



BOROUGH OF AMBLER COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

**All matters that are deliberated could result in
a vote to take official action.**

February 20, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Minutes for Consideration:

Reorganization January 2, 2024

January 16, 2024

Presentation:

Valley Forge Tourism

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE & PLANNING

PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC UTILITIES

PARKS & RECREATION

SALARY & PERSONNEL

Finance & Planning Committee

The Committee meeting was held on February 6, at 7:00pm; Committee Members: Haley Welch – Chair, Karen Sheedy, Lisa Auerbach , Elizabeth Iovine.

The Committee will make no recommendations.

1. A request has been made for a license transfer from Carrett LLC d/b/a Cantina Feliz in Fort Washington to 109-115 East Butler Avenue. (Resolution and request attached). Authorization is requested to advertise for a Public Hearing. **(attached)**

The following business will be discussed:

1. The Borough Engineer's report was received.
2. SEPTA hosted an open house on January 30th for an Ambler Station Area Concept Meeting to solicit input from riders, residents, and businesses about the possibility for development,
3. A presentation will be made by Valley Forge Tourism this evening.
4. On March 19th, Drew Shaw and Erin Landis of the Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership will make a presentation and discuss the process on a proposed Resolution and Consortium process.

**THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-1**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER,
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF
LIQUOR LICENSE NO. R-15892 INTO AMBLER
BOROUGH**

WHEREAS, Act 141 of 2000 (“the Act”) authorizes the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board to approve, in certain instances, the transfer of restaurant liquor licenses across municipal boundaries within the same county regardless of the quota limitations provided for in Section 461 of the Liquor Code if, as in Ambler Borough, sales of liquor and malt or brewed beverages are legal in the municipality receiving the license; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires the applicant to obtain from the receiving municipality a resolution approving the inter-municipal transfer of the liquor license prior to an applicant’s submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board; and

WHEREAS, the Liquor Code stipulates that, prior to adoption of a resolution by the receiving municipality, at least one (1) hearing be held for the purpose of permitting individuals residing within the municipality to make comments and recommendations regarding applicant’s intent to transfer a liquor license into the receiving municipality; and

WHEREAS, an application for transfer filed under the Act must contain a copy of the resolution adopted by the municipality approving the transfer of a liquor license into the municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Carrett LLC d/b/a Cantina Feliz has requested the approval of the Ambler Borough Council for the proposed transfer of Pennsylvania liquor license no. R-15892 to facilities within Ambler Borough to be located at 109-115 East Butler Ave, Ambler, Pennsylvania, 19002, with the understanding that said transfer must be approved at a later date by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ambler Borough Council held a properly advertised public hearing pursuant to the notice provisions of Section 102 of the Liquor Code to receive comments on the proposed liquor license transfer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Ambler Borough Council approves, by adoption of this Resolution, the proposed inter-municipal transfer of restaurant liquor license No. R-15892 into Ambler Borough Township by Carrett LLC d/b/a Cantina Feliz; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that transfers, designations and assignments of licenses hereunder are subject to approval by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____, 2024 by the Ambler Borough Council, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

AMBLER BOROUGH

BY: _____
Glynnis Siskind, Borough Council President

ATTEST: _____
Mary Aversa, Borough Council Secretary

February 1, 2024

Ambler Borough Council
Ambler Borough Hall
131 Rosemary Avenue
Ambler, PA 19002

Via email only: maversa@borough.ambler.pa.us
code@borough.ambler.pa.us
jbresnan@bresnanlaw.com

**Re: Carrett LLC d/b/a Cantina Feliz
Inter-Municipal Liquor License Transfer for 109-115 East Butler Ave.**

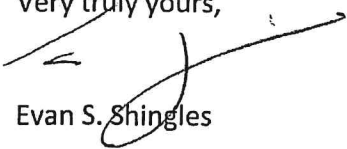
Dear Mary:

Thank you for your kind assistance regarding the above proposed inter-municipal liquor license transfer. Pursuant to your instructions, please permit this letter to memorialize my client's request to transfer his liquor license (#R15892) from its current location at 424 S. Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington to the property he recently purchased at 109-115 East Butler Ave and that such request be placed on the borough agenda for a hearing.

My client will gladly make arrangements for a court reporter to be present at the hearing and do anything and everything necessary for approval including advertising the hearing for two consecutive weeks, as well as forwarding proof of advertising and a proposed Borough Resolution in both pdf and word formats. Kindly advise with available hearing dates.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,


Evan S. Shingles

ESS/mm

Public Safety Committee

The Committee meeting was held on February 6, at 7:00pm; Committee members: Amy Hughes – Chair, Jen Henderson, Nancy Roecker Coates and Lou Orehek.

The Committee will make no recommendations.

The following business was discussed:

1. The Police Department report is **attached** .
2. The Community Ambulance report is **attached**.
3. The Fire Department report is **attached**.
4. The Public Works and the Code Enforcement reports were received.
5. The committee discussed how to make Butler Ave downtown safer regarding ride-share and delivery drivers.



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 – 2024

<u>Month</u>	<u>Calls in Borough</u>	<u>Total Calls for CAAA</u>
January	74	502
<hr/>		
<u>YTD Totals</u>	74	502
2023	671	5,740
2022	642	5,873

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



Wissahickon Fire Company
 Fire Chief Report
 January 2024 (31 days)

Township	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Total	%
Ambler	18												18	29%
Horsham	4												4	6%
Lower Gwynedd	31												31	49%
Montgomery	2												2	3%
Springfield	1												1	2%
Upper Dublin	3												3	5%
Whitemarsh	2												2	3%
Whitpain	1												1	2%
Worcester	1												1	2%
TOTAL	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	100%

Type of Call	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Total	%
Accident Standby	2												2	3%
AFA Actual	21												21	33%
AFA False	7												7	11%
Appliance													0	0%
Assist EMS	1												1	2%
Brush													0	0%
Building Investigation	4												4	6%
CO Detector	1												1	2%
Commercial Bldg	3												3	5%
Elevator Rescue	1												1	2%
Fast Team Assist	1												1	2%
Gas Odor Inside	2												2	3%
Gas Odor Outside	2												2	3%
Non Comm Bldg	6												6	10%
Officer Investigation	5												5	8%
Smoke in area													0	0%
Standby	1												1	2%
Traffic Unit assist	1												1	2%
Trash													0	0%
Vehicle Fire	3												3	5%
Vehicle Leaking fuel													0	0%
Vehicle Rescue													0	0%
Water Rescue													0	0%
Wires	2												2	3%
TOTAL	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	100%

Day of the week	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Total	%
Monday	15												15	24%
Tuesday	8												8	13%
Wednesday	13												13	21%
Thursday	9												9	14%
Friday	4												4	6%
Saturday	7												7	11%
Sunday	7												7	11%
TOTAL	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	100%



Wissahickon Fire Company
 Fire Chief Report
 January 2024 (31 days)

Attendance	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Total	%
Day Calls (M to F 6AM to 6PM)	29												29	46%
Attendance at Day Calls	318												318	
Average Day Calls	11.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.0	
Night & Weekend Calls	34												34	54%
Attendance at N & W Calls	450												450	
Average Night & Weekend	13.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.2	
Total Calls	63												63	100%
Total Attendance	768												768	
Average Total Calls	12.2												12.2	
Average Fire Attendance 7A	9.8												9.8	
Average Fire Attendance 7B	2.4												2.4	
Average Fire Attendance	12.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.2	
Total Drills	4												4	
Total Drill Attendance	122												122	
Average Drill Attendance	30.5												30.5	

Monday Trainings	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Organization Recap				
Blood Borne Pathogens				
Equipment Check				
Station / Truck Cleaning				
Total Hours Training	305	Total Hours Training	Total Hours Training	Total Hours Training



Wissahickon Fire Company
Fire Chief Report
January 2024 (31 days)

Count of Alarm 2024								
Hour of Day	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
0				1				1
1							1	1
2		1						1
3								0
4								0
5								0
6			1	1				2
7		2	1				1	4
8		1			1	1		3
9		2		2				4
10		2		1				3
11		1						1
12	1	2			1		1	5
13	1							1
14	1	2						3
15			1	1	2		1	5
16	1						1	2
17	1	1	1	2			1	6
18	2	1		2				5
19			1		1		1	3
20				1	1	1		3
21			1	2	3	1		7
22			1					1
23			1			1		2
Grand Total	7	15	8	13	9	4	7	63

Public Utilities Committee

The Committee meeting was held on February 6, at 7:00pm; Committee Members: Karen Sheedy -Chair, Haley Welch , Amy Hughes and Lou Orehek.

The Committee will consider the following recommendations.

1. Dennis Rowan made a presentation on the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) for PA Program at the committee meeting.(attached) A request was received to adopt the attached Memo of Understanding.

The following business was discussed:

1. The WWTP Engineer's report was received

APPROVED AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING

1. Bids were requested from Co-Stars for the UV system installation at the Waste Water Plant. A recommendation to award the bid to KAI for their low bid of \$1,658,060. was approved. 9-Aye

Recommendations

1. A recommendation is requested to adopt a Memo of Understanding for the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) for PA Program.

Date _____

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Pursuing Community Choice Aggregation in Ambler Borough, PA

This Memorandum of Understanding represents the basic terms for a non-binding agreement between the Borough and the CCA Administrator in establishing Community Choice Aggregation authority.

FROM: _____ (the "Borough") with a mailing address of _____, _____ State of Pennsylvania, and represented by _____, the _____.

TO: _____ (the "CCA Administrator") with a mailing address of _____, _____, State of New York, and represented by _____, the _____.

Dear [CCA Administrator's Representative],

Upon signature of the agreement, the Borough contemplates that the CCA Administrator and the Borough will prepare a proposal for how to proceed, together, to create authorization and a plan to deploy Community Choice Aggregation authority within the Borough's jurisdiction.

Once prepared, with the Borough's approval, the CCA Administrator will submit the plan to the PUC for guidance, feedback and, perhaps, regulatory approval(s) to the extent necessary. Should the Borough choose to proceed with the provision of electricity supply to residents, the CCA Administrator and the Borough will together determine required maximum price, specific contract terms, and qualifications for prospective suppliers that will be necessary, in order for the Borough to contract on behalf of its residents.

The CCA Administrator will then prepare and issue an RFP to eligible suppliers or shall award a contract with the Borough's consent, if fewer than two suppliers are deemed by the CCA Administrator and the Borough to be eligible (e.g., only one supplier will meet all terms of the contract and has the adequate credit to take on the contract.)

The agreement will be replaced by a tri-party agreement between the CCA Administrator, the Borough and the chosen electricity supplier, if and when the Borough proceeds with one or more electricity supply contract(s).

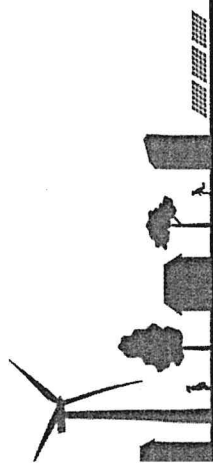
Sincerely,

The Borough
[Signature By Representative]
[Name of Representative]



Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Opportunity Report for Ambler Borough Council,

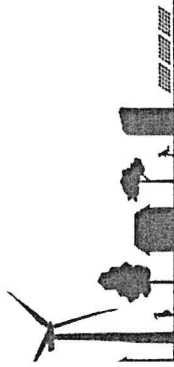
February 6, 2024





- **Legal expert:**
 - Baird Brown - Principal at "eco(n)law"
- **PA Community experts:**
 - Dennis Rowan - Managing Partner at REIV2G Network
 - Jim Wylie Sierra Club of Pennsylvania Conservation Co-Chair
 - Bill Sabey - "Ready For 100" Volunteer Organizer, PA Sierra Club Clean Energy Team Leader
- **CCA experts:**
 - Mike Gordon - Founder and CSO at Joule Community Power
 - Claire Dépit Project Manager, Joule Community Power
- **Solar industry experts:**
 - Ron Celentano - Solar PV industry Consultant and President of PASSIA
 - Liz Robinson - Executive Director, Philadelphia Solar Energy Association

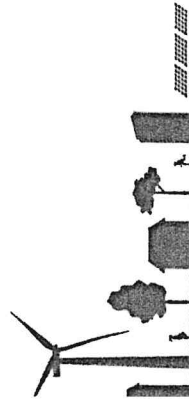
1. Ambler Borough Ready for 100 resolution and goals
2. CCA as a powerful Borough tool for a Renewable energy transition
3. Steps to develop a Borough CCA Implementation Plan



Ambler's 100% Renewable Energy Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-03 Borough of Ambler, Montgomery County, PA Ready for 100% Renewable Energy Resolution
"A Vision for a 100% Clean Renewable Energy Future"

WHEREAS: The best strategy to achieve a cost effective, cost saving, energy source transition is **collaboration with Montgomery County energy leaders and participating in aggregated procurement ...for regional wind and solar energy... working with electric energy supplier(s) to create the most beneficial plan for integrating locally generated and renewable power.**



Many PA climate action plans feature Opt-out CCA as an impactful strategy to procure renewable energy for their residents, businesses & government facilities.

- Pennsylvania 2019 Climate Action Plan
- Philadelphia Energy Transition Plan, 2020
- West Chester Council of Governments, 2020 Sustainability Plan

43 Southeastern PA passed Ready for 100% Renewable Energy resolutions

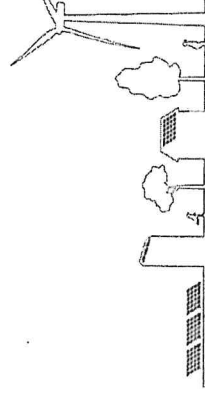
Philadelphia (1):

Montco (18): Upper Merion, Narberth, Plymouth Meeting, Norristown, Springfield, Ambler, Whitemarsh, Conshohocken, Cheltenham, West Norriton, Bridgeport, Abington, Hatboro, Montgomery Twp, Lower Merion, Upper Dublin, Whitpain, Lower Gwynedd

Chesco (16): Phoenixville, Schuylkill, Uwchlan, Downingtown, West Chester, East Bradford, Kennett Twp, East Pikeland, Tredyffrin, West Vincent, Pocopson, Charlestown, West Whiteland, West Bradford, East Fallowfield, Honey Brook Twp

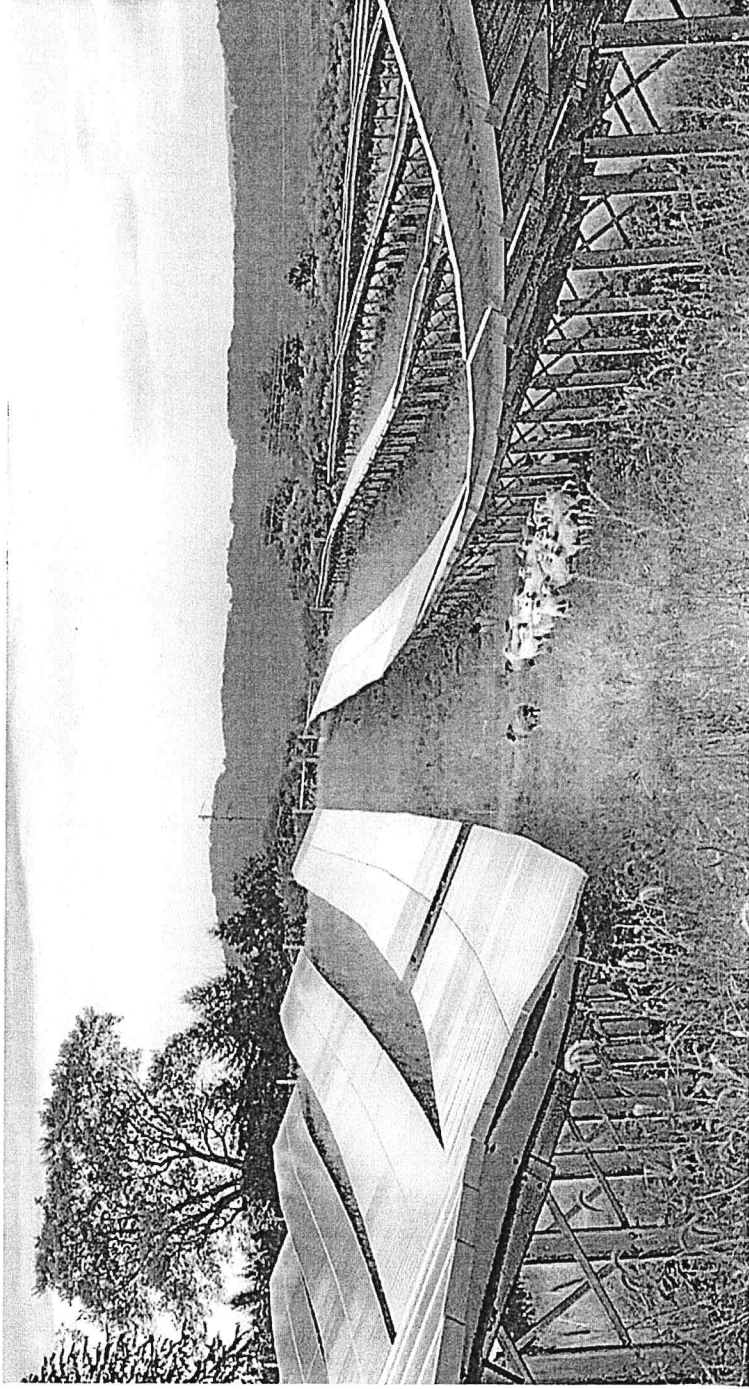
Delco (5): Radnor, Haverford Twp, Swarthmore, Lansdowne, Nether-Providence

Bucks (3): Doylestown, Solebury, Buckingham



Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)

Enables local governments to aggregate their community's electricity load to purchase or develop power on behalf of their residents, businesses & municipal accounts to meet their energy, economic and environmental goals



CCA - a powerful action in fulfilling Ambler's Ready For 100 Resolution

Ambler Borough Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHGe) Inventory DVRPC 2020

Residents 'Default' Electricity Mix

Ambler CCA Renewable Supply

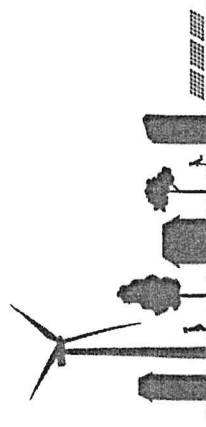
25,796 mTons GHGe per year

Zero mTons GHGe per year

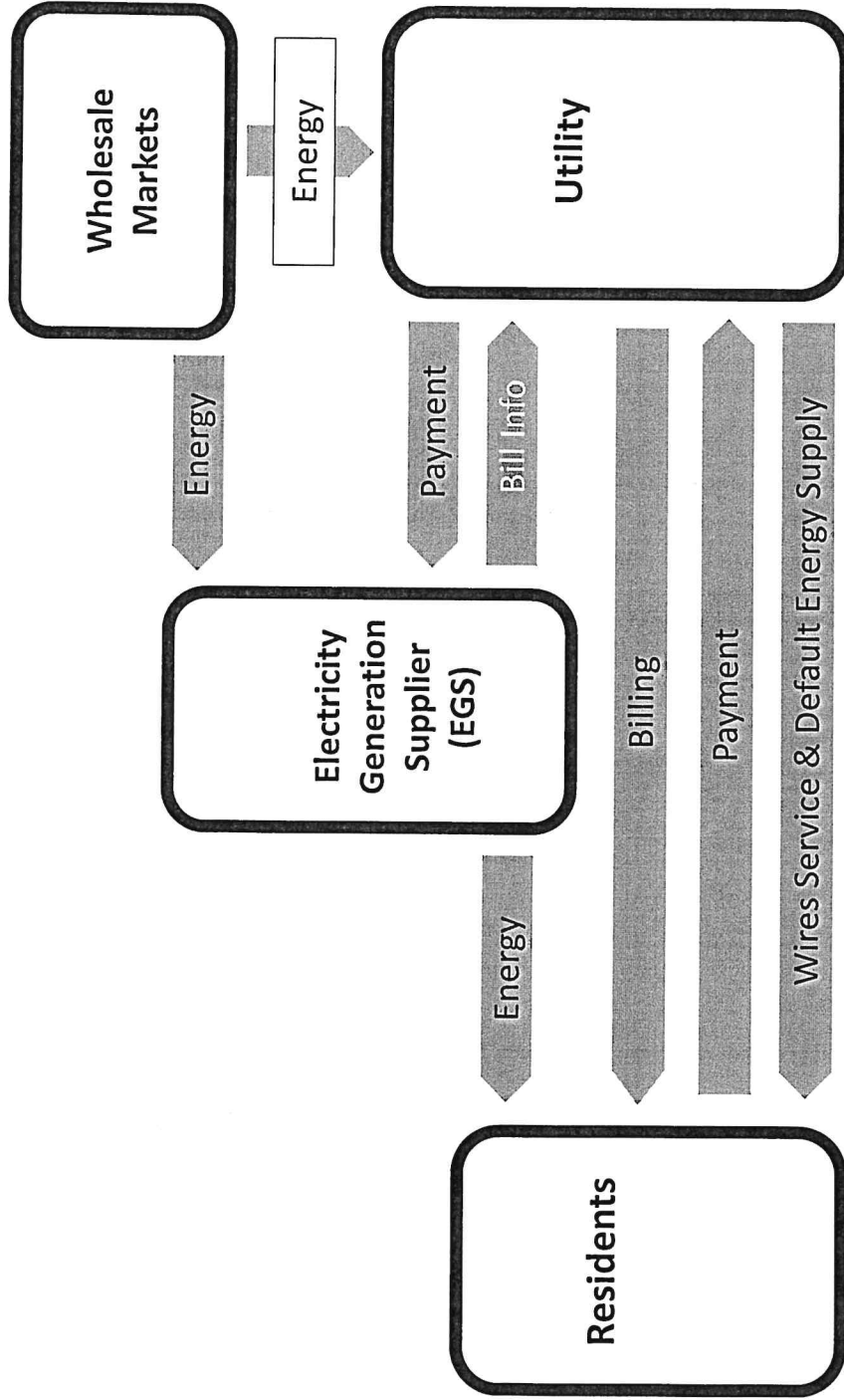
GHGe reduced per year

25,796 mTons

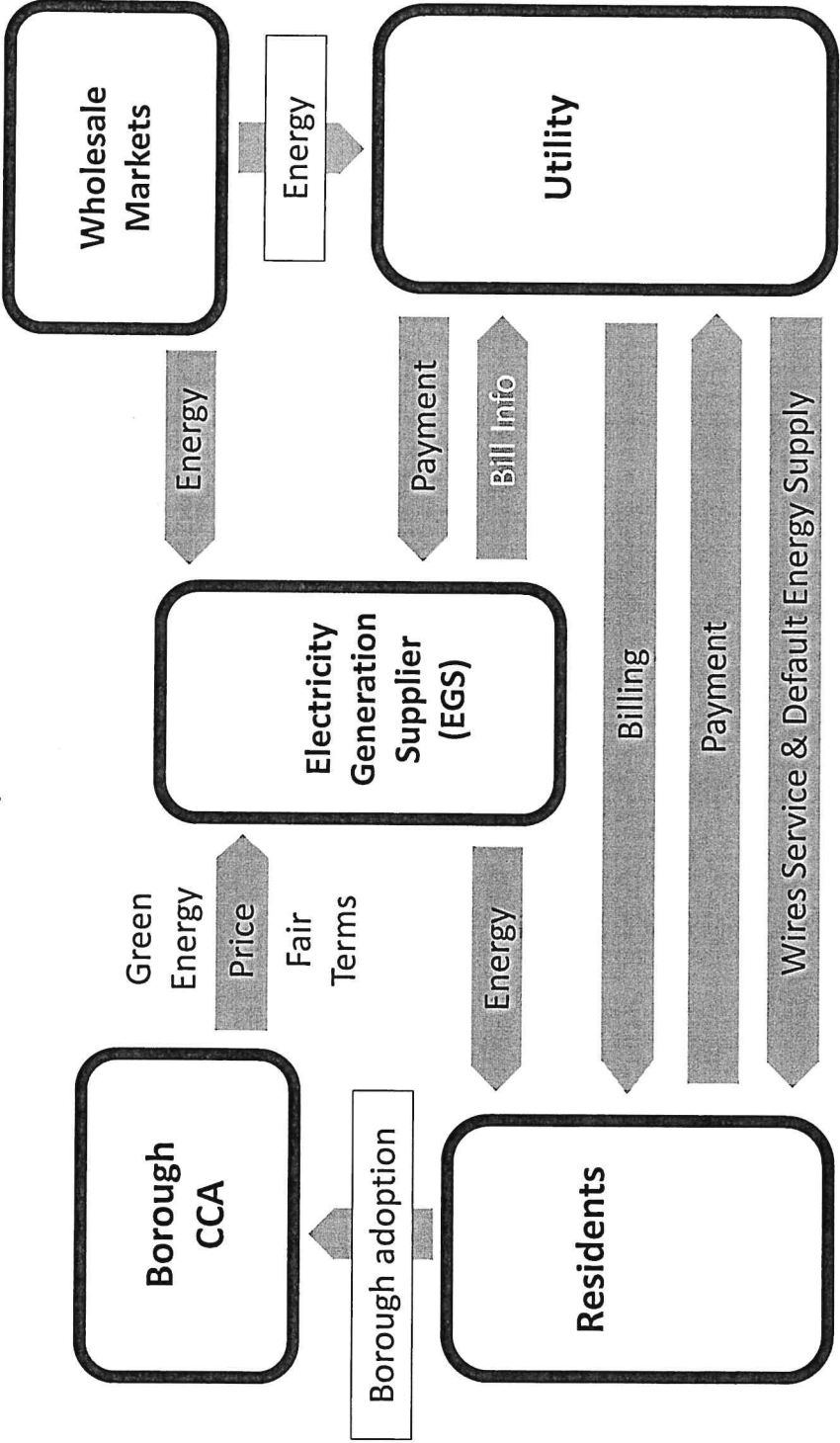
31% Reduction in Ambler Total GHGe



Retail Choice



Retail Choice with CCA



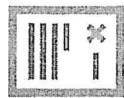
CCA Administrator, Joule Community Power

Joule Community Power organized the first NY State CCA launch with 20 Westchester County, NY municipalities in 2015

Joule helps 52 municipalities with over 410,000 NY households procure clean electricity supply and community solar.



New York Market Results 2016 - 2021



150 municipalities, 3.2 million CCA participants, 1.2 million low income



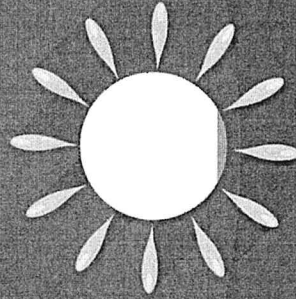
Avoided 770,000 Tons of CO2 emissions



3 million MWh of renewable energy



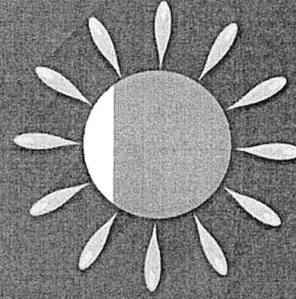
117,000 hours of public education



WITHOUT CCA

1-5%

of New Yorkers switch to clean energy



AREAS WITH CCA

80-90%

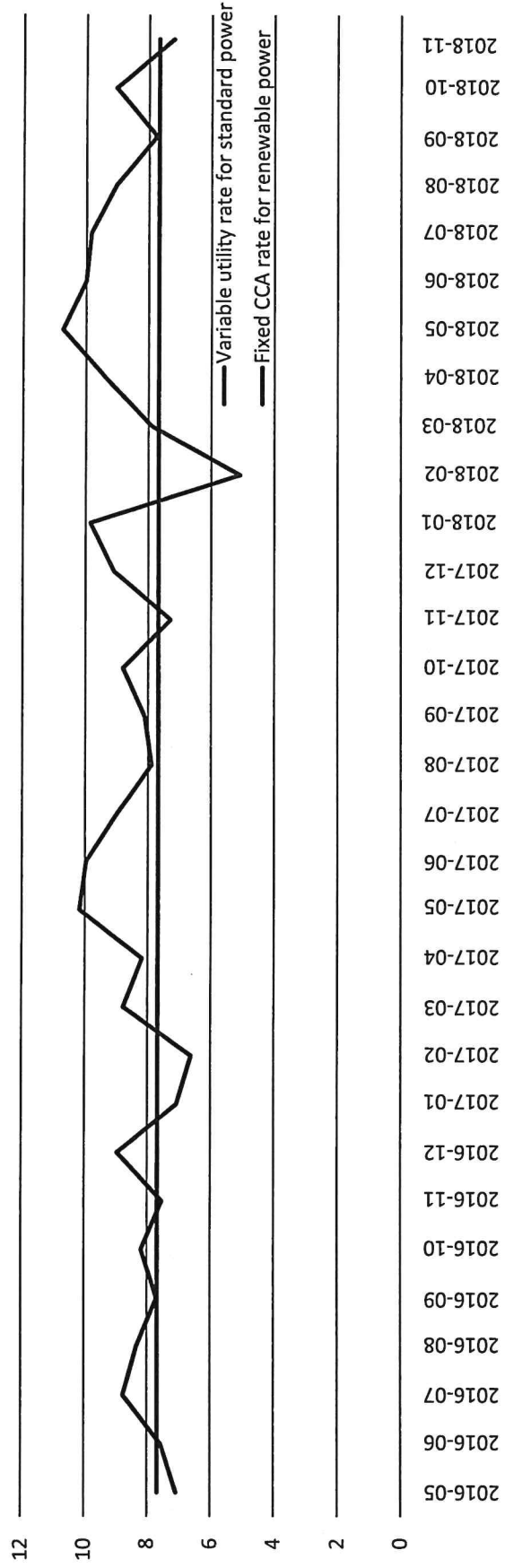
of New Yorkers power their home with clean energy



Case Study: Sustainable Westchester, NY

Joule's first CCA contract with 20 New York municipalities led to \$17 million of savings for the participating communities over the 30-month contract .

Residential Electricity Rates For Con Edison Utility Customers And Sustainable Westchester Customers (2016 - 2018)



CCA actions follow Boroughs' Ready for 100 Resolutions

Renewable Electricity for residents would reduce 25,796 tons of GHGe per year.

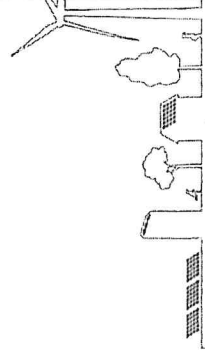
PA renewable energy combats climate change

Aggregated Market Power **obtains good energy prices** for Ambler residents

System **resilience**, economic development, local jobs

Consumer Protection from predatory practices

Ongoing community **Energy Education** on Rebates, Incentives, Tax Credits



Pennsylvania Borough Code Authorization

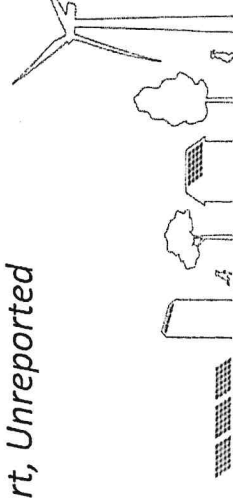
§ 24A02. General powers.

(a) Electric plants and projects.--A borough may, either singly or jointly, manufacture or purchase electricity for the use of its inhabitants and own, construct, acquire by lease, purchase or otherwise gain an interest in, operate and manage or cause to be operated and managed an electric plant or project located within or without this Commonwealth.

* * *

Environmental Rights Amendment

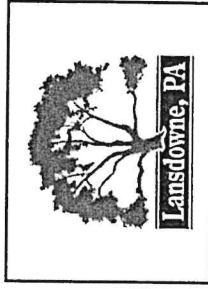
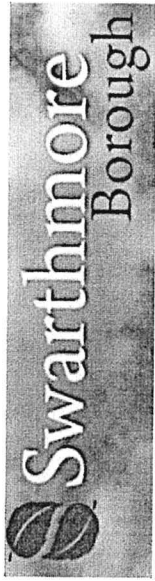
- Article I, § 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution provides:
 - *The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.*
- The PA Supreme Court held that municipalities (Boroughs) bear the same responsibility as the Commonwealth to serve as a trustee for their citizens to preserve clean air and clean water and natural values in the Commonwealth
 - *Robinson Twp. v. Commonwealth, 83 A.3d 901, 969 (Pa. 2013)*
- The Commonwealth Court has held that the Commission must consider the Environmental Rights Amendment as an independent source of authority.
 - *Marple Township v. Pub. Util. Comm'n., No. 319 C.D. 2022 (Commonwealth Court, Unreported Opinion, March 9, 2023).*



Slide 15

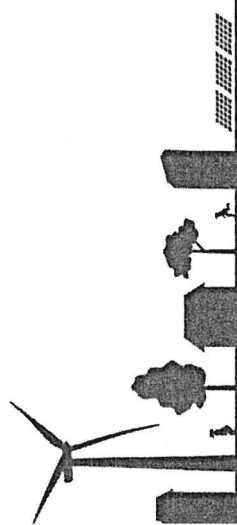
DR0 **Baird and John?**

Dennis Rowan, 2023-12-05T19:42:39.070



Boroughs with Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with Joule
Community Power to develop a CCA Implementation Plan


The MOU allows the Boroughs to explore the steps to form a CCA with
no expenditure or obligation to adopt a CCA.



Timeline of actions to establish a Borough CCA



eco(n)law LLC
The economy is a subset of the ecology.

- NOW
- 
1. Borough council signs a Memorandum of Understanding with Joule to develop a CCA Implementation Plan. **Non-binding MOU**
 2. Borough reviews the Implementation Plan and confirms it meets Borough goals.
 3. Borough, Joule review the Implementation Plan with the Utility and PA PUC
 4. Borough through Joule issues a Request for Information from electric suppliers on their renewable offerings
 5. Borough and local Organizer conduct CCA education with residents
 6. Borough Issues an RFP for energy supply with the Borough services requested
 7. Borough selects a supplier, approves the final contract. CCA operations commence
There is no commitment from the Borough until the supply contract is signed.
CCA operations require no revenue from the Borough.
- 202__?

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Committee meeting was held on February 6, at 7:00pm; Committee Members: Jen Henderson - Chair, Haley Welch, Lisa Auerbach and Nancy Roecker-Coates.

The Committee will make no recommendations.

The following business was discussed:

1. **NO MOW MAY**

Staff is working on the No Mow May program for 2024 it will run from April 20th to May 20th. Details will be posted on the Borough website.

Approved at the Committee Meeting

1. Authorization was granted to approve, the Red Tail contract for 2024. (9-Aye)

Salary & Personnel Committee

The Committee meeting was held on February 6, at 7:00pm; Committee Members: Lisa Auerbach – Chair, Jen Henderson, Karen Sheedy and Elizabeth Iovine.

The Committee will make no recommendations.

The following business will be discussed:

1. An executive session was held at the Committee meeting.
2. A request was Received from the Ambler Area YMCA to increase the contribution for the summer camp program. (attached)
3. The current Committee Vacancies are as follows:
 - Planning Commission 1 Seat
 - Zoning Hering Board 1- Seat (Alternate)
 - Civil Service -1 Seat (Alternate)
 - Appeals Board - 1Seat

Approved at the Committee Meeting

1. A recommendation was received to appoint Owen Baim to the vacant EAC position. 9-Aye
2. An offer of employment was made for the WWTP mechanic position. 9-Aye
3. The employment contract discussed in executive session was approved. 9-Aye