	9	8	6	11	6	11	7						58	20%
Saturday	4	2	6	4	7	4	6						33	11%
Sunday	4	3	7	6	4	3	7						34	12%
TOTAL	36	33	45	41	33	59	47	0	0	0	0	0	294	

Attendance	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Total	%
Day Calls (M to F 6AM to 6PM)	17	16	19	25	10	30	22						139	
Attendance at Day Calls	197	148	271	372	142	343	213						1,686	44%
Average Day Calls	11.6	9.3	14.3	14.9	14.2	11.4	9.7	-	-	-	-	-	12.1	
Night & Weekend Calls	19	17	26	16	23	29	25						155	
Attendance at N & W Calls	304	160	439	311	335	356	275						2,180	56%
Average Night & Weekend	16.0	9.4	16.9	19.4	14.6	12.3	11.0	-	-	-	-	-	14.1	
Total Calls	36	33	45	41	33	59	47						294	
Total Attendance	501	308	710	683	477	699	488						3,866	100%
Average Total Calls	13.9	9.3	15.8	16.7	14.5	11.8	10.4						13.1	
Total Drills	4	4	2	0	0	0	4						14	
Total Drill Attendance	147	139	68	0	0	0	113						467	
Average Drill Attendance	36.8	34.8	34.0	-	-	-	28.3						33.4	

COVID 19 COVID 19 COVID 19 COVID 19

Count of Alarm 2020								
Hour of Day	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
0	3	1			1	4	1	10
1	2			1				3
2	1	1		1	2			5
3		2			1	1	1	5
4		3			1	4		8
5		1			2		2	5
6	2	3	3	3	1	2		14
7	1	3	4		1	1	2	12
8	1			1		2	1	5
9	1		4	2	4	7	1	19
10		2	1	2		2	1	8
11		3	1	1	3	2	3	13
12	3	2	2	4	2	1	1	15
13	2	2	2	9	4	4	1	24
14	6	2		5	3	3	4	23
15	1	1	4	2	3	3	3	17
16	3	1	6	2	2	4	1	19
17	2			2	2	4		10
18	1	3	4	3	3	3	1	18
19	1	3	2	3	4	4	3	20
20	3		3	1	2		2	11
21				2	1	3	2	8
22		3	3	2	2	4	1	15
23	1	2			2		2	7
Grand Total	34	38	39	46	46	58	33	294



**COMMUNITY
AMBULANCE
ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 98
Ambler, PA 19002
215-643-6517

Federal Tax #23-6286530

Medicare Provider #CO-281-325

Ambler Borough Statistics - 2020

<u>Month</u>	<u>Calls in Borough</u>	<u>Total Calls for CAAA</u>
January	55	404
February	56	418
March	60	403
April	58	365
May	43	317
June	62	353
July	44	327
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
<hr/>		
<u>YTD Totals</u>	378	2,587

Public Utilities Committee

August 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Committee Members: Glynnis Siskind – Chair, Brooke Marshall, Haley Welch, Jen Henderson

The Committee will consider the following recommendations.

1. 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.
2. 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. Council is asked to consider rescinding their prior vote to request an increase in the permit.

The following business will be discussed:

1. The WWTP Engineer's report was provided.
2. The Butler Pike Water Main Replacement 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.
3. 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 has been 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.

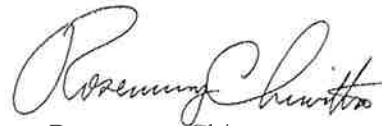
Applicant:

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 and Planning Committee

August 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Committee Members Nellie Di Pietro – Chair, Erin McKenna Endicott, Haley Welch, Brooke Marshall

The Committee will consider the following recommendations:

1. That the June 2nd Run and the July Bills be paid in the amount of **\$869,847.24**.

#	Fund	JUNE 2nd Run	July 1st Run	July 2nd Run	TOTALS
1	GENERAL	116,498.65	39,974.02	86,931.80	243,404.47
2	STREET LGTS	1,451.18	4,104.60	110.02	5,665.80
3	FIRE	691.36	-		691.36
4	REFUSE	32,074.18	31,938.92	6,591.15	70,604.25
5	PARKS & REC	4,527.94	1,948.08	3,948.41	10,424.43
6	WATER	139,044.33	67,626.25	78,796.43	285,467.01
8	SEWER	15,794.77	3,018.78	7,992.10	26,805.65
9	WWTP	107,596.28	46,412.82	72,404.15	226,413.25
35	LIQUID FUELS	265.39		105.63	371.02
	TOTALS	417,944.08	195,023.47	256,879.69	869,847.24
	VOID CHECKS				-
	GRAND TOTAL	417,944.08	195,023.47	256,879.69	869,847.24

2. 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. 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. 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.

5. 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**)

The following business will be discussed:

1. The Borough Engineer's report was received.
2. The Borough Planning Commission has completed a preliminary energy transition plan in line with the Ambler Borough Ready for 100 Renewable Energy Resolution adopted by Borough Council March 2019.

➤ NAME OF BIDDER: Solid Waste Services, Inc. d/b/a J. P. Mascaro & Sons

NOTE: No "lump sum" bid total will be accepted. Bidder must clearly indicate a breakdown of all bid costs on the chart below.

NOTE: Borough of Ambler has the right to exercise the option of awarding either a 3-year and 3-month or 5-year and 3-month contract at its sole determination.

	BID 1: 3 YEAR & 3 MONTH			BID 2: 5 YEAR	
	YEAR 1+	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
	10/01/20 –	01/01/22 –	01/01/23 –	01/01/24 –	01/01/25 –
	12/31/21	12/31/22	12/31/23	12/31/24	12/31/25
A. RESIDENTIAL REFUSE COLLECTION	\$230,688.00	\$185,376.00	\$187,272.00	\$190,992.00	\$196,164.00
B. MUNICIPAL REFUSE COLLECTION	\$2,964.00	\$2,388.00	\$2,412.00	\$2,460.00	\$2,520.00
C. RESIDENTIAL & MUNICIPAL RECYCLABLES COLLECTION	\$295,128.00	\$237,156.00	\$239,580.00	\$244,332.00	\$250,956.00
D. RESIDENTIAL YARD WASTE COLLECTION	\$109,716.00	\$88,164.00	\$89,064.00	\$90,828.00	\$93,288.00
E. 40 C.Y. MUNICIPAL CONTAINER *	\$15,444.00	\$12,408.00	\$12,540.00	\$12,792.00	\$13,140.00
TOTAL ANNUAL BID PRICE EACH YEAR (A+B+C+D+E)	\$653,940.00	\$525,492.00	\$530,868.00	\$541,404.00	\$556,068.00
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5

3-YR & 3-MO BID TOTAL
(10/01/20 – 12/31/23) \$ 1,710,300.00

5-YR & 3-MO BID TOTAL
(10/01/20 – 12/31/25) \$ 2,807,772.00

*Pricing assumes acceptance of material at Covanta 4Recovery, L. P.

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 18th day of August, 2020.

Frank 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 18th day of August, 2020.

Frank DeRuosi, Council President

Attest: _____

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: Ambler Borough Council

From: Glenn Kucher, Code Enforcement Officer

Date: July 31, 2020

Re: Zoning Map Amendment Request from IN (Institutional) to R-3 (Residential)
24 N. Ridge Avenue – Former St. John's Lutheran Church

The Borough is in receipt of a request to change the Zoning of 24 N. Ridge Avenue (former St. John's Lutheran Church) from IN (Institutional) to R-3 (Residential). The property was purchased in January 2020 by John's Court, LLC. The new owner proposes to adaptively reuse and renovate the existing church building and abutting home into 3 residential units. The property surrounded by R-3 Zoning to the North and DC (Downtown Commercial) to the South. The property owner will no longer be using the property as a church and is requesting Council to amend the Zoning map to change the classification to R-3 because residential use is not permitted in the IN (Institutional) zoning district.

Municipalities make zoning ordinance changes for various reasons: changing land use patterns, use changes, or even accommodating a specific development type or developer. The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) has rules that govern zoning amendments that all municipalities must keep in mind when amending zoning ordinances such as posting the property, public advertisement, public hearing, review by the County Planning Commission, and Borough Planning Commission.

Elected officials are not obligated to entertain or take any action on zoning ordinance amendments requested by property owners or developers. In addition, changing the Zoning does not give the green light to proceed with a proposal. Building permits, possible land development, possible grading permits, may be needed for someone to proceed with a proposal. Changing the Zoning is the first step in the process.

The Borough Planning Commission and Montgomery County Planning Commission have recommended this zoning change. The next step would be to schedule and advertise for a public hearing along with post the property for the hearing.

Park and Recreation Committee

August 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Committee Members: Sara Hertz – Chair, Nancy Deininger, Erin McKenna Endicott, Nellie DiPietro

The Committee will consider the following recommendation:

1. A grant extension will be requested for the EAC Growing Greener Grant. The EAC provided an update on their Grant activities.

The following business will be discussed:

2. The creation of a Community Garden is being researched.
3. The Family Movie Nights for the remainder of the year have been cancelled.

Salary & Personnel Committee

August 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Committee Members Nancy Deininger – Chair, Glynnis Siskind, Nellie Di Pietro, Jen Henderson

The Committee will make no recommendations.

The following business will be discussed:

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.
3. Vacancies exist (1 commissioner and 1 alternate) on the Ambler Human Relations Commission. Michele Brooker Lee is moving out of the Borough and has resigned. Residents interested in being considered for appointment should contact the Borough Manager at manager@borough.ambler.pa.us . (attached)

RECOMMENDATIONS

PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC UTILITIES

1. Authorization to award the Rebuild of Clarifier ET-8 is requested for Blooming Glen in the amount of \$24,696.00.
2. 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. Council is asked to consider rescinding their prior vote to request an increase in the permit.

FINANCE & PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. Consider that June 2nd Run and the July bills are paid in the amount of **\$869,847.24**.
2. 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.
3. Consider advertisement of **Ordinance 1116** authorizing an increase in the annual charge for residential refuse collection from \$300 per year to \$440 per year.
4. Consider adoption of **Resolution 2020-05** 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.
5. 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.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

1. Authorization is requested to apply for a grant extension for the EAC Growing Greener Grant.

SALARY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE