



BOROUGH OF AMBLER

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

April 21, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Minutes for Consideration:

February 18, 2020 Council Meeting

April 7, 2020 Zoom Committee Meeting

Borough Council will conduct its April Meeting via Internet vehicle 'ZOOM' on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:00 p.m. For the safety of Ambler residents, Borough Hall will be closed. A video of the virtual meeting and draft meeting minutes 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 April 21st 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

Public Safety Committee

The Committee meeting was held April 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Committee members: Erin McKenna Endicott – Chair, Glynnis Siskind, Sara Hertz, Nancy Deininger

The Committee will make no recommendations.

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 reports were received.



Wissahickon Fire Company
Fire Chief Report
Year 2020 (91 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										32	28%
Chalfont		1											1	1%
Conshohocken	1												1	1%
Horsham		1	2										3	3%
Lower Gwynedd	20	13	20										53	46%
Montgomery		1	1										2	2%
North Wales													0	0%
Plymouth	1		1										2	2%
Upper Dublin		3	1										4	4%
Whitemarsh	3	4	3										10	9%
Whitpain	2	1	3										6	5%
TOTAL	36	33	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	114	

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										2	2%
AFA Actual	9	11	12										32	28%
AFA False	6	3	9										18	16%
Appliance			1										1	1%
Brush	1												1	1%
Building Investigation	2	1											3	3%
CO Detector	2	3	2										7	6%
Commercial Bldg	1	1	4										6	5%
EMS Assist		1											1	1%
Fast Team Assist	2		1										3	3%
Gas Odor Inside	2	2	2										6	5%
Gas Odor Outside			1										1	1%
Hazmat		1											1	1%
Non Comm Bldg	1	5	6										12	11%
Officer Investigation	2	1	1										4	4%
Ornamental Fireplace													0	0%
Residential Rescue			1										1	1%
Search	1	1											2	2%
Standby	1	1											2	2%
Traffic Unit assist		2											2	2%
Trash													0	0%
Vehicle Fire			1										1	1%
Vehicle Leaking Fuel	1												1	1%
Vehicle Rescue	3		3										6	5%
Wires	1												1	1%
TOTAL	36	33	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	114	



**Wissahickon Fire Company
Fire Chief Report
Year 2020 (91 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										17	15%
Tuesday	6	6	7										19	17%
Wednesday	4	5	3										12	11%
Thursday	5	7	5										17	15%
Friday	9	8	6										23	20%
Saturday	4	2	6										12	11%
Sunday	4	3	7										14	12%
TOTAL	36	33	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	114	

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										52	
Attendance at Day Calls	197	148	271										616	41%
Average Day Calls	11.6	9.3	14.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.8	
Night & Weekend Calls	19	17	26										62	
Attendance at N & W Calls	304	160	439										903	59%
Average Night & Weekend	16.0	9.4	16.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.6	
Total Calls	36	33	45										114	
Total Attendance	501	308	710										1,519	100%
Average Total Calls	13.9	9.3	15.8										13.3	
Total Drills	4	4	2										10	
Total Drill Attendance	147	139	68										354	
Average Drill Attendance	36.8	34.8	34.0										35.4	

Count of Alarm 2020								
Hour of Day	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
0	3					1	1	5
1	1			1				2
2	1			1				2
3		1				1		2
4		1						1
5		1					2	3
6		2	1	1		1		5
7	1	2					1	4
8				1				1
9			2	1	2		1	6
10		1	1			1		3
11		2	1	1	1	1	1	7
12	2	1				1	1	5
13			2	1	3	3		9
14	2	1				1	1	5
15			2		2	2	1	7
16			4	1	1	2		8
17	2				1	2		5
18	1	1	2		1	2		5
19		2	1	2	3	2	2	12
20	1		3	1	1			6
21				1	1	2	1	5
22		1			1	3		5
23		1						1
Grand Total	14	17	19	12	17	23	12	114



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 – 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		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
<hr/>		
<u>YTD Totals</u>	171	1225

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

Public Utilities Committee

The Committee meeting was held April 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Committee Members: Glynnis Siskind – Chair, Brooke Marshall, Haley Welch, Jen Henderson

The Committee will make no recommendations.

The following business will be discussed.

1. MIRIA is a municipal authority formed by Horsham Township in conjunction with the passage of PA 2019 Act 101. This legislation by statute provides for the utilization of PA State Tax Revenue generated from certain parcels in Horsham Township to be available to MIRIA to reimburse municipalities or municipal water authorities and their customers for surcharges and costs related to remediation of PFAS contamination in drinking water as a result of the presence of a former military installation. A resolution is attached for participation and project request with a match are to be submitted by May 15, 2020.
2. The **attached** flyer will give some direction on what is appropriate to put in your sanitary sewer line.
3. Water Customers are being given additional time to make payments or arrangements. Anyone experiencing a hardship is given an extension and interest is not being charged on balances.

BOROUGH OF AMBLER
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION 2020 - _____

AN AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION FOR APPLICATION TO MIRIA

Ambler Borough Council, the governing body of Borough of Ambler, does hereby authorize the Borough of Ambler on behalf of the Ambler Borough Water Department, to make application to and submission of a Military Installation Remediation and Infrastructure Authority (MIRIA) Grant Application specifically for the _____ Project.

Ambler Borough Council further recognizes the requirement of the municipality to make contributions to MIRIA each year to be eligible for grant monies and as such Borough Council authorizes Local Effort contribution in the amount of \$_____ for the purpose of submitting the aforementioned grant application.

So resolved, this _____ day of _____, 2020

Frank DeRuosi, Borough Council President

Mary Aversa, Secretary

IMPORTANT NOTICE - Wipes & Personal Hygiene Products Clog Sewer Lines!

Many household products are labeled and marketed as **DISPOSABLE** and/or **FLUSHABLE**; many baby and adult personal hygiene products, along with household wipes and cleaning towelettes are labeled both disposable and flushable. While these products may be marketed as a convenience item in this way, the truth is that these types of items have the ability to clog and stop up not only the sewer line on your property, but also can cause blockage and service problems in the public sewer system and pump stations.

Unlike toilet paper, these products ***DO NOT*** break down once they are flushed. They can cause blockages in your on-site sewer, **especially older pipelines that may have greases, roots, or other obstructions already existing**. A repair of the on-site sewer line can leave the home owner or business owner with a **very costly sewer repair**.

On a larger scale, when these products make their way into the public sewer system they collect together, causing very large obstructions and clogs in the main collector lines and get tangled in pump stations requiring repair or replacement of equipment.

What We All Can Do To Help...

The following items should ***NEVER*** be flushed into the sewer system:

Disinfecting/surface wipes	Mop or "Swiffer" type refills
Baby wipes	Paper towels
Jewelry wipes	Pet care wipes
Cosmetic wipes	First Aid wipes
Disposable diapers or diaper liners	Bio-pads (nursing home, home health care, etc.)
Cotton swabs	Feminine hygiene products
Toilet cleaning pads	ANY Moist type towelettes
<i>ANY CONSUMER ITEM THAT IS NOT TOILET PAPER!</i>	



Every home and business has a sewer connection to the public sewer system. This connection runs from the home or business to the sewer main where it is connected to the public sewer system. This on-site sewer line is the responsibility of the home or business owner to keep clear so there are no back-ups of wastewater into the home or business. Save yourself and your Sewer Utility from costly repairs and/or replacement bills. **Do not flush the listed items; place them in the trash, not the toilet.**

Finance and Planning Committee

The Committee meeting was held April 7, 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 recommendation.

1. That the February bills were paid in March in the amount of **\$902,024.83 (Vote to ratify payment)**

That the March Bills be paid in the amount of **\$617,945.60**

#	Fund	Mar 1st Run	Mar 2nd Run	Mar 3rd Run	TOTALS
1	GENERAL	\$15,387.99	\$ 122,933.31	\$ 91,798.74	\$230,120.04
2	STREET LGTS		\$4,783.22		\$4,783.22
3	FIRE		\$ 691.36		\$691.36
4	REFUSE	\$28,649.67	\$6,810.32		\$35,459.99
5	PARKS & REC		\$435.94	\$359.17	\$795.11
6	WATER	\$40,828.79	\$55,207.29	\$33,565.94	\$129,602.02
8	SEWER	\$637.60	\$13,082.10	\$10,357.89	\$24,077.59
9	WWTP	\$59,230.47	\$81,941.49	\$51,244.31	\$192,416.27
35	LIQUID FUELS				\$0.00
TOTALS		\$144,734.52	\$285,885.03	\$187,326.05	\$617,945.60
VOID CHECKS					\$0.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$ 144,734.52	\$ 285,885.03	\$ 187,326.05	\$ 617,945.60

2. A recommendation is requested to adopt Resolution 2020-02 offering an extension in the Property Tax collection due to the state of emergency is **attached**.
The request is to extend discount until May 31 and extend face until August 31.
3. The BPT is normally due on July 15, consideration to extend the due date to October 15, 2020 is requested.
4. A recommendation is requested to prepare the municipal bid for trash and recycling collection. The current contract expires September 30, 2020.
5. Authorization is requested to adopt Resolution 2020-03 calling on the Pennsylvania

General Assembly and the Governor to enact legislation that automatically sends mail in ballots to eligible voters. (**attached**)

The following business will be discussed

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

THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-02

**A RESOLUTION OF AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL EXTENDING
THE PERIOD IN WHICH REAL ESTATE TAXES MAY BE PAID AT
DISCOUNT, AND PAID WITHOUT PENALTY, IN RECOGNITION OF A
DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, On March 8, 2020, a widespread outbreak of Corona Virus (CoVID-19) occurred, affecting the residents of Montgomery County, causing severe suffering to persons of Montgomery County and has overwhelmed first responders, healthcare providers and businesses within Montgomery County, necessitating the issuance of a Disaster Declaration by the Montgomery County Commissioners on March 8, 2020 and a Stay-at-Home order by the Governor on March 23, 2020; and

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Local Tax Collection Law (72 P.S. § 5511.1 et seq.) grants to municipalities such as Ambler Borough the authority to establish the rates of taxes and penalties on Real Estate taxes, including providing for the two (2) percent discount for those making payment of the whole amount thereof within two months after the date of the tax notice, and including a stated period of time (the “face” period) during which no penalty is due and owing upon the amount paid; and

WHEREAS, 72 P.S. § 5511.13 requires that Tax Collectors hold open, in-person office hours in the period leading up the end of the discount period; and

WHEREAS, the inability to move freely and pay taxes in person, coupled with severe economic hardship to the citizenry, Ambler Borough Council finds it in the best interests of the Borough to extend the tax discount period and tax bill face period,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, for the purposes of 72 P.S. § 5511.10 of the Local Tax Collection Law, the discount period for the payment of local real estate taxes shall be extended until May 31, 2020, and there shall be no penalty imposed upon tax payments made on or before August 31, 2020.

SO RESOLVED this 21st day of April, 2020.

Frank DeRuosi, Council President

ATTEST: _____

Mary Aversa, Secretary

THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL CALLING ON THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNOR TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT AUTOMATICALLY SENDS MAIL-IN BALLOT APPLICATIONS AND MAIL-IN BALLOTS TO ALL ELIGIBLE VOTERS

WHEREAS, On March 8, 2020, a widespread outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) occurred, affecting the residents of Montgomery County, causing severe suffering to persons of Montgomery County and has overwhelmed first responders, healthcare providers, and businesses within Montgomery County, necessitating the issuance of a Disaster Declaration by the Montgomery County Commissioners on March 8, 2020 and a Stay-at-Home order by the Governor on March 23, 2020; and

WHEREAS, With the goal of protecting the health and safety of election officials and voters, the Governor and Pennsylvania General Assembly approved a measure moving our regularly scheduled Primary Election from April 28 to June 2; and

WHEREAS, Current projections by government and health professionals indicate that early June will still be too soon to encourage the large gatherings that typically occur in Presidential Primary Elections; and

WHEREAS, In October 2019, the Governor signed Act 77 allowing any Pennsylvania voter to request a vote by mail ballot without providing a reason; and

WHEREAS, Given the safety and logistical concerns around holding an in-person election on June 2, Act 77 provides Pennsylvanians the ability to have their vote cast from the safety of their own homes; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 2367 and Senate Bill 1098 would appropriate \$40,000,000 to the Department of State to automatically send mail-in ballot applications and mail-in ballots to every qualified elector in Pennsylvania for the upcoming Primary and General elections; and

WHEREAS, Ambler Borough recognizes the importance of protecting our residents' right to vote without interference of any kind, including the threat of contracting COVID-19; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Ambler Borough Council calls on the Pennsylvania General Assembly and Governor of the Commonwealth to move swiftly on enacting House Bill 2367 allowing each Pennsylvanian the ability to vote without fear of contracting COVID-19.

SO RESOLVED this 21st day of April, 2020.

_____ Frank DeRuosi, Council President

ATTEST: _____ Mary Aversa, Secretary

Park and Recreation Committee

The Committee meeting was held April 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Committee Members: Sara Hertz – Chair, Nancy Deininger, Erin McKenna Endicott, Nellie DiPietro

The Committee will make no recommendations.

The following business will be discussed.

1. All Borough events have been cancelled until further notice.

Salary & Personnel Committee

The Committee meeting was held April 7, 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. The vacant position of Equipment Operator has been advertised. Interviews will be scheduled.

RECOMMENDATIONS

PUBLIC UTILITIES

PUBLIC SAFETY

FINANCE & PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. Consider that March bills are paid in the amount of \$617,945.60.
2. Ratify the authorization of the February bills paid in March in the amount of 902,024.83.
3. A recommendation is requested to adopt Resolution 2020-02 offering an extension in the Property Tax collection due to the state of emergency is **attached**.
The request is to extend discount until May 31 and extend face until August 31.
4. The BPT is normally due on July 15, consideration to extend the due date to October 15, 2020 is requested.
5. A recommendation is requested to prepare the municipal bid for trash and recycling collection. The current contract expires September 30, 2020.
6. Authorization is requested to adopt Resolution 2020-03 calling on the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Governor to enact legislation that automatically Sends mail in ballots to eligible voters. (**attached**)

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

SALARY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE